

# The alcohol and other drug slang dictionary

Dovetail frequently gets requests from workers for information on alcohol and other drugs slang terms. Knowing these terms can be beneficial for conducting assessments and effectively communicating with young people. This guide is the result of consultation with Queensland youth alcohol and other drug workers, noting it is not a definitive resource. Slang terms are often specific to certain contexts, and they can also vary across different regions and social or cultural networks.

It is important for workers to exercise caution and use their professional judgement when using this guide, as slang terms can be easily misunderstood or misused. Some terms carry associated stigma despite being used by people who use drugs. Additionally, it is worth noting that the media sometimes creates terms that are rarely, if ever, used by people who use drugs and are solely utilised by the media for sensational reporting and have not been included in this resource.

If you have any additional slang terms to contribute or if you are aware of different definitions, please contact us at [info@dovetail.org.au](mailto:info@dovetail.org.au)

## A | B

### Acid

LSD (lysergic acid diethylamide)

### Amyl

Amyl nitrate

### Angel Trumpets

Datura stramonium or plants from the Brugmansia genus - refers to the large trumpet shaped flowers of the plant, most parts of these plants contain scopolamine, hyoscyamine and atropine, which causes delirium when ingested

### Ayahuasca

A hallucinogenic tea from South America, usually containing a mixture of Psychotria viridis (containing the hallucinogen DMT) and Banisteriopsis caapi (containing harmala alkaloids, which are MAOIs) - contemporary forms may include DMT containing Acacia species, or harmala alkaloids from Syrian rue seed

### Baccie bong

Tobacco smoked through a bong (see bong)

### Baggie

A small clip seal plastic bag used to store illicit substances

### Baked

Cannabis intoxication

### Bang

To inject a drug

### Bank/Banking

To conceal illegal drugs internally e.g. "I banked my pills to get them past the sniffer dogs at the music festival"

### Base

A form of methamphetamine - often brown / beige / reddish, and can come in a slightly moist form that appears like a paste, generally considered to be low to medium purity methamphetamine

### Bath Salts

Methylenedioxypyrovalerone (MDPV), although can refer to any stimulant from the cathinone family

### Bender

A binge on alcohol or other drugs

### Benzos

Short for benzodiazepines

### Biccies

Short for "disco biscuits" - a term describing MDMA in tablet form

### Billy

A cannabis water pipe

### Blast

To inject a drug

### Blazed

Cannabis intoxication

### Blow

Cocaine

### Blue Meanies

Magic mushrooms. In Queensland and northern New South Wales, Blue Meanies refers to the Copelandia cyanescens species

### Blunt

A joint rolled with cigar paper

# B | C

## **Bomb/Bombing**

Consuming a substance orally, sometimes by wrapping in a cigarette paper and swallowing

## **Bong**

A cannabis water pipe, often home made, consisting of a small plastic bottle, a piece of hose and a cone piece often made from foil

## **Boof/Boofing**

To inject a drug

## **Boot/Booting**

To inject a drug

## **Booty Bump**

Rectal administration of a drug

## **Box**

Cask wine

## **Brekky Cones**

Smoking cannabis in the morning, at breakfast time

## **Brew / Brews / Brewskis**

Alcohol, particularly beer

## **Brick**

2mg Xanax (alprazolam) bar. These tablets are most commonly counterfeit alprazolam and could contain etizolam, flualprazolam, or other novel benzodiazepines

## **Bucket Bong**

A cannabis smoking device that utilises a plastic bottle with the bottom removed, placed into a bucket of water. The cannabis is placed in a cone piece that sits across the mouth of the bottle. When the bottle is lifted up out of the water, gravity causes air to pass through the cone piece, filling the bottle with a large quantity of cannabis smoke, which is ingested in one inhalation. Bucket bongs tend to produce a more intense intoxication than other routes of administration

## **Bud**

The flowering heads of the cannabis plant

## **Bulbs**

Nitrous oxide in the form of a whipped cream charger

## **Bum Rush**

A sensation that occurs in the anus and surrounding area following IV administration of some substances

## **Bump**

A snort of a small amount of a substance (often ketamine or cocaine), sometimes off a key or a dedicated device known as a snuff bullet

## **Bunga**

Cigarettes, particularly roll your own cigarettes

## **Bupe**

Short for buprenorphine, a drug used in medically assisted treatment for opioid dependence

## **Bush**

Cannabis believed to be grown in the outdoors

## **Bute**

Short for 1,4 Butanediol, a chemical that converts to GHB upon ingestion

## **Cactus/Cactus Powder**

Often refers to mescaline containing cactus such as San Pedro or peyote cactus. The cactus can be dried and ground into a powder form

## **Cake**

Cocaine and ketamine used in combination

## **Calvin Klein**

Cocaine and ketamine used in combination

## **Candy Flip**

The combined use of MDMA and LSD

## **Caps**

Capsules - typically containing MDMA

## **Cask**

Cask wine

## **Changa**

Dimethyltryptamine (DMT) soaked plant material in cigarette form

## **Charge/Charged**

Alcohol intoxication

## **Charlie**

Cocaine

## **Chasing**

A term used to describe the process of acquiring drugs e.g. "Are you chasing?"

## **Chasing the Dragon**

The smoking of heroin off foil. As the heroin heats up, the smoke can curl off the foil. It is believed that this curling of the smoke resembles the curls of a dragon's tail

## **Choof/Choofing**

Smoking cannabis

## **Chop/Chop Up**

Cannabis chopped or ground into a new form in order to be smoked. Can also be used to describe the act of smoking cannabis e.g. "Let's go have a chop"

## **Chop-Chop**

Illegal tobacco

## **Chopped**

MDMA intoxication

# C | D | E

## **Chroming**

The inhalation of spray paint fumes. Originally referred specifically to the inhalation of chrome coloured paint, but now refers to the inhalation of any spray paint. In some cases the term is used generically to describe the use of any inhalant

## **Chronic**

High potency cannabis, also known as "hydro"

## **Ciggie**

A cigarette

## **Clean**

A term used to describe abstinence. It can be considered pejorative in some cases, as the alternative is "dirty"

## **Clippy Bag**

A plastic clip seal bag used to store drugs

## **Cockatoo**

A fly in fly out worker

## **Coke**

Cocaine

## **Coming Down**

The period after peak drug effects, where the substance effect subsides

## **Cone / Cones**

Cannabis or cannabis smoking, referring to the cone piece used in a smoking device

## **Cone Piece**

A part of a cannabis smoking utensil which is shaped like a cone. A cone piece could be home-made, out of foil, or could be purchased from a tobacco shop

## **Cooked**

A word that describes intoxication

## **Crab**

An unsavoury character

## **Crack**

In Australia this term is generally used to describe crystal methamphetamine. In the United States, "crack" refers to crack cocaine, however crack cocaine is extremely rare in Australia

## **Crack pipe/Crackie**

A glass pipe for smoking crystal methamphetamine

## **Crack Sheila**

A pejorative term to describe a woman who exchanges sex for methamphetamine

## **Cracker**

A device used to release nitrous oxide from whipped cream chargers. The nitrous is usually released into a balloon, and is then inhaled

## **Crystal**

Crystal methamphetamine

## **Crystal Pistol**

A glass pipe for smoking crystal methamphetamine

## **Cut**

Drugs that have been adulterated with an inert substance designed to increase profit for distributors

## **Dabbing**

The consumption of a small portion of hash oil, wax or 'shatter' which is placed onto a vaporiser, heated and inhaled

## **Darb**

Cigarettes

## **Dart**

Can be used to describe a cigarette, and can also be used to describe a needle/syringe

## **Dexies**

Dexamphetamine

## **Dialled**

Intoxicated on a substance

## **Dimitri**

DMT

## **Dinger**

MDMA in tablet form (variation on pinger)

## **Dirty Shot**

A reaction caused by injecting contaminated drugs - headache, fever, chills

## **Done**

(Pronounced like "own"). Shortened word for methadone

## **Doobie**

A cannabis cigarette

## **Doof Trip**

DMT

## **Dope**

Usually used to describe cannabis, but can also be used to describe heroin

## **Double Drop**

Taking two MDMA tablets or two tabs of LSD at the same time

## **Dry Hit/Dry Puff**

When a vape runs out of liquid, the internal mechanisms can burn and release toxic fumes

## **Dumper**

A cigarette rolled with tobacco sourced from dumped cigarette butts

## **Durrie**

A cigarette

## **E**

MDMA

# E | F | G

## **Eight (8) Ball**

A measurement term used to describe an eighth of an ounce or 3.5 grams of a drug

## **Ekky**

MDMA, typically in tablet form

## **Ekky Tuesday**

Experiencing low mood after the effects of MDMA have worn off. This typically occurs a few days after using MDMA, stereotypically the Tuesday after using MDMA on a Saturday night

## **Elbow**

A measurement term to describe a pound (lb) of drugs

## **Emma**

MDMA

## **Eze**

MDMA

## **Face Melter**

Intoxication from a hallucinogenic substance

## **Fantasy/Fanta**

GHB or a similar substance such as 1,4B or GBL

## **Fast**

Methamphetamine

## **Fifty Bag**

\$50 worth of cannabis

## **Fish Scale**

Cocaine, considered to be very high purity

## **Fishys**

Plastic fish shaped soy sauce container that usually contains GHB/GBL/1,4 B

## **Fit**

Needle/syringe

## **Flakka**

$\alpha$ -Pyrrolidinopentiophenone ( $\alpha$ -PVP)

## **Flaty**

Small bottle of spirits that is flat on one side and looks like a flask

## **Flipper**

MDMA

## **Foil**

\$25 worth of cannabis wrapped in aluminium foil

## **Four By Two (or 4-Bee)**

Rhyming slang for "screw" (see screw)

## **Four Twenty (420)**

A term used to describe cannabis. The term originated in California where a group of friends met each afternoon at 4:20pm. It is now recognised in some parts of the world as a counter cultural holiday

## **Frank**

GHB or a similar substance such as 1,4B or GBL

## **Freebase**

The process of converting a substance to an alkaloid form which can then be smoked, to deliver an increased effect - most common example being the "crack" form of cocaine

## **G Sleep**

A GHB overdose

## **Gak**

Cocaine

## **Gas**

This term might refer to methamphetamine, but can also refer to steroids

## **Gatorade Saxophone**

A home made bong made from a Gatorade bottle

## **G'd Out**

A GHB overdose

## **Gear**

Various substances or paraphernalia including heroin / steroids / other illicit drugs / injecting equipment

## **Get On**

The process of acquiring drugs

## **Glass**

Crystal methamphetamine

## **Glass Barbie**

A methamphetamine pipe

## **Glass Harley**

A glass pipe for smoking crystal methamphetamine

## **Go/Goey**

Methamphetamine

## **Gold Tops**

Or 'magic mushrooms' - in Queensland, gold tops refers to *Psilocybe cubensis*

## **Googs/Googies**

MDMA tablet - derived from 'eggs' (ecstasy)

## **Goon/Goon Bag**

Wine in a flagon or cask

## **Grass**

Cannabis

## **Greening Out**

When a person feels sick from using cannabis, often caused by the combination of cannabis and alcohol, or a cannabis overdose - typically involving nausea or vomiting

## **Grey Nurse/Greys**

Morphine tablets, particular MS Contin, with the 100mg tablet being coloured grey

## **Grief**

The leaf and stem from cannabis which is at the bottom of the bag that a person purchases it in - the grief is considered unpleasant to smoke

# G | H | I | J | K | L

## **Grinder**

A small metal grinding device that is used to chop cannabis to prepare it for smoking

## **Grog**

Alcohol

## **Growth**

Steroids, particularly Human Growth Hormone (HGH)

## **Gunja**

Cannabis

## **Gurner**

A person intoxicated on MDMA

## **Gurning**

The teeth grinding and jaw movement typically seen in MDMA intoxication

## **H**

Heroin

## **Half Weight**

A measurement term - used to describe half a gram of drugs

## **Hammer**

Heroin

## **Harry**

Heroin

## **Hash**

Resin from the flowers of the cannabis plant

## **High**

Under the influence of drugs

## **Hippy Flip**

A combination of MDMA and magic mushrooms

## **Hit Up**

To inject a drug

## **Holding**

In possession of a drug

## **Honey Oil**

Cannabis resin/oil

## **Hooch**

Cannabis

## **Hooter**

Cannabis

## **Hot Knife**

A method of hashish administration that involves pressing a small quantity of hashish between two heated knives, and inhaling the smoke that is produced

## **Hot Shot**

An injection of a substance that is designed to cause death. The administration or supply of a hot shot can be considered murder

## **Hydro/Hydge**

Cannabis, assumed to be grown indoors using hydroponics

## **Ice**

Crystal methamphetamine

## **Indica**

The Cannabis indica plant, a particular species of cannabis

## **Jack**

A colloquial term for police

## **Joint**

A cannabis cigarette

## **Juice**

Can be used to describe either steroids or GHB

## **Jumped On**

Drugs which have been adulterated or 'cut', usually with an inert substance designed to increase the profit margin for the distributor

## **Juul**

A brand of nicotine vaporiser popular in the United States. The term is sometimes used a generic slang for any nicotine vaporising

## **K**

Ketamine

## **Ket**

Ketamine

## **Key**

Short for kilogram

## **K-Hole**

Ketamine intoxication that results in the person becoming immobilised - for many, a K-hole is considered an overdose, and is often thought of as being unpleasant

## **Kief/"Kif"**

The fine residue of dried cannabis which accumulates in the bottom of a cannabis storage container or grinder. The kief can include cannabis trichomes, which are high in THC. From the Arabic "kayf" which means pleasure, or intoxication

## **Kine**

High quality cannabis

## **Kronic**

Synthetic cannabis - specifically the JWH 018 chemical which mimics the effects of cannabis and is applied to an inert herbal product

## **Lean**

Over the counter cough syrup mixed with soft drink. It can contain codeine, dihydrocodeine or DXM. The term is most commonly associated with particular styles of American hip hop

## **Lines**

Powdered drugs prepared into small lines, which can then be snorted

## **Liquid Ecstasy**

GHB

# L | M | N | O | P

## **Lit**

An American term which refers to being intoxicated e.g. "Let's get lit"

## **Love**

Prison slang that describes diverted buprenorphine e.g. "Show us some love"

## **M**

MDMA

## **Mainline**

To inject a drug

## **MD**

MDMA

## **Mesc/Mescaline**

Mescaline is a hallucinogenic phenethylamine, generally appearing in its natural form as cactus or cactus powder

## **Meth**

Methamphetamine

## **Michael Douglas**

MDMA

## **Microdot**

A very small tablet impregnated with LSD

## **Milton Mangoes**

XXXX beer - referring to the location of the XXXX brewery, and the colour of the can/label

## **Molly**

MDMA in powder or crystal form

## **Moon Boots**

A term used to describe being under the influence of Ketamine e.g. "I got my moon boots on last night"

## **Mull**

Cannabis itself / but also to 'mull up' refers to chopping up cannabis in order to smoke it

## **Mull-O-Matic**

A device for chopping large quantities of cannabis e.g. coffee grinder

## **Munted**

Intoxicated on MDMA

## **Mushies**

Magic mushrooms

## **Nangs**

Nitrous oxide in the form of whipped cream chargers

## **N-Bomb**

A drug from the NBOME family such as 25I-NBOME or 25C-NBOM-e

## **Nbome**

N-methoxybenzyl - can include 25I-NBOME, 25C-NBOME, 25E-NBOME

## **Nic sick**

A term to describe having too much nicotine, usually involving symptoms of dizziness, headache and nausea

## **Nitrous**

Nitrous oxide

## **Nose Beer**

Cocaine

## **Nuggs**

A shortened term for the word nuggets and used to describe cannabis buds

## **On The Nod**

Under the influence of opioids

## **Oscar**

A measurement term used to describe an ounce (oz) of a drug

## **Ox Blood**

Methamphetamine that appears in a dark red liquid form

## **Oxies**

Short for oxycodone (often the brand name Oxycontin), a prescription opioid medication

## **P**

Short for 'pure' - referring to crystal methamphetamine

## **Packet**

\$50 worth of heroin

## **Packet Whore/Packety**

A pejorative term for a person who exchanges sex for drugs

## **Parachuting**

Consuming a substance orally, sometimes by wrapping in a cigarette paper and swallowing

## **Peaking**

The moment in which a drug has reached its peak effect - typically associated with MDMA or LSD use

## **Pearl Tickets**

Cocaine

## **Peev**

Short for "PV", a term used to describe MDPV

## **Persian Rugs**

Drugs

## **Peruvian Flake**

Cocaine which is considered high quality

## **Pick**

A needle/syringe

## **Pills**

Can be used to describe MDMA or benzodiazepines

## **Pin**

A needle/syringe

## **Pingers**

MDMA in tablet form

# P | Q | R | S

## **Pink Champagne**

Methamphetamine which has a pink colour

## **Pinned**

Intoxicated on opioids, referring to pinpoint pupils

## **Pipe**

A smoking utensil either for cannabis or crystal methamphetamine

## **Piss**

Alcohol

## **Pissed**

Alcohol intoxication

## **Plug**

Rectal administration of a substance

## **Point**

A measurement term used to describe 0.1 of a gram

## **Poppers**

Amyl nitrite

## **Pot**

Cannabis

## **Puff**

To smoke crystal methamphetamine e.g "Let's go have a puff"

## **Pulling Cones/Punching Cones**

Smoking cannabis typically through a water pipe

## **Purple Drank/Purps**

Over the counter cough syrup mixed with soft drink. It can contain codeine, dihydrocodeine or DXM. The term is most commonly associated with particular styles of American hip hop

## **PV**

MDPV

## **Quarter/Q (1/4)**

A measurement term used to describe either a quarter ounce of cannabis, or a quarter gram of heroin

## **Quick**

Methamphetamine

## **Racehorse**

A very thin hand rolled cigarette or joint

## **Rack**

Preparing a powdered substance into lines for snorting e.g. "Let's rack up some coke"

## **Rail/Railing**

Snorting lines of powdered substances

## **Resin**

Byproduct of smoking cannabis - black tar like substance that coats cannabis utensils - can be smoked, as it contains cannabinoids

## **Rex/Rexxie**

Short for "Rexona" a brand of deodorant commonly misused and inhaled

## **Ripped**

Cannabis intoxication

## **Rock**

Can refer to substances like crystal methamphetamine, MDMA or heroin that appear clumped - often assumed to be of higher purity

## **Roids**

Steroids

## **Rollies**

Roll your own tobacco

## **Rolling**

Being under the influence of MDMA

## **Rolls**

MDMA tablets

## **Roundies**

MDMA in tablet form

## **Rowies**

Rohypnol

## **Rush**

A popular brand of amyl nitrite

## **Sativa**

Cannabis sativa - a species of the cannabis plant that grows in sub / tropical regions

## **Sattie Bag**

A plastic clip seal bag, used to store substances

## **Scattered**

As the effects of stimulants like methamphetamine wear off, people sometimes experience mild confusion e.g. "I'm not answering my phone right now, I'm way too scattered"

## **Scoob**

A cannabis cigarette

## **Scooby Snack**

Cannabis in an edible form, for example a cannabis brownie or biscuit

## **Score**

Buying drugs

## **Screw**

A pejorative for prison guard

## **Seagull**

A fly in fly out worker

## **Sesh**

Short for "session" - used to describe someone going to use cannabis with others e.g. "going for a sesh"

## **Session**

The act of smoking cannabis

# S | T

## **Shabu**

Can refer to methamphetamine

## **Shaft/Shafting**

Rectal administration of a substance

## **Shard**

Crystal methamphetamine

## **Shatter**

THC extract from the cannabis plant

## **Shelve**

Intravaginal administration of a substance

## **Shoot Up**

To inject a drug

## **Shot**

To inject a drug

## **Shotty/Shot Gun**

A hole on the side of a bong designed to allow air into the chamber, in order to increase the movement of smoke through the device – sometimes referred to as a “carb” (carburettor)

## **Shrooms**

Short for ‘magic mushrooms’

## **Skag**

Heroin

## **Skunk**

High potency hydroponic cannabis

## **Slab**

A carton of beer

## **Slam**

To inject a drug

## **Slow**

Heroin and other opioids

## **Sly Grog**

Alcohol brought into communities with alcohol restrictions

## **Smack**

Heroin

## **Smashed**

A generic term used to describe intoxication

## **Smoke**

Cannabis or tobacco smoking

## **Smokes**

Cigarettes

## **Sniff/Sniffing**

Inhalant use

## **Snow Cone**

When a powdered substance is sprinkled on top of cannabis which is then smoked through a bong or a pipe

## **Snuff**

A substance that can be sniffed or snorted

## **Snus**

A form of moist, smokeless tobacco which is placed under the upper lip for extended periods

## **Special K**

Ketamine

## **Speed**

Methamphetamine in powder form, generally of low purity

## **Spice**

Used to describe either DMT (sometimes called ‘Elf Spice’) or a brand of synthetic cannabis

## **Spin**

Tobacco mixed with cannabis. e.g. “Did you spin the pot?”

## **Spliff**

A cannabis cigarette

## **Stacking**

The process of taking multiple pills at once

## **Stick**

A ‘foil’ of cannabis, usually worth \$25

## **Stoker**

A toothpick-like implement used to unblock ‘cone pieces’

## **Stoned**

Being intoxicated on cannabis

## **Stood On**

Describes drugs which have been adulterated, usually with an inert substance in order to increase profits for the distributor

## **Straight**

Not currently affected by alcohol and/or other drugs

## **Subbies**

Short for Subutex / Suboxone – used in opioid replacement therapy (ORT)

## **Swabs**

Wipes containing 70% isopropyl alcohol, designed to clean a site before injecting

## **Synthetic Cannabis**

Any one of a number of substances designed to mimic the effects of THC/cannabis

## **Tabs**

Blotter paper usually impregnated with LSD

## **Tailors/Tailor-mades**

Packaged cigarettes

## **Taste**

A small amount of drugs given or shared

## **Temaze/Temazzies**

Temazepam



# T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z

## **Tick**

The purchase of drugs on credit e.g. "Can I get that on tick?" - there may also be references to the 'tick bill' which is the amount of money owed to a drug dealer

## **Tickets**

LSD in blotter form

## **Tina**

Short for 'Christina' used to describe crystal methamphetamine

## **Tinnie**

\$25 worth of cannabis wrapped in aluminium foil/also a can of beer

## **Toasted**

Cannabis intoxication

## **Toasting Cones/Toasting Hotties**

The process of smoking cannabis

## **Triple Dropping**

Taking three pills at one time

## **Tripping**

Under the influence of a hallucinogenic drug, typically LSD or magic mushrooms

## **Tripping Balls**

Intense hallucinations caused by an hallucinogenic substance

## **Trips**

LSD

## **Tripstacy**

Short for "trippy ecstasy" - a tablet which was meant to be MDMA, but produced an hallucinogenic effect, which could be NBOMe, 2CB etc.

## **Trumpet**

A large joint that is thicker at one end

## **Tweaker/Tweaking**

A person under the influence of methamphetamine can be said to be 'tweaking'

## **Twirl**

Smoking methamphetamine out of a glass pipe, where the pipe is moved in a circular motion to ensure all of the methamphetamine is vaporised

## **Up**

Methamphetamine

## **Up The Murray Cod**

Can be used to describe someone under the influence of opioids (rhyming slang - "on the nod")

## **Vals/Vallies**

Short for Valium a popular brand of diazepam

## **Vape Juice**

A slang term for e-liquid, designed to be used in a vape usually containing a mixture of propylene glycol and vegetable glycerin

## **Vape/Vaping**

Commonly refers to an electronic device that vaporises nicotine liquid for inhalation - can also refer to a cannabis vaporiser or the act of vaporising cannabis

## **Wake N Bake**

Using cannabis in the morning

## **Wash/Wash Bag**

A word for drug remnants left over in a bag

## **Wasted**

A word for intoxication

## **Wax**

THC extract

## **Weed**

Cannabis

## **Weight Or Full Weight**

One gram of drugs

## **Wesley Snipes/Pipes**

A glass pipe for smoking crystal methamphetamine

## **Whack/Whack Up**

To inject a drug

## **Whiz/Whizza**

Methamphetamine

## **Wired**

Intoxication on a stimulant like methamphetamine or cocaine

## **XTC**

MDMA

## **Yarndi**

Cannabis

## **Zannies**

Variation / short for "Xanax" a familiar brand name for the benzodiazepine alprazolam

## **Zeroing**

Inhaling cannabis smoke or e-cigarette vapour and holding it in long enough that there is no visible smoke or vapour upon exhalation

## **Zingers**

MDMA in tablet form (see also 'pingers' / 'dingers')

## **Zippers/Zipped**

Intoxicated on opioids referring to the pinpoint pupils of someone intoxicated on opioids