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## Cannabis Glossary of Terms

### B

#### **BHO (a.k.a. Butane Hash Oil)**

A cannabis extract that's created by using butane as a solvent during the extraction process. Commonly referred to as BHO, butane hash oil comes in a variety of consistencies and textures depending on equipment and techniques used in the extraction process.

#### **Blunt**

A traditional blunt is a hollowed-out cigar filled with ground cannabis. Since cigars tend to be larger than joint rolling papers, they are able to hold more cannabis and have a small amount of nicotine. Modern blunt wraps are made from Palm, Mint, and even Hemp and do not contain nicotine.

#### **Bioavailability**

The proportion of a drug or other substance which enters the circulation when introduced into the body and so is able to have an active effect.

#### **Bong**

A glass, ceramic, or plastic device used to smoke cannabis flower. Bongs use water to filter out any undesirable plant matter—allowing only smoke to reach the user's lungs.

#### **Bowl**

The part on a bong, pipe, or any smoking device that holds the cannabis. "Pack a bowl" means to place cannabis flower into the bowl where it will be ignited and smoked.

#### **Bud**

Another word used to describe cannabis flowers. Once dried and manicured, buds are ground up and smoked.

#### **Budder**

A term used to describe the appearance and consistency of a cannabis concentrate. Budder typically has a malleable texture that's similar to a stick of butter.

#### **Bubbler**

A smoking device that uses water to filter smoke, similar to a bong but smaller.

#### **Budtender**

An employee of a dispensary who works at the storefront to assist and educate customers about cannabis products.

### C

#### **Cannabinoids**

A class of diverse, naturally occurring chemical compounds that influence CB1 and CB2 cell receptors in the brain and body.

### **Cannabis**

A plant genus with three subspecies, including *Cannabis sativa*, *Cannabis indica*, and *Cannabis ruderalis*. *Cannabis sativa* and *Cannabis indica* have intoxicating properties and are used for both medical and recreational purposes. *Cannabis ruderalis* is naturally lower in THC and is not usually farmed. The Cannabis plant is native to Asia, but is grown all around the world to produce hemp and medicine, textiles, food and more.

### **Cartridge (a.k.a. cart)**

A small container prefilled with cannabis extracts/oils that are rich in cannabis' active ingredients. Cartridges come in multiple formats. Some snap into place magnetically while others come threaded and twist into a battery.

### **Caviar**

A type of cannabis concentrate that is very potent with very high levels of THC. It is often made by dipping buds in hash oil and sprinkling them with kief.

### **CBD**

Cannabidiol (CBD) is one of many cannabinoids produced by cannabis, second only to THC in abundance. CBD is not intoxicating, meaning it does not create the "euphoric high" of THC.

### **CO2 Oil**

A term for some cannabis concentrates that are made by using CO2 as a solvent to extract terpenes, cannabinoids, and other beneficial compounds from the cannabis plant to create products for vaping and dabbing.

### **Cola**

The central flower cluster that forms at the top of the main stems in mature female cannabis plants. Buds that grow on the cola are the largest and are prized for their high concentrations of active resin. Their size and luster makes them a popular choice for cannabis photography.

### **Concentrates**

Highly concentrated cannabis extracts, with potencies reaching as high as 98% THC. They're produced by extracting cannabinoids and terpenes from cannabis flower in a process that typically uses a solvent, like CO2 or butane. The effects of concentrates are felt almost immediately after inhalation.

### **Cone**

A rolling paper that comes in the shape of a cone that you fill with ground flower to make a joint. It tends to be an easier alternative to rolling a joint with regular papers.

### **Cure**

In cannabis cultivation, the process of curing is the method used to properly age buds before they are ready for consumption. When plants are moved from the drying stage to the curing stage at the right time, the flavor, potency, and desirable characteristics are greatly improved.

## **D**

### **Dabbing**

Dabbing is a way to consume cannabis concentrates, like wax or shatter. It's done by dropping a small amount of concentrate (a dab) on a heated nail, then inhaling the vapor through the glass piece it is attached to. See also: Rig

**Dank**

A term used to describe high-quality, desirable cannabis flower. It's often used to refer to buds that are extra sticky, hairy, pungent, and highly potent.

**Decarboxylation**

The process of heating cannabis flower to alter the cannabinoids so they will better interact with the body. Cannabinoids, such as THC, are inactive until they are heated (decarboxylated). Once heated, the molecular structure shifts and turns inactive compounds into active cannabinoids that can get you high.

**Dispensary**

A dispensary is a retail location where consumers and patients can purchase legal cannabis in a safe manner. Customers receive friendly assistance from expert staff (called budtenders) who help them find products to suit their individual needs and tolerances.

**Distillate**

A highly refined cannabis concentrate. Distillation removes terpenes, many pigments, and other non-cannabinoid components, generally producing a higher potency and purer concentrate than other forms of cannabis extracts. Distillate is often used in edibles due to its lack of characteristic cannabis flavor as well as in vape pens.

**Dugout**

A wooden box with two compartments to hold a short tubular metal pipe and a small amount of cannabis. Dugouts are popular for their discreteness and ease of use.

**E****Edibles**

Produced by infusing a product with cannabis concentrate or cannabutter, edibles can range from baked goods and chocolate bars to drinks and capsules.

**Eighth**

A standard weight measurement of cannabis flower that refers to an eighth of an ounce. This amount equals about 3.5 grams.

**Endocannabinoid System**

The endocannabinoid system is made up of receptors found in the central and peripheral nervous systems. These receptors are primarily responsible for maintaining homeostasis—or a stable equilibrium—between the body's many physiological and psychological processes, including appetite, pain-sensation, mood, and memory. Cannabinoids like THC, CBD, CBN, and more interact with these receptors and can contribute to maintaining the body's homeostasis.

**Entourage Effect**

A term coined by Dr. Raphael Mechoulam in 1998 to describe the physiological synergy of combining compounds such as terpenes and cannabinoids.

**F****Flower**

The flowering part of the cannabis plant that is dried, cured, and smoked. This smokable part of the cannabis plant is also referred to as "bud."

**Full spectrum**

Refers to cannabis concentrate that includes the full range of cannabinoid, terpene and other therapeutic compounds contained in the raw cannabis plant to maintain the desirable cannabis compounds without altering them with decarboxylation or oxidation.

G

### **Grinder**

A device used to break cannabis buds into smaller pieces for joints and bowls. Buds are placed in between the teeth of the grinder, and the top and bottom pieces of the grinder are twisted in opposite directions to break down the flower.

H

### **Hash**

Short for “hashish,” hash is a cannabis concentrate that is made by pressing together the resin glands of the cannabis plant to form a hardened, solid piece called a slab or brick. Hash is usually inhaled or smoked, and is one of the older types of cannabis concentrates, dating as far back as the 12th century.

### **Hemp**

A tall, stalky variety of Cannabis sativa that is usually very low in THC. These fibrous plants have been used for over 10,000 years for a variety of purposes, like making paper, clothing, rope, and building materials. Hemp is a popular source of protein, cooking oil, body care products, and is used to make CBD isolates.

### **High**

Being “high” refers to the intoxicating effect of cannabinoids like THC. It is often reported as feelings of happiness and relaxation, as well as altered time and sensory perception.

### **Hit**

To take a “hit” means to inhale cannabis. Each singular inhale from a joint or bong, and puff on a vape pen are considered “hits.”

### **Hybrid**

A combination of two or more different strains of cannabis. Centuries of cross-breeding have turned most strains into hybrids; some sativa-dominant, and some indica-dominant.

### **Hydroponic**

A method of cannabis cultivation that uses water, sand, or gravel rather than soil. Hydroponic cannabis cultivation is considered by some to be more efficient than traditional soil-based cultivation because the open root system creates a pathway for direct uptake of nutrients and oxygen.

I

### **Indica**

Indica is one of the three cannabis species (the other two being Sativa and Ruderalis). It most likely originated in Afghanistan around the Hindu Kush Mountain Range. Indicas are generally considered to have more body-focused, physically relaxing effects, and users often prefer Indicas for nighttime relaxation and physical relief.

J

## **Joint**

One of the most popular methods for consuming cannabis, joints are a rolled cigarette containing cannabis instead of tobacco. Joints are made by spreading a strip of ground-up cannabis flower onto a rolling paper, then rolling it up to form the shape of a cigarette. Joints appeal to many users because they're portable and easy to discard when finished.

## **K**

### **Kief**

A powdery substance of the tiny trichomes collected by sifting cannabis flowers and leaves. Kief can be pressed into hash, used in food, or sprinkled into joints and blunts. As one of the most natural methods of concentrating cannabis, kief is easy to collect and very potent.

### **Kush**

Refers to a variety of cannabis that descends from the Hindu Kush mountains in Afghanistan. If a strain has strong Kush genetics, it usually has dense, chunky buds that produce smooth and herbaceous smoke and vape. These strains are dominant in the terpene limonene and will often produce heavy, sedative effects.

## **L**

### **Landrace**

The term Landrace is used to describe strains of cannabis developed in their natural environment and haven't been cross-bred with other varieties. They have a reduced genetic variety that often makes the plants very uniform in appearance and cultivation characteristics.

### **Live Resin**

A type of concentrate created by freezing freshly harvested cannabis before starting the extraction process, allowing the plant to retain more terpenes, thus giving it a more authentic flavor and aroma profile.

## **M**

### **Marihuana/Marijuana**

This Spanish word was one of the original terms for cannabis. While it can have negative connotations associated with cannabis being brought to the U.S. from Spanish speaking immigrants, it is still an accepted term in the cannabis community.

## **N**

### **Nail**

Nails are usually made from quartz, glass, or titanium, and are used to smoke cannabis concentrates. The nail is heated, commonly by a hand torch, and when it comes in contact with a concentrate, a vapor is produced and inhaled.

### **Nug**

A slang term short for "nugget." It refers to the way a manicured piece of smokable bud material looks. The term is also often used to describe high-quality cannabis.

## **O**

### **OG**

An abbreviation for the cannabis strain called OG Kush. A long-time staple in the cannabis scene, OG is a strong Indica strain that originates from California. While no one is exactly sure where the term OG originated, some believe it to be short for terms like "ocean grown," "original gangster" and possibly "overgrown."

**Onset Time**

Refers to the amount of time it takes for the effects to become noticeable after using cannabis. For example, smoking and edibles have different onset times.

**Ounce**

A standard weight measurement of cannabis flower that equals about 28 grams.

**P**

**Pot**

One of the many terms used for cannabis that originated during the underground days of cannabis prohibition. The word is likely derived from the Mexican Spanish word "potiguaya," the Spanish name for cannabis-infused wine or brandy.

**Pre-roll**

A joint that is already rolled, or "pre-rolled" and sold in dispensaries.

**Q**

**Quarter**

A standard weight measurement of cannabis flower that refers to a quarter of an ounce. This amount equals about 7 grams.

**R**

**Rig**

The full setup of equipment used for dabbing. A rig typically consists of a water pipe fitted with a "nail" instead of a bowl. The nail is usually made of ceramic, titanium, or quartz, and is heated with a flame where the concentrate is immediately vaporized and inhaled.

**Roach/Roach Clip**

A roach is what remains of a joint or blunt after most of it has been smoked. Because roaches are small they are difficult to hold and smoke. A roach clip is a small clipping device that holds the roach, making it easier to smoke.

**Rosin**

A type of concentrate that is extracted by applying heat and pressure to the cannabis plant without the use of solvents.

**S**

**Sativa**

One of the three cannabis species (the other two being Indica and Ruderalis) that likely originated around Nepal. Sativa strains are generally considered to have more cerebral, uplifting, and energizing effects and users often prefer Sativa dominant strains for creative work and physical activities.

**Shake**

The loose pieces of plant material that collect at the bottom of a bag or container of cannabis. Small scraps of cannabis tend to fall off of larger buds as a result of regular handling.

### **Shatter**

A type of concentrate that is a solid material resembling a thin, honey-colored shard of glass. When touched, shatter easily breaks into pieces—hence the name.

### **Solvent**

In the world of cannabis, solvents refer to the liquid used to separate THC from the cannabis flower when making concentrates.

### **Spliff**

A joint filled with a mixture of cannabis and tobacco. The term originated from the phrase “splitting the difference” between cannabis and tobacco.

### **Stoned**

A slang term used to describe the state of being under the influence of cannabis.

### **Strain**

Refers to a cannabis flower’s particular variety. Strains are used to characterize the shape, color, taste, aroma, and effects of cannabis. Cannabis strains are typically broken up into three groups: Indica, Sativa, and Hybrid.

## **T**

### **THC**

Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) is an intoxicating cannabinoid and is largely responsible for the “high” associated with using cannabis. THC is the most well-known molecule in the cannabis plant and can produce many effects like euphoria and increased sensory awareness, as well as offering many medical benefits.\* Cannabis has been cultivated for generations, primarily for the effects that are attributed to THC.

### **Terpenes**

Fragrant oils secreted from the resin glands of many types of plants and flowers that provide aromatic diversity. Terpenes can bind to different receptors in the brain, producing different effects. For example, Linalool is a terpene, also found in Lavender, that produces a sedative or relaxing effect.

### **Tincture**

A liquid extract created by soaking cannabis flower in a solvent to remove the cannabinoids and terpenes from the plant material. Tinctures were one of the original ways people used medical cannabis, and before cannabis prohibition in the 1930s, most households had a bottle of cannabis tincture in their medicine cabinet.

### **Titration**

The process of adjusting medication amounts until the desired effect is achieved.

### **Toker Poker**

A small, stiff wire-like device used to poke a bowl to aid in lighting the buds or putting them out.

### **Topical**

A cannabis-infused cream, lotion, oil, or balm that is applied to and absorbed through the skin. Topicals are fast-acting and non-intoxicating, which allows users to reap the therapeutic benefits of compounds like THC without any unwanted intoxication.

**Torch**

A tool that uses propane to produce a consistent flame, usually used to heat concentrates, or dabs.

**Trichome**

The tiny outgrowths that cover the buds and leaves of the cannabis plant. They are usually very shiny, sticky, and aromatic, often appearing as a blanket of frost on the plant surface.

Trichomes contain many cannabinoids, terpenes, and flavonoids that contribute to the plant's flavor and effect.

**U****Uptake**

The act of absorption of a substance by a living organism. In the world of cannabis, uptake refers to the absorption of compounds like cannabinoids and terpenes into the human body.

**V****Vaporizer**

A device that uses heat to vaporize and deliver the active compounds in cannabis flower or concentrates by inhaling vapor, without burning the material and creating smoke.

**W****Wax**

A type of cannabis concentrate that resembles the texture of candle wax. Depending on consistency, wax can also be called sugar, budder, or crumble.

**Weed**

Weed has been one of the most popular slang terms for cannabis during the 20th century. It probably originates as a reference to how fast and easily cannabis can grow.



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