



Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

What happens to your body when you smoke marijuana?

Within a few minutes after inhaling **marijuana smoke**, a person's **heart rate** speeds up, the bronchial passages (the pipes that let air in and out of your lungs) relax and become enlarged, and **blood vessels** in the eyes expand, making the eyes look red. While these and other effects seem harmless, they can take a toll on the body. Regular use of marijuana has also been linked to **depression, anxiety**, and a **loss of drive or motivation**.

In the short-term, marijuana can cause:

- *problems with learning and memory*
- *distorted perception (sights, sounds, time)*
- *poor motor coordination*
- *difficulty with thinking and problem solving*
- *increased heart rate*



What does marijuana do to the brain?



PREVIEW

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Marijuana affects perception, and decrease coordination. Studies of drivers who use marijuana show an increase in lane weaving, poor reaction time, and altered attention to the road.

Use of **alcohol with marijuana** makes drivers more impaired, causing even more lane weaving.



How long does marijuana stay in the body?

The **THC** (psychoactive ingredient) in marijuana is rapidly absorbed by fatty tissues in various organs throughout the body. In general, standard **urine tests** can detect traces (metabolites) of THC **several days** after use. In heavy users, THC metabolites can sometimes be detected for weeks after use stops.





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In the short-term, marijuana can cause:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____



What does marijuana do to the brain?



PREVIEW

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How does marijuana use impair driving?