

## Ecstasy

**Street Names:** MDMA, Molly, E, XTC, Adam, Beans, Rolls, X, Skittles, Scooby, Snack and the list goes on.

Ecstasy, also called MDMA (Methylenedioxymethamphetamine), is a popular drug that people use to have a good time. It's like a mix of a stimulant and a hallucinogen. You might see it as colourful tablets or capsules that make you feel really happy, and more aware of your senses. Back in the old days, people thought MDMA could be used for therapy. But it wasn't until the 1970s and 1980s that it became a hit at parties and raves. Now, it's used by lots of different people in different places.

Ecstasy pills can look all sorts of ways, like a bunch of crazy shapes, sizes, and colours. Some have pictures or symbols on them, like smiley faces or logos.

The packaging for ecstasy is also pretty mysterious. Some pills come in little plastic bags, while others are wrapped in foil or put in capsules. But no matter how it's packaged, the effects are still the same.

## **Short term Effects**

Ecstasy causes sensations such as can increase heart rate, blood pressure, and body temperature, making you feel like you're in a sauna while doing cardio. It can also cause muscle tension, jaw clenching and dehydration.

Ecstasy has a reputation for turning even the most introverted wallflower into a social butterfly. Its psychological effects can include increased feelings of empathy, love, and emotional openness. It can also heighten sensory perception, making lights brighter, music more euphoric, and those glow sticks look like magic wands. However, it's essential to remember that everyone reacts differently, and the psychological effects can vary from person to person.

## **Long-term Effects**

Regular use of ecstasy can lead to memory and cognitive impairments, depression, anxiety, sleep disturbances, and even long-term changes in brain function. Additionally, ecstasy can be adulterated with other substances, increasing the risk of unexpected and potentially harmful reactions. Ecstasy can lead to an overdose, which can be life-threatening. Ecstasy can cause adverse reactions that can range from mild allergic symptoms like rashes and hives to difficulty breathing or swelling of the face and throat.

Ecstasy can cause an abnormal burst of energy and over affectionate. But it also includes frequent mood swings, changes in appetite, and engaging in risky behaviour. Physically it will cause dilated pupils, excessive sweating, jaw clenching, and an increased heart rate are some of the physical manifestations to look out for.

Ecstasy is known for its impact on the mind. If you notice someone experiencing heightened senses, euphoria, increased empathy, or displaying signs of confusion and disorientation, there's a chance they may have indulged in ecstasy. However, keep in mind that these signs can vary from person to person.

Ecstacy can be tempting with its promise of a euphoric experience, but it's essential to be aware of the potential health risks and signs of addiction. By staying informed, promoting awareness, and seeking help when needed, we can ensure the safety and well-being of ourselves and those around us. Remember, it's better to dance to the rhythm of life without relying on ecstasy to keep the beat. Stay safe out there!