

# K2: Synthetic Marijuana



## Side Effects

**Hallucinations** – Users report seeing aliens & UFOs after smoking. It is possible to over hallucinate and kill yourself.

**Elevated Blood Pressure and Heart Rates** - Highly NOT recommended to smoke since you may become very active and cannot stop moving due to the side effect associated with it.

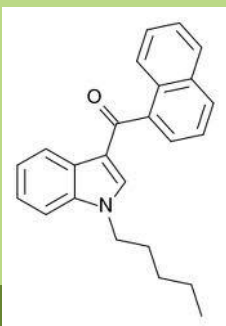
**Headaches** – The headaches continue to get worse as you continue to smoke more. They aren't like any normal headache – these can get to the point that you feel like you want to kill yourself. Taking Advil or Tylenol will not help.

**Vomiting/Sickness** – Usually starts when a first time user smokes more than they can handle. After vomiting, one may be confused and lost since their brain cannot process/work properly. Hyperventilation is possible if close to overdosing.

## What is it?

K2 is known as a 'herbal incense'. It is a mixture of herbs and spices, which is then sprayed with a chemical agent similar to marijuana's THC. K2 came along after the creation of JWH-018. John W. Huffman constructed JWH-018 in his lab at Clemson University. He was an organic chemist that studied cannabinoid receptors. He created a compound to try and find cannabinoid receptors in the brain – the parts that THC in marijuana bond with to produce feelings of euphoria. He published details on a series of compounds, which included JWH-018.

**But how did it start to be smoked?** “Apparently somebody picked it up, I think in Europe, on the idea of doping this incense mixture with the compound and smoking it,” Huffman told LiveScience. “You can get very high on it. It's about 10 times more active than THC,” the active ingredient in marijuana.



“It's about 10 times more active than THC.”  
- John W. Huffman

# Side Effects Lead to Emergency Rooms Visits and Suicides

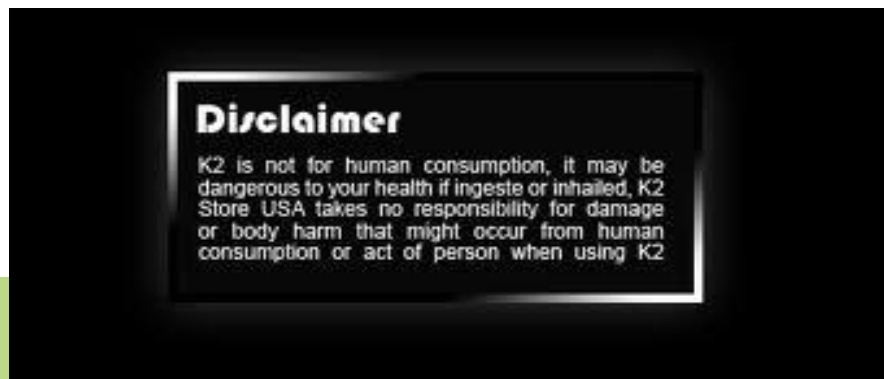
There many effects of K2 and other forms of 'Fake Pot', but the most concerning ones are its link to some teen suicide cases. The side effect of hallucinations is what is leading teens to commit suicide while under the influence of K2. David Rozga, 18, of Indianola, Iowa was smoking K2 with his friends and 'freaked out' and said he was 'going to hell'. Later that night he committed suicide. But did the drug 'cause' Rozga to take his life? That is not for sure, hopefully Rozga's story will be a warning to those thinking about using 'fake pot'.

Not everyone who gets a bad reaction from K2 takes their life, but some get close to losing their life. In a report to the Drug-Free Sport hotline, an NCAA athletic trainer said, " Three student-athletes were breaking apart cigarettes, mixing it with K2, rolling it back up into papers and then smoking.

One young man, who had NO past medical history, had a seizure and lost consciousness. He was found outside the dorm by campus security convulsing. His heart rate was elevated above 200 for enough time that he was admitted for 24 hours of observation ... When asked why he did it: "I didn't think it would be that much of a rush, I had no control over my body in that I could see but could not talk or speak."

Another report from an athletic trainer, "We have a student-athlete who was in the emergency room over the weekend! Says he was smoking 'Spice.' His heart was racing, his blood pressure was off the charts, and he was hallucinating. This went on for hours!!"

These stories of K2 users and the horrible effects it had on them should be used as a warning to users and anyone thinking of using the drug.



Disclaimer on K2:

NOT for Human Consumption.

# Ingredients in K2 Banned in Many Countries

The problems come from a few chemicals, aka 'designer drugs' that mimic the effects of THC and are being used to make 'fake pot' products: JWH-018, JWH-073, JWH-200, CP-47, 497 and cannabicyclohexanol. Many countries started banning products containing JWH-018 for its alleged psychoactive effects and health risks. The first country to ban it was Australia in December 2008, Germany did in 2009 and quickly following was Russia and Belarus. Now as of March 01, 2011, the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) took action and made possessing or selling any products with those chemicals or products that contain them illegal in the U.S. If caught you can be jailed as well as fined and it goes on your record, just like if you were caught with marijuana. This action took place to prevent an immanent threat to public health and safety. It will remain in effect for at least one year while the DEA and the United States Department of Health and Human Service (DHHS) further study if these chemicals should be permanently controlled.

## March 1, 2011 the United States DEA Banned Ingredients in K2



### Resources:

Fay, Calvina. "'K2' Poses Dangers and

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Serious Health Issues." *University Star*. N.p., 25/03/2010. Web. 17 Mar 2011. <<http://star.txstate.edu/node/2002>>.

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Similar High As Pot, No Positive Drug Test." *Yahoo!*. N.p., n.d. Web. 17 Mar 2011. <[http://wap.yahoo.com/w/ygo-frontpage/lp/story/us/74069/coke.bp?ref\\_w=frontdoors&.ysid=oriA4bybv1Hv.MwWympVx90j&.intl=US&.lang=en](http://wap.yahoo.com/w/ygo-frontpage/lp/story/us/74069/coke.bp?ref_w=frontdoors&.ysid=oriA4bybv1Hv.MwWympVx90j&.intl=US&.lang=en)>.

Seeley, Merlyn. "US Ban of K2 Spice

Ingredients is Finally in Effect." *Examiner.com National*. N.p., 01/03/2011. Web. 17 Mar 2011. <<https://www.examiner.com/natural-health-in-national/us-ban-on-k2-spice-ingredients-is-finally-effect>>.

"What are the Side Effects of K2?." *K2*

*Side Effects*. N.p., 09/03/2011. Web. 17 Mar 2011. <<http://k2sideeffects.net/what-are-the-side-effects-of-k2/>>.

