

# Drugs Facts: LSD



- LSD is a potent hallucinogen.
- LSD is sold on the street in tablets, capsules, and occasionally in liquid form.
- During the first hour after ingestion, users may experience changes in mood and impaired judgment.
- Flashbacks have been reported days, and even months, after taking the last dose.

## What is LSD?

LSD is a potent hallucinogen that has a high potential for abuse and currently has no accepted medical use in treatment in the United States.

## What is its origin?

LSD is produced in clandestine laboratories in the United States.

## What are common street names?

Common names for LSD include:

*Acid, Blotter Acid, Dots, Mellow Yellow, and Window Pane*

## What does it look like?

LSD is sold on the street in tablets, capsules, and occasionally in liquid form. It is an odorless and colorless substance with a slightly bitter taste. LSD is often added to absorbent paper, such as blotter paper, and divided into small decorated squares, with each square representing one dose.

## How is it abused?

LSD is abused orally.

## What is its effect on the mind?

During the first hour after ingestion, users may experience visual changes with extreme changes in mood. While hallucinating, the user may suffer impaired depth and time perception accompanied by distorted perception of the shape and size of objects, movements, colors, sound, touch and the user's own body image.

The ability to make sound judgments and see common dangers is impaired, making the user susceptible to personal injury. It is possible for users to suffer acute anxiety and depression after an LSD "trip" and flashbacks have been reported days, and even months, after taking the last dose.



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### What is its effect on the body?

The physical effects include:

- dilated pupils
- higher body temperature
- increased heart rate and blood pressure
- sweating
- loss of appetite
- sleeplessness
- dry mouth
- tremors

### What are its overdose effects?

- longer, more intense “trip” episodes,
- psychosis
- possible death

### Which drugs cause similar effects?

LSD’s effects are similar to other hallucinogens, such as PCP, mescaline, and peyote.

### What is its legal status in the United States?

LSD is a Schedule I substance under the Controlled Substances Act. Schedule I substances have a high potential for abuse, no currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States, and a lack of accepted safety for use under medical supervision.

## Connecticut Resources

Department of Mental Health  
and Addiction Services  
[www.ct.gov/dmhas](http://www.ct.gov/dmhas)

## National Resources

Substance Abuse and Mental  
Health Services Administration  
[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)  
1.800.662.HELP (4357)

National Institute on  
Drug Abuse  
[www.drugabuse.gov](http://www.drugabuse.gov)

