

# Introduction to Dabbing Extracts



## Officer Dick Downey's Re-education Protocol

[officerdickdowneyspotreport.com](http://officerdickdowneyspotreport.com)

Top Secret! Please Do Not Copy

## What is Dabbing?

Dabbing is a relatively new way to use cannabis that involves heating and vaporizing very potent, concentrated forms of cannabis referred to as 'concentrates', 'dabs' or 'extracts', to name a few. These concentrates are more potent than any other form of cannabis with THC levels typically between 70-90%.

Concentrates are referred to by their literal form – wax, shatter, budder, honey oil, etc.. With recent developments in using advanced extraction methods and equipment, dabbing has become quite popular with patients and recreational users.



## How Are Extracts Manufactured?

Cannabis extracts are made by using various complex and precise extraction processes, methodology and equipment. Because cannabis' cannabinoids, terpenes and other active ingredients are not soluble in water, a solvent is used to extract these compounds, which forms the final product.

Common solvents currently used in the industry include:

### Non-Hydrocarbon Solvents

- Dry Sieve
- Water (in some cases)
- Carbon Dioxide (CO2)
- Isopropyl alcohol

### Hydrocarbon Solvents

- Butane
- Propane
- Hexane

Residual solvents can be harmful to patients. Reputable manufacturers use very precise scientific methods and advanced closed loop systems to remove all trace solvents from cannabis extracts. If you are concerned about purchasing concentrates because of potential residual solvents in the final product, then ask your dispensary agent about the solvent(s) the manufacturer used and the lab results of any residual solvent testing done by the manufacturer. It's also worth finding out what the exact parts per million of solvent is allowed by the laws in your state. In Illinois, the maximum residual amount allowed in the final product is 10 ppm (parts per million) or less, which is a very high standard.

**Note:** Do NOT consider trying to make 'homemade' dabs. Manufacturing extracts is complex and potentially very dangerous and even fatal. Please leave this work to the professional extract engineers.

## Is Dabbing Safe?

There is not much scientific research out there about any possible health issues related to dabbing. However, a 2014 scientific review by Mallory Loflin and Dr. Mitch Earleywine indicated that "using 'dabs' created no more problems or accidents than using flower cannabis." The study did mention a potential downside to dabbing, in which a high tolerance to cannabis is often developed by the user.

The most prudent approach to avoid developing a tolerance with concentrates is to use them in moderation, when something very powerful is needed.

Dabbing does have some obvious benefits: You are using very little and, therefore, you are not inhaling large amounts of smoke in one session as you would with a joint, for example. And, if the concentrate is high quality and void of solvents, it produces a much cleaner smoke than conventional inhalation methods.

## How Do You Dab?

The process of dabbing is a little involved, but once you try it a few times and get the process down, it's quite safe and simple.

**Note:** Dabbing requires using a high temperature butane torch. Please be attentive to the flame's direction and reach at all times and do not dab near anything flammable.

### Tools Needed

Before you learn about the dabbing process, let's take a look at the paraphernalia you'll need.

- **Glass Dab Rig.** This is essentially a water bong made for dabbing. While you can convert an existing glass bong for dabbing, it is not recommended. You don't want to share the same bong for flowers and dabs.
- **A Nail.** This is the bowl piece made to withstand high heat and designed to allow the dab vapors to travel into the glass rig. Nails come in glass, ceramic, titanium and quartz. In short, the best options are titanium and quartz. Some have a cover, or dome, and some are domeless.
  - Titanium. If you use titanium, make sure you buy medical grade titanium to ensure you will not get any toxins from the heated metal. There are many cheap knock-offs molded from grade 2, Chinese-sourced titanium and imported for assembly. The vast majority of brands are not using medical grade titanium. Some companies that sell safe, high quality medical quality grade 2 titanium nails and dabbers include, Santa Cruz Shredder, Silika, High Tech Titanium & Highly Educated.
  - Quartz. Quartz is a great option because it is durable, does not emit any toxins, heats up quickly and retains heat well. If you are going with quartz, you should consider a thick nail (3-4mm) for maximum durability and safety.
- **Butane Torch.** Go with a reputable brand and spend the extra money on high quality butane refills.
- **Dabber Tool.** A dabber tool is a wand-like object made from glass, ceramic, quartz or titanium. It is used to pick up the concentrate material and transfer it to the nail.
- **Dabber Mat.** A silicone, non-stick mat that is heat resistant, which you can use to put concentrate material on.
- **Concentrate Container.** A silicone, non-stick container for storing your concentrate material.

### The Dabbing Process

1. Ensure the environment in which you're dabbing is safe and away from any flammable materials.
2. Prepare some dab material on a dabber tool and place it on a dabber mat.
3. Heat up the nail using a butane torch. How long you heat up the nail is relative to the nail's material (i.e., low heat vs. high heat dabbing). Use the hottest part of the flame, which is just in front of the internal, light blue cone of the flame.
4. Place your mouth on the stem of the glass rig.
5. Take the loaded dabber tool and place the concentrate in the nail as you inhale and gently stir the dabber to expose all of the dab material to the hot surfaces of the nail.

*See the next page for pics of a typical dab setup.*

**WARNINGS:** Do NOT handle the nail until it is completely cooled; some nails can retain heat for a long time. Keep the torch's direct flame away from the actual rig; focus it on the nail itself. Be careful – the flame's reach extends far beyond the visible, blue flame.

## A Typical Dab Setup

