

Newer Drug Paraphernalia

Vaporizers



Bongs



Dab Pens



Pipes



WHAT DOES DRUG PARAPHERNALIA MEAN?

The term drug paraphernalia refers to any equipment that is used to produce, conceal, or consume illicit drugs. It includes but is not limited to items such as bongs, vaporizers, hookahs, roach clips, dabbers, pipes and more.^{1,3}

WHAT DOES DRUG PARAPHERNALIA LOOK LIKE?

Identifying drug paraphernalia can be challenging because products are often designed and marketed to look like they are used for legitimate purposes.^{1,2}

ARE DRUG PARAPHERNALIA ILLEGAL?

According to the U.S. Code Title 21 Section 863, drug paraphernalia are illegal. This statute makes it unlawful for any person to sell or offer for sale drug paraphernalia. However, these products often carry a misleading disclaimer to circumvent the statute, such as stating they are intended to be used only with tobacco products (which are legal).^{1,3}

WHAT SHOULD PARENTS AND SCHOOLS KNOW?

Items are increasingly manufactured in bright, trendy colors and designs in an attempt to glamorize drug use and make products attractive to teenagers and young adults.^{1,2} Vaporizers, vape pens and e-cigarettes are newer marketed products that can **hide a variety of drugs and allow the user to discreetly or secretly consume drugs with little-to-no detection from others.**^{3,4}

WHY ARE THESE ITEMS DIFFICULT TO DETECT?

These items can be difficult to detect as they are easy to conceal and they can be designed or disguised to look like **ink pens, highlighters, cosmetics, cell phones, electronic gadgets, breathing inhalers, and more.**^{2,3}

HOW CAN YOU TELL IF IT IS DRUG PARAPHERNALIA OR NOT?

Vaporizers, vape pens or e-cigarettes will likely have a heating element. Another way to know if it is drug paraphernalia is to search the internet for the item. "How to" videos about drug paraphernalia are often posted online.^{2,3}

WHERE IS DRUG PARAPHERNALIA SOLD?

Drug paraphernalia can be obtained through various means. These products are often sold over the Internet, mail-order businesses, tobacco shops, medical marijuana or retail stores, gas stations, and convenience stores.^{1,3}

HOW SHOULD I EDUCATE ABOUT THIS?

Many people do not know about these items, what they look like, or how they can be used. Please share this information with youth, parents and schools in your community.³



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Citations and References

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