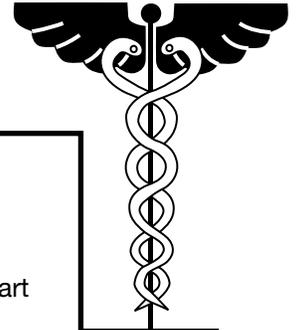


# CRACK COCAINE



## Facts About Drugs

### WHAT IT IS

**Names:** crack, rock, readyrock, french fries (three-inch sticks)

**Type:** central nervous system stimulant

**Form:** dried chunk or shaving of cocaine combined with baking soda or ammonia in water; a freebase form less pure than freebase prepared with ether

**Usage:** smoked as a vapor

**Legal Status:** illegal

**Other Forms:** leaf of coca bush (ritual form); white crystalline powder or lump ("rock") as cocaine hydrochloride; vapor as cocaine freebase; solution diluted in water; for medicinal purposes, used in solution as a surface anesthesia

**Combinations:** with heroin, "dynamite," "speedball" or "whiz-bang," with morphine, also "whiz-bang"

### WHAT IT FEELS LIKE

immediate and overwhelming high or euphoria lasting three to five minutes, followed by intense low with depression, worry, inability to concentrate

### WHAT IT DOES

**To Your Mind:** stimulates intense alertness and excitement

**To Your Body:** speeds up all systems, increasing heart rate and blood pressure, constricts blood vessels, alters breathing, creates dry mouth, dilates pupils, exaggerates movements

**Special Characteristics:** increased

risk of overdose due to uncontrollable, higher concentration in bloodstream. Increased risk of heart attack in otherwise healthy users; severe breathing and lung effects; liver damage, malnutrition, overstimulation of all body systems, destruction of brain neurotransmitters

### HOW IT CAN HURT YOU

- eating and sleeping disorders
- impaired sexual performance
- shaking, muscle twitches, seizures and severe anxiety
- paranoia, psychosis and hallucinations
- addiction
- unborn children of using mothers may be affected by mental retardation, deformities, heart defects and delayed development
- death from overdose, suicide, homicide and fatal accidents while under the influence

### WHEN TO GET HELP

- Do you use crack?
- Do you use it in the morning or at regular intervals?
- Do you think about crack often?
- Do you lie about how much you use?
- Are you spending more on crack than you can afford?
- Are you having problems at work, school, with family and friends?
- Are you willing to do anything to get crack?

**FACT:**  
*Cocaine may be the most addictive drug of all.*