



RETAIL MARIJUANA: LAWS AND RESPONSIBLE USE



Now that retail marijuana is legal, we all have a few things to know.

LAWS

Buying | Selling | Growing



- **Must be 21.** It is illegal for people under 21 to buy, have or use retail marijuana. It is a felony for adults to give, sell or share marijuana with anyone under 21.
- **Limits to buying.** Only buy retail marijuana from licensed retail stores. Adults over age 21 can buy and possess up to one ounce of marijuana at a time.
- **Limits to selling.** Only licensed retailers can sell their product. Adults over age 21 may give up to one ounce of marijuana to another adult 21 or older, but may not sell marijuana. This includes homegrown product.
- **Follow grow rules.** Coloradans may grow up to six marijuana plants per person in an enclosed, locked area. Check with your local laws before you grow – they may have stricter rules on growing.



For more on the retail marijuana laws and regulations in Colorado, visit [Colorado.gov/Marijuana](https://www.colorado.gov/Marijuana).

Using | Having | Transporting



- **No more than 1 ounce.** Adults age 21 and older may have up to 1 ounce of marijuana. Having more may result in legal charges and fines.
- **Illegal to use in public.** Marijuana use in any way – smoked, eaten, or vaped – is not allowed in public places.
 - This includes outdoor areas like sidewalks, national and local parks, ski resorts and concert venues. Indoor use in workplaces, restaurants, bars and common areas of apartment buildings is also illegal.
- **Keep it in Colorado.** It is illegal to take marijuana out of the state. You cannot bring marijuana to the Denver International Airport. Leaving Colorado with any marijuana product is against the law.
- **Do not drive high.**

City | County | Organizations



- **Check local marijuana laws and policies.** Cities, counties, schools, universities and employers may set their own rules and consequences. Check before you use.
- **Know workplace policies.** Even though it is legal here, your employer can still drug test for marijuana. Find out your work policies before you use.
- **Some hospitals drug test newborns.** If a baby tests positive for marijuana at birth, Colorado law requires hospitals notify child protective services.



TIPS FOR SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE USE

Do not mix marijuana and alcohol.

Using alcohol and marijuana at the same time is more dangerous than using either alone.

Be careful if you take medication.

There may be drug interactions between marijuana and your medication.

Start slow.

A single 10 mg serving of THC is likely enough to hurt your ability to drive, bike or do other activities, especially for occasional users.

- While you quickly feel the effects from smoked or vaped marijuana, edibles can take up to 4 hours to take full effect. Start with just one serving or less and wait before using more.

Driving while high may increase your risk of a crash.

Marijuana makes driving more dangerous because it slows your reaction time and makes it harder to tell distances.

- Wait at least 6 hours after smoking or at least 8 hours after eating/drinking marijuana before driving, biking, skiing or doing other activities.

Store it safely.

Marijuana products can be confused for regular food or candy. Store all marijuana products in a locked area. Make sure children cannot see or reach the locked area. Keep marijuana in the child-resistant packaging from the store.

Look for the Universal Symbol.

All medical and retail marijuana packaging must have the new universal symbol on the package to show that a product contains marijuana.



Some people should not use marijuana.

- Pregnant or breastfeeding women should not use marijuana since it can harm their baby.
- Young people should protect their growing brain by not using marijuana.

Consider long-term effects.

Marijuana can hurt your memory, even a week after using.



Ask the marijuana retailer for more information if you are not sure about how to use a product safely and responsibly.

HAVING A BAD TIME?

If you worry that you or someone else used too much marijuana, call the poison control hotline as soon as possible. Calling is free and you will get help quickly: 1-800-222-1222. If symptoms seem bad, call 911 or go to an emergency room right away.

- Calling for help in case of any drug or alcohol emergency can save lives. Colorado law protects people from some criminal charges, such as low level drug possession and use charges or minor in possession, if they call 911 or seek help for a medical emergency. Stay with the person and cooperate with police and emergency medical responders.



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