

Marijuana and Driving

Marijuana is illegal for people under the age of 21 in California and driving while high is not safe. It is ALWAYS illegal and a crime to drive while under the influence of any drug.

You can be arrested for being under the influence of marijuana even if:

- you are driving in an area that has legalized marijuana.
- Have a medical marijuana card.

You may pay a fine, lose your license, pay more for car insurance, go to jail, or hurt yourself or someone else.

Safe driving takes focus

- Road conditions change fast.
- Drivers must be able to respond quickly.

Marijuana affects driving skills

- Impairs judgment
- Slows reaction times
- Causes sleepiness
- Changes how a person sees or hears things

Marijuana makes it hard for drivers to

- Judge distances
- Keep safe speeds
- React to other cars, bikes, and people
- Focus on the road

Studies show marijuana use doubles the risk of getting into a car crash.

- You may damage property.
- You may hurt yourself or other people.
- The risk is even higher if you combine marijuana with alcohol or other drugs.

If you have used marijuana, don't drive

- Choose a designated driver in advance.
- Take a cab, bus, or subway or call a friend or family member for a ride.

Wait to get behind the wheel.

- If you have smoked marijuana, don't drive until all effects have worn off. For some people this can mean several hours, for others it can be longer.

-IF you eat or drink something with marijuana in it, the effects can be stronger and last much longer.

Don't get in the car with a person under the influence.

Think a friend is high? Take their keys. You may save your life and theirs.

Journey Works. (2013). *Marijuana and Driving* [Brochure]. Santa Cruz, CA: Author.