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# SLANG TERMINOLOGY

## Heroin Slang

**Bag** — quantity of drugs packaged in various containers such as paper, balloons, baggies, etc.

**Balloon** — quantity of drugs, usually heroin, packaged in toy balloons.

**Behind stuff** — using heroin.

**Bindle** — quantity of drugs packaged in various containers; same as "bag."

**Brown stuff** — heroin from Mexico with brown coloration.

**Cap** — capsule.

**Chiva** — heroin.

**Cold turkey** — stop using heroin suddenly with no assistance from other medicine.

**Cook, cook up** — prepare drug for injection by heating it in water; dissolve.

**Cotton** — small pieces of cotton with drug residue from using the cotton as a filter when preparing the drug for injection.

**Cut** — adulterate drugs to obtain a larger quantity.

**Do up** — inject.

**Down, get down** — inject a drug.

**Dried out** — detoxified; withdraw from a drug.

**Fit** — injection paraphernalia.

**Fix** — to inject a drug.

**Gee** — gasket between needle and syringe.

**Geeze** — to inject a drug.

**H** — heroin

**Habit** — need for a drug; addiction.

**Hard stuff** — heroin, cocaine, morphine.

**Hit up** — to inject a drug; to borrow or attempt to borrow.

**Hooked** — addicted.

**Joy pop** — irregular use of narcotics.

**Junk** — heroin.

**Junkie** — heroin addict.

**Kick** — stop; to stop taking a particular drug, especially heroin.

**Kit** — injection paraphernalia.

**Main line** — to inject the drug directly into the vein.

**Marks** — supravenuous scars caused by injection of drugs.

**Mexican Brown** — Mexican heroin.

**Needle freak** — one who injects drugs into the vein or skin.

**Nod** — dozing as a result of drugs, usually heroin.

**O.D.** — overdose of a drug, many times fatal.

**Outfit** — injection paraphernalia.

**Piece** — one ounce of a narcotic, usually heroin; gun; sexual intercourse.

**Quarter** — twenty-five dollars.

**Quarter piece** — 1/4 ounce of a certain drug.

**Rig** — injection paraphernalia.

**Shit** — heroin.

**Shoot (up)** — inject a drug.

**Shooting gallery** — place used by users to inject drugs.

**Skin pop** — inject drug into the skin rather than into the vein.

**Smack** — heroin.

**Spike** — needle.

**Spoon** — quantity of a drug, approximately a gram to two grams.

**Step on** — adulterate drugs to obtain a larger quantity.

**Strung out** — addicted.

**Stuff** — heroin.

**Sugar (milk) habit** — addict's desire for sweets due to heavy amount of milk mixed with everyday heroin.

**Tie off** — prepare for injection by placing a tourniquet on the limb to be used.

**Tie rag** — homemade or makeshift tourniquet used during the injection of drugs.

**Tools** — injection paraphernalia.

**Tracks** — supravenuous scars from injection of drugs.

**White stuff** — heroin, usually Chinese.

**Withdraw** — stop using narcotics.

**Works** — injection paraphernalia.

### More Slang

This list represents jargon in use from 1979 to 1985 in California. This list is not necessarily complete.

Bag — quantity of drugs packaged in various containers such as paper, balloons, baggies, etc.

Barbs — barbiturates.

Barrel — 100,000 pills.

Bottle — 100 pills.

Cap — Capsule.

Cap up — transfer drug in bulk form into capsules.

Downer — drug with depressant effect; usually means secobarbital.

Dropped — taking drugs orally.

Eat — to swallow drugs.

Factory — location where illicit drugs are manufactured.

Jar — 1,000 pills.

Jug — 1,000 pills.

Keg — 50,000 pills.

Knockout drops — chloral hydrate.

Ludes — methaqualone.

Mequin — methaqualone.

Pill freak — user of any type of pills.

Pillow — 25,000 tablets usually packaged in black plastic bag.

Pink Lady — phenobarbital capsule.

Q's — methaqualone.

Rack — 2-5 capsules wrapped in tinfoil.

Sopors — methaqualone.

Tabs — tablets.

### Stimulant Slang Terms

Bean — pills, commonly referring to benzedrine tablets or capsules.

Basing — baseballing: freebasing cocaine.

Bennies — benzedrine tablets.

Black Beauty — bi-phetamine capsules (methedrine capsules).

Blow — cocaine.

Bottle — 100 pills.

Bug — to annoy; itching sensation; sensation due to cocaine poisoning.

C — cocaine

C & H — cocaine and heroin.

Cap — capsule.

Cartwheel — benzedrine tablets.

Cocaine Blues — depression from discontinuing the use of cocaine.

Coke — cocaine.

Coke Out — excessive use of cocaine to point of incoherence.

Coke Spoon — specially made tiny spoons for inhaling cocaine.

Co-pilot — benzedrine.

Crank — methamphetamine.

Crash — to sleep or come down from being under the influence of a stimulant.

Crate — large quantity of pills, usually 50,000.

Cross-tops — benzedrine tablets.

Crystal — methamphetamine.

Dexies — amphetamine tablets (dexedrine).

Diamonds — amphetamine tablets.

Flake — cocaine.

Flash powder — methamphetamine.

Freak — heavy user of a drug; scared.

Freeze — the numbness caused by using cocaine.

Girl — cocaine.

Happy Dust — cocaine.

Hearts — amphetamines (dexedrine).

Horn — to inhale drugs through the nose.

Jug — 1,000 pills.

Keg — 50,000 pills.

Kings Habit — use of cocaine.

Lady — cocaine.

Leaf — cocaine.

Line — cocaine poured out in a thin line on a table, book, album, etc., for inhaling into the nose with a straw.

Meth — methamphetamine.

Merck — pharmaceutical cocaine.

Mini Beans — small benzedrine tablets.

Nose Candy — cocaine.

Pep Pill — amphetamine.

Peruvian — cocaine.

Pill Freak — user of any type of pills.

Pillow — 25,000 amphetamine tablets, usually packaged in black plastic bags.

Pop — to take a drug by either injecting or through the mouth.

P-2-P — phenyl-2-propanone (chemical used to manufacture meth).

Roll — ten pills sold in a roll (usually tinfoil).

Script — drug prescription.

Snort — to sniff the drug through the nose.

Snow — cocaine.

Spacebasing — crack dipped in PCP and smoked.

Speed — methamphetamine.

Speedball — mixture of heroin and a stimulant drug such as cocaine or amphetamine.

Tabs — tablets.

Toot — cocaine.

Upper — amphetamines.

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Whites — *benzedrine.*  
 White Girl — *cocaine.*  
 Wired — *to be under the influence of a drug.*

**Slang Used by Users and Pushers**

Acid Head — *one who uses LSD.*  
 Amped — *high on stimulants, usually amphetamines.*  
 Bag — *\$10 to \$25 worth of heroin.*  
 Baggie — *a quantity of marijuana in a plastic bag.*  
 Balloon — *a small amount of heroin, sold in a toy balloon or condom.*  
 Bindle — *a small packet of narcotics.*  
 Blow a Stick (or Joint) — *to smoke marijuana.*  
 Blow Your Mind — *to get high on a hallucinogenic drug.*  
 Bummer, Bum Trip, Bad Trip — *bad hallucinogenic drug experience.*  
 Burned — *user has received phony or very weak drugs.*  
 Cap — *a capsule of drugs.*  
 Carry, Carrying — *to be in possession of drugs.*  
 Chip, Chipping — *an occasional narcotic user who takes small doses.*  
 Clean — *not in possession of drugs, or having withdrawn from drug use.*  
 Crash — *a stupor caused by an overdose of drugs.*  
 Cut — *to dilute a drug with some other substance.*  
 Deal — *to sell drugs.*  
 Dealer — *someone who sells drugs.*  
 Dime Bag — *A \$10 purchase of drugs (usually heroin).*  
 Dirty — *to be in possession of drugs.*  
 Drop — *to swallow drugs.*  
 Dry up — *to inject drugs.*  
 Dump, Flash — *to vomit after taking drugs.*  
 Fix — *to inject narcotics.*  
 Flipped out — *crazy.*  
 Guide — *a babysitter for an abuser of hallucinogens during an experience.*  
 Head — *an addict.*  
 Heat — *the police or a narcotics officer.*  
 High — *being under the influence of drugs.*  
 Hit — *taking a drag of marijuana cigarette.*  
 Holding — *having drugs in possession.*  
 Hooked — *addicted to drugs.*  
 Hot Shot — *a fatal dosage of narcotics.*  
 Keister Plant — *drugs which are hidden in the rectum.*

Kick (the Habit) — *abandon a drug habit.*  
 Kilo — *2.2 pounds, a common quantity of marijuana and narcotics for sale.*  
 Lid — *1 oz. of marijuana.*  
 Light up — *to smoke marijuana.*  
 Loaded — *being very high (under the influence) on drugs.*  
 Looking — *wishing to purchase drugs.*  
 Mainline — *to inject drugs directly into the vein.*  
 Mainliner — *a person who injects drugs directly into the vein.*  
 Make a Buy, Make a Meet — *to purchase drugs.*  
 Matchbox — *½ oz. of marijuana.*  
 Mule — *a person who sells or transports for a regular peddler.*  
 Narc — *a narcotics officer.*  
 Needle Man — *an addict.*  
 Nickel Bag — *\$5 purchase of drugs.*  
 On the Nod — *To get sleepy from heroin or depressants.*  
 O.D. — *to overdose on drugs.*  
 Pad — *a user's residence.*  
 Paper — *a bindle of heroin.*  
 Plant — *a location where drugs are concealed.*  
 Pop, Skin Pop — *an injection just under the skin.*  
 Pothead — *a marijuana user.*  
 Psychedelic — *a mind-altering hallucinogenic experience.*  
 Push — *to sell drugs.*  
 Pusher — *a person who sells drugs.*  
 Rat — *an informer.*  
 Rush, Flash — *a strong, pleasurable feeling following a drug injection.*  
 Score — *to purchase drugs.*  
 Shoot up — *to inject drugs.*  
 Shooting Gallery — *a place where narcotic addicts inject heroin.*  
 Snowbird — *a cocaine user.*  
 Spaced out — *out of touch with reality.*  
 Speed Freak — *a chronic user of methamphetamine.*  
 Spike — *a hypodermic needle (with syringe) used to inject drugs.*  
 Spoon — *about 2 grams of heroin.*  
 Stash — *a personal supply of drugs.*  
 Stepped on — *a drug that has been diluted (same as "cut").*  
 Stoned — *being under the influence of drugs.*  
 Stoolie — *an informer.*  
 Strung out — *being addicted; in bad physical shape due to drug habit.*  
 Swing Man — *a drug supplier.*

Toke, Toke-up — *to smoke marijuana.*  
 Trip, Tripping — *being under the influence of a hallucinogenic drug.*  
 Turn on — *to take a drug, or introduce someone else to drugs.*  
 User — *someone who takes drugs, or is an addict.*  
 Wasted — *being under the influence of drugs.*  
 Weed Head — *a regular marijuana user.*  
 Wiped out — *to have lost consciousness from abusing drugs.*  
 Works — *drug injecting equipment.*  
 Zonked, Zonked out — *really "loaded" or overdosed on drugs.*



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