

Transporting or consuming non-medical cannabis in a vehicle

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Frequently Asked Questions



Transporting cannabis

Can an adult operate a vehicle with cannabis in it?

Yes, adults can operate a vehicle with cannabis in it as long as the cannabis is:

- In its original never opened packaging from a federally licensed producer; or
- Not readily accessible to the driver and any passengers (for example, in the trunk).

This applies to both medical and non-medical cannabis.

What does it mean “to operate a vehicle”?

In addition to being driven, “to operate a vehicle” means to have care or control of the vehicle even if it is stopped or parked.

How much non-medical cannabis can be transported in a vehicle?

Each adult in a vehicle can possess a maximum of 30 grams of dried non-medical cannabis (or equivalent).

Can a minor operate a vehicle with cannabis in it?

Yes, minors can operate a vehicle with cannabis in it if the adult to whom the cannabis belongs is also present. The cannabis must be in its original never opened packaging from a federally licensed producer, or not readily accessible to the driver and any passengers.

Does cannabis have to be stored in a specific kind of packaging while being transported in a vehicle?

It depends where the cannabis is being stored:

- If the cannabis is accessible to the driver or passengers, it must be in the original, never opened packaging from a federally licensed producer.
- If the cannabis is in a place that is not accessible to the driver or passengers, no specific type of packaging is required.

These rules apply to both medical and non-medical cannabis.

Is there a difference if the cannabis is ready to be consumed, for example if the joint is rolled or not?

Cannabis that is ready to consume, such as joints, can be transported in a vehicle subject to the same requirements as other cannabis. The joint(s) must be either in the original, never opened packaging from a federally licensed producer, or be stored in a location that is not readily accessible to the driver and any passengers.

Can non-medical cannabis plants be transported in a vehicle?

Yes, up to four cannabis plants can be transported in a vehicle, but the plants must not be budding or flowering.

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Consuming cannabis

Can cannabis be consumed while operating a vehicle?

No, it is illegal to consume cannabis while operating a vehicle. Additionally, drivers must not operate a vehicle if they know a passenger is smoking or vaping cannabis in the vehicle. These prohibitions apply to both medical and non-medical cannabis.

Can a passenger consume cannabis while a vehicle is being operated?

Generally, passengers may not consume cannabis while a vehicle is under operation by another person. There are some narrow exceptions for medical cannabis. Passengers carrying proof of their authority to possess medical cannabis may consume medical cannabis by means other than smoking or vaping on: Inter-city buses; or Ferry connector buses; or Trains. Medical cannabis users may not consume medical cannabis in a private vehicle while it is being operated.

What if a vehicle is being used for camping or as a residence?

An adult may consume cannabis in a vehicle if the vehicle is:

- A motor home or other motor vehicle, camper, or trailer and;
- Being used as a permanent or temporary private residence and;
- Parked in an area where camping is allowed, but is not parked on a public road or forest service road.



Penalties/consequences

What are the consequences for possessing, transporting or consuming cannabis in a vehicle contrary to law?

Under provincial legislation, consequences for possessing, transporting or consuming cannabis in a vehicle contrary to the *Cannabis Control and Licensing Act* could lead to: seizure of the cannabis and violation tickets, or seizure and court fines, or jail, or both. Violation tickets range from \$230 to \$575.

What are the consequences for drug-impaired driving?

For information on drug-impaired driving and the associated consequences, please visit RoadSafetyBC's website at

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content?id=F6DFBC209E1547EFAF7931243A0107DA>

For information on federal criminal offences for drug-impaired driving please visit: Department of Justice website at www.justice.gc.ca/eng/cj-jp/sidl-rlcfa/index.html



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