

AKA: AMYL, POPPERS, JUNGLE  
JUICE, KIX, RAM, RUSH, THRUSH,  
TNT.



# ALKYL NITRITES

This resource is produced by Hi-Ground

In an unregulated market it's impossible  
to know the purity or dose of any  
substance, educate yourself and practice  
harm reduction to reduce this risk.

For more information visit:

[www.hi-ground.org](http://www.hi-ground.org)

Hi-Ground is a program of QuIVAA

**Hi-Ground**

Alkyl nitrites are a class of inhalant drugs that produce short-lasting psychoactive effects and strong muscle relaxants. They also dilate the blood vessels of the individual, allowing more blood to pass through and so lowering blood pressure. Alkyl nitrites are also known as poppers, There are multiple types of alkyl nitrites sold as poppers, but the most common are amyl nitrite. Poppers are usually found in the form of a liquid chemical sold in a small bottle that produce a vapour that can be inhaled. It is classed as a depressant. Lasting only around three minutes, poppers are often used during sex (primarily in the LGBTQ+ community) and also on the dance floor at events.

**Compound:** AMYL NITRITE (ISOAMYL NITRITE, ISOPENTYL NITRITE), ISOBUTYL NITRITE (2-METHYLPROPYL NITRITE), ISOPROPYL NITRITE (2-PROPYL NITRITE), PENTYL NITRITE.

## ADMINISTRATION

Poppers are for inhalation only. Fatal if consumed orally – never drink – will result in coma/death. The most common method of use is to hold an open bottle to the nostril and sniff the vapour in.

## DURATION OF EFFECTS

<b>TOTAL</b>	1-5MINS
<b>ONSET</b>	0-30SECS
<b>PEAK</b>	30SECS-2MINS
<b>COME DOWN</b>	1-3MINS
<b>AFTER EFFECTS</b>	1-5MINS

## DRUG TESTS

**Roadside Police:** Roadside saliva tests do not look for poppers. It is so rapidly metabolised that it is not able to be tested for. It is illegal to drive under the influence of any illicit drugs, including poppers and any driver may be subject to a roadside behavioural impairment test. Wait at least 24 hours before driving.

## MOST COMMON EFFECTS

Light headedness, Warm sensation, Relaxation of smooth muscles, Increased heart rate, Increased libido, Skin sensitivity, Increased body temperature, Impaired/decreased coordination & muscle control, Euphoria, Increased sensual awareness, Excitement, Visual distortions.

## LESS COMMON EFFECTS

Dizziness, Nausea, Headache, Blurred vision

## RARE EFFECTS

Vomiting, Hypotension, Dyspnea (shortness of breath), Hypoventilation, Syncope (fainting)

## LONG-TERM EFFECTS

Effects of long term use of these substances can result in a range of clinical conditions varying from mild allergic reactions to life threatening.

## OTHER LONG-TERM EFFECTS

- Skin lesions
- Dermatological problems particularly around the nose, mouth, lips and face, Increased intraocular (eye) pressure (risky for people with underlying glaucoma)
- Methemoglobinemia is a condition with life-threatening potential (a blood disorder which can lead to inadequate oxygen supply to body tissue).



## SAFER USING

Use in a safe environment with friends and people you trust – somewhere you feel comfortable.

- Inhale through your nose by holding the open bottle up to one nostril.
- Start with a very small amount to gauge strength and assess your sensitivity.
- Dose is determined by the depth and length of the inhalation.
- It is a good idea to sit down when using and go easy until you get used to the effects
- If it comes into contact with skin, wash the area straight away with water to avoid a chemical burn. Poppers are corrosive.
- The liquid is highly flammable, so avoid smoking or open flames when using poppers.
- Mixing drugs can have unpredictable and possibly dangerous effects. Mixing poppers with other vasodilators can cause an excessive drop in blood pressure and lead to fainting. Examples of other vasodilators include sildenafil (Viagra/Kamagra), vardenafil, and tadalafil.