# **Cultural Daily**

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

## Can you prepare THC-O acetate at home?

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Users of vaping products are usually familiar with a popular substance called cannabidiols (CBDs). Cannabidiols or CBDs are compounds present in a plant species called hemp. CBDs have psychoactive properties and can make one feel high. The vaping industry and its consumers are increasingly using CBD extracts and oils.

CBD has multiple medicinal uses and is an effective drug to reduce pain and anxiety. It can also instigate sleep and cure neurological disorders. Yet, its recreational usage supersedes its medicinal advantages among users. Owing to its popularity, it is common knowledge that people are becoming increasingly curious about CBD and its related products.

THC-O From TRE house is yet another product spoken about in the recreational space. It is an extracted and innovative version of CBD. It is three times more potent than Delta-9 THC (Tetrahydrocannabinol). Delta-9 THC, or simply THC, is the primary psychoactive constituent of CBD.

Delta-9 THC is commonly referred to as THC because it is not an artificial or artificial compound. It occurs in nature and is the chief extract from the herb. All other artificial chemical extractions of the THC have suffixes fixed to their names for easier identification. For example, Delta-8 THC is a variant extracted and processed from THC.

#### **THC-O** acetate – Preparation process

THC-O acetate is a bio-engineered product of THC. We get it as a result of THC processed with acetic anhydride. The process can be fatal, owing to the properties of Acetic anhydride. Using a highly toxic and inflammable chemical demands the use of safe and protected laboratory conditions.

We can also produce THC-O acetate from derivatives of THC. Delta-8 THC is a derivative of THC. It would first require the conversion of THC to Delta-8 THC, using multiple acids and chemicals. Delta-8 THC, which is now a semi-synthesized chemical compound, is then further processed. The resulting product of this process is THC-O acetate.

It is important to note that the THC-O acetate derived from THC and Delta-8 THC may vary in characteristics. The processing initiated on different compounds would lead to results with differential properties.

#### **THC-O** acetate – Impressions

Many health scientists and pharmacologists are distrustful of THC-O acetate. The chemical's effect on the body is yet to be concluded by bio-scientists. Researchers have not finalized the impact of long-term usage of these products. It could be potentially harmful and cause damage to the liver and other organs.

The potency of the compounds is yet to be established by proper scientific research. We know it to have a three-time higher potential than THC compounds. The tripled potential could still be a figment of man's imagination. However, scientists agree that the drug's increased potency to stimulate can be fatal.

The body can only tolerate a controlled trigger produced by consuming narcotics. With a three-time higher potency, THC-O acetate would take the push to shove. And humans may not always be able to adjust to these sudden triggers. It can cause people to pass out unconscious on the floors and might cause psychotic episodes.

Sudden consumption in large quantities can lead to hallucinations and anxiety attacks. It is attributable to the body's need to break down the acetates for the feeling to establish itself. Further, the body takes time to experience the products. It would take around 3 to 4 hours for one to feel high after using them.

### Is it advisable to prepare THC-O acetate at home?

As already discussed, the preparation of THC-O acetate is a hazardous process. It could turn out to be fatal when performed without proper precautions. The high inflammability and toxicity of the ingredients involved in the process increase the risk many-fold times. When producing the chemical at labs can be challenging, trying the process at home is not advisable. Further, one would need high-end technical equipment and machines for its production. Some of these machines may only be available to industrial users. It could be a challenge to acquire one and meet the involved costs. The challenges outweigh the benefits of producing THC-O acetate at home.

Further, it might not be legal to extract and produce these compounds in your jurisdiction. For example, The Controlled Substances Act 1970 in the United States (US) renders it illegal to make any compounds from a hemp plant. Technically, extracting THC in itself is banned by law. Thus, the processing of THC to arrive at THC-O acetate would also be illegal.

The usage of hemp in the medicinal industry is broad, and its uses can't be over-emphasized. The herb provides us with many drugs, and they help cure severe ailments. It is also a supplement to other narcotic substances. However, the usage and consumption of hemp herb are legal as per the Farm Bill signed in 2018. Therefore, the US administration has left the seasoning off the list of banned substances.

It is unclear if the Farm Bill overpowers the Controlled Substances Act 1970. It has resulted in scientists producing and extracting products from the herb. They also conduct continuous research on the development. Nevertheless, that is the takeaway that people have held on to.

It goes with the understanding that when the use of the herb gets legalized, so are its derived and synthesized products. The legality of the process of producing THC-O acetate in the US is still not clear.

There could be similar restrictions and regulations in other countries like the US. And, it is prudent to be aware of the legality of doing something before actually carrying it out. However, given the risky nature of its production, it is wise to leave the preparation of THC-O acetate to the laboratories and scientists.

#### **Conclusion:**

The use of THC compounds and THC-O acetate has spiked in recent times after the introduction of the Farm Bill in the US. The need to shift from other narcotics has caused a sudden influx into the market. Despite the lack of clarity on its legality, dealers still sell and distribute these substances. Though the effects of THC-O acetate are not evident, we can be sure that it is hazardous to produce them at home.

Photo by Girl with red hat on Unsplash

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