What is fentanyl?

- Fentanyl is a powerful opioid 50-100x more potent than morphine and heroin
- Strength is inconsistent
- Often present in or accidentally sold as other drugs (opioids, benzodiazepine pills, cocaine, crack cocaine)
- Cannot be detected by sight, taste, smell, or touch

Harm reduction strategies

Consume safely

- Avoid sharing equipment
- Crush powder as fine as possible
- Test shots
- Have naloxone (Narcan) with you
- Use with a buddy & stagger use

Know the signs of opioid overdose

- Fentanyl overdose happens FAST
- Breathing slows or even stops
- Unresponsive
- Cold or clammy skin
- Dizziness
- Blue lips or nails
- Extremely small pupils

San Francisco Department of Public Health

Contact us at

🌐 www.sfdph.org

Fentanyl test strips

A User Guide

San Francisco Department of Public Health

FENTANYL

NO FENTANYL

What are fentanyl test strips?

- Detects if fentanyl or drugs similar to fentanyl are present or not
- 1 line indicates positive (contains fentanyl), 2 lines indicates negative

False Positives

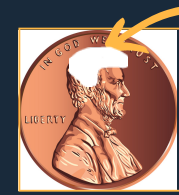### Positive test strip results if drug is not diluted properly

Add more water to samples if any concern for these substances:

1. Methamphetamine
2. MDMA
3. Diphenhydramine (Benadryl)
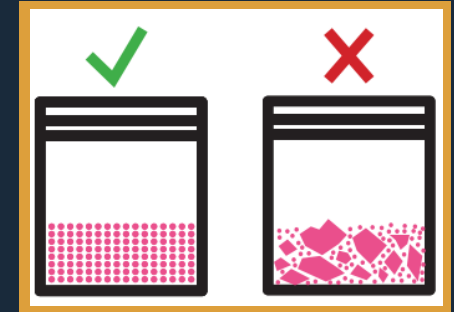
User Guide

Step 1

Place 5 mg of drug in a dry, clean container such as a plastic bottle cap. Cooker or baggie with left over drug residue can also be used as container.
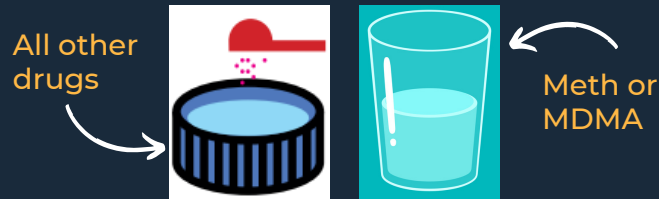
5 mg is just enough to cover 1/2 of Lincoln's hair or a matchstick head!

Make sure powder is fine- can also use powder residue

Step 2

Add 5 mL (~1 teaspoon/1 plastic bottle cap) sterile water & stir
For meth and MDMA: add 5 mg drug to 1/2 cup water

All other drugs
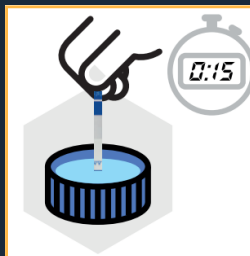
Meth or MDMA

Step 3

Open test strip and hold by blue end

Step 4

Dip white end into liquid, hold until liquid runs up white part of strip (~15 seconds)

Step 5

Place strip on clean, non-absorbent surface, like a dried sink countertop (NOT a paper towel since it can absorb the liquid and invalidate the test) and wait 5 minutes

Step 6

Read strip:

Positive (Fentanyl PRESENT)

Negative (Fentanyl ABSENT)

Photo credits: DanceSafe