



cannabis and driving

The exact effect that using cannabis has on driving is not known.

drug driving testing in Australia

- in most of Australia police can test drivers if they believe they could have recently used drugs
- most Australian states and territories use saliva samples to test for cannabis use
- cannabis use is harder to pick up with saliva samples than other drugs
- if cannabis has been used recently, it is easier to pick up with saliva samples
- blood tests, which are far more accurate, are usually used to confirm the results of saliva tests
- each state and territory has different charges for driving under the influence of cannabis

the effects of cannabis on driving

- driving under the influence of cannabis increases the risk of a motor vehicle accident two to three times
- using cannabis and alcohol together (even small amounts) could have a worse effect on driving than using either drug by itself
- cannabis can negatively affect reaction time, attention, decision making, time and distance perception, short-term memory, hand-eye coordination and concentration

Take home message:

It is dangerous to use cannabis and drive

*Please note this information is not to be taken as legal advice.
Also note that laws and charges described here may change.*