

Tobacco

(nicotine)

LEGAL STATUS: Legal
Illegal to sell to under-16s

Worth knowing...

- The nicotine in tobacco is addictive
- Use of tobacco accounts for at least 100,000 premature deaths in the UK every year
- Smuggled or bootlegged tobacco can cut the cost of cigarettes by half. It is estimated that 25-30% of all cigarettes and tobacco sold in the UK are smuggled or bootlegged.

OTHER NAMES/SLANG:

Cigarettes, ciggies, fags, smokes, snuff.

USUALLY FOUND AS:

Shredded leaf tobacco, cigarettes, chewing tobacco.

HOW IT'S TAKEN:

Smoked in cigarettes, roll-ups, pipes, cigars; sniffed or chewed.

SIGNS OF POSSIBLE USE:

Smelly clothes, smoky breath, stained fingers and teeth, empty cigarette packets, cigarette papers, rolling machines, matches, lighters and lighter refills

EFFECTS ON USER:

Nicotine is a mild stimulant and increases pulse rate and blood pressure. It also reduces appetite. Regular smokers find satisfaction in inhaling. Long-term use causes heart disease, lung infections, bronchitis, breathlessness and lung and mouth cancer.

