

- **Synthetic Cathinones (Bath Salts)**
 - This group of drugs is a synthesized variation of a stimulant called cathinone, which is naturally found in the khat plant. Although they are referred to on the streets as “Bath Salts” this is only done to prevent detection from authorities. They are usually found in white or brown powder form and sold online or in drug paraphernalia stores in packages usually labeled “not for human consumption”. They have also been marketed in packages labeled “plant food”, “jewelry cleaner”, and “phone screen cleaner”. These compounds were banned by the Obama administration in 2012 but drug manufacturers have developed new molecules that act the same way but vary enough from the banned compounds that they escape legal boundaries. (drugabuse)
 - **Street Names:** Bloom, Cloud Nine, Cosmic Blast, Drone, Ivory Wave, Lunar Wave, Meph, Meow Meow, Scarface, Vanilla Sky, White Lightning (drugabuse)
 - **Uses:** These drugs usually come in packages containing white or brown powder. These drugs are taken in several different ways including orally, snorted, or mixed into fluid and injected. Although none of these methods are legal, snorting and injecting often produce the more violent, drastic reactions. (drugabuse)
 - **Physical Effects:** Due to how similar they are to the naturally found stimulant cathinone, bath salts act similarly to prescription stimulants, producing an increase in heart rate and blood pressure, nosebleeds, sweating, nausea, insomnia, dizziness, vomiting, panic attacks, and reduced motor control. These effects increase to dangerous, fatal levels when the drug is introduced at high doses and/or the drug is snorted or injected. (drugabuse)
 - **Psychological Effects:** Synthetic Cathinones are a unique class of drug in the sense that no single purchase can be predicted to have the same compound in it, and the psychological effects of these different compounds vary as well. Some of the common psychological experienced by bath salt users include: euphoria, increased sociability and sex drive, paranoia, agitation, hallucinations, psychotic and violent behavior, irritability, depression, suicidal thoughts, and cloudy thinking. Some of these effects or all of these effects can be experienced with any given compound. (drugabuse)
 - **Long-Term Effects:** Although bath salts used to be legal, the long-term effects of these compounds give sufficient reason for their ban. Common long-term effects of these compounds include breakdown of skeletal tissue, kidney failure, and sudden death. Although kidney failure is the reason for the majority of bath salt deaths, suicide is an unfortunate common result from synthetic cathinone use. (drugabuse)
 - **Withdrawal Effects:** Use of Bath Salts yields negative outcomes on its own, extensive use of these compounds ends up resulting in withdrawal effects. Some of the effects experienced include depression, anxiety, sleeping problems (including insomnia and unpleasant dreams), resting tremors, and paranoia. (drugabuse)

Source:

Drugabuse [<http://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/drugfacts>]