

Tips for staying safe when using Fentanyl Test Strips



Try not to use alone, take turns, start with a small amount and go slow.



Pick up a Take Home Naloxone kit and learn how to recognize and respond to an overdose, including giving breaths. For more information, visit:

naloxonetraining.com towardtheheart.com



Don't mix substances (including alcohol) as it can increase overdose risk.



Call **9-1-1** if you think someone is overdosing, and stay with them until help arrives (the Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act provides some protection).



Use where help is easily available, like an Overdose Prevention Site or Supervised Consumption Site if available.

Regardless of the results, always stay safe.



Interior Health
Every person matters

Types of Fentanyl Test Strips

There are several types of Fentanyl Test Strips on the market.

Interior Health uses BTNX™ test strips. These strips have been tested and show high sensitivity in detecting traces of fentanyl and some analogues. They cannot detect all types of fentanyl, or carfentanil in small amounts.

For more information on using BTNX strips as a harm reduction tool, visit btnx.com/HarmReduction.



+ Positive test



One line means fentanyl detected.

- Negative test



Two lines means no fentanyl detected.

? Inconclusive / Invalid test



The top red line (closest to the solid blue) should always show up on the strip. If it doesn't, the test is invalid. If no red lines show up, test is invalid. Stirring or wetting above the solid line may result in an invalid test.

Drug checking with Fentanyl Test Strips

A step by step guide

STEP BY STEP GUIDE

Drug checking with fentanyl test strips



Check drugs before use (where possible).

Fentanyl Test Strips can be used to check any drug, equipment or baggie residue.

Check drugs every time you use. Fentanyl can be unevenly distributed — one sample could be negative and the next sample could be positive.



Put 30mL (1 ounce/shot glass size amount) of room temperature tap water in a small cup.

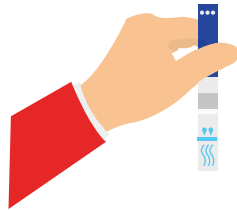


Put a small sample of the substance to be checked (a few grains of sand) into the water and swirl.

Please note: It is important not to add too much of the sample. This can interfere with results.



Open package by notched end.

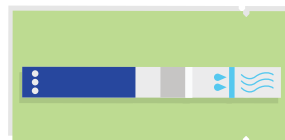


Hold strip by solid blue end only. Do not touch white end.



Place strip in water, covering wavy lines. Be careful not to go above solid line.

Hold strip in water for **15 seconds** or, wait for the red stripe to appear. Do not make dipping or stirring motions.



Place strip on strip package and wait **1-2 minutes** for results.

Interpreting the results

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○ If the substance tested is thought to be a stimulant and the test is positive, add another 30mL of tap water to the cup and test again with a new strip. **High concentrations of stimulants can lead to false positives.**

○ A negative result does not mean the substance is safe. **Fentanyl Test Strips are not 100% accurate.** Plus fentanyl is only one of many drugs that can cause an overdose.

○ Fentanyl Test Strips only check if fentanyl is present in the portion tested. They **do not** check how much is present or how strong the substance is.