Regardless of your test result, it's always best to exercise caution.

Never Use Alone

Try to never use alone. If you are alone, have someone you trust check on you so they can intervene in the event of an overdose. You can also call the Never Use Alone hotline (more info below).

Never Use Alone Hotline (Available 24/7)

National: 877-696-1996

Never Use Alone is a toll-free, nationwide overdose prevention, detection, crisis response and reversal lifeline service for people who use drugs while alone.

Always Carry Naloxone

Be familiar with the signs of an overdose and have naloxone available, no matter what drug you're using. If you need naloxone or overdose response training, Steve Rummler HOPE Network can help!

Have a Plan

In MN, Steve's Law provides limited criminal immunity to an individual seeking help in an overdose situation and the person experiencing the overdose. If you're using with a group:

- Make sure there is a person designated to seek help and that person stays alert.
- Have people stagger their use so that someone is always alert and ready to respond with naloxone.

Try to Use Only One Substance at a Time

Mixing substances (including alcohol) can produce stronger, unpredictable, and dangerous effects and may increase the risk of overdose.

Do a Test Dose

Start with a smaller dose to see how your body responds. This is especially important when using a new drug or getting your drug from a new source.

Smoke or Snort Instead of Injecting

Injecting carries the highest risk for overdose and contracting bloodborne diseases. Shifting to snorting or smoking may help reduce risk. You can still OD by smoking/snorting, especially with fentanyl.

Use Sterile Supplies

Using clean needles, new cookers, sterile water, etc. can help reduce risk of infection and exposure to bloodborne diseases like hepatitis or HIV/AIDS. These supplies can be found at syringe service programs.

Use Slowly and Carefully

Because fentanyl is so strong, a little goes a long way and overdose can occur quickly. Start slow and give yourself time between doses.

SCAN FOR MORE

Scan this QR code for more info on fentanyl, an instructional video, harm reduction resources, translated instructions, FAQs and more.

TRANSLATIONS AVAILABLE

| Para instrucciones en español, visite: | Tilmaamaha Af - soomaaliga, booqo: | Rau cov lus qhia ua lus Hmoob, mus saib: |

www.RummlerHOPE.org/FTS

About Fentanyl Test Strips (FTS)

Fentanyl test strips have three basic areas:
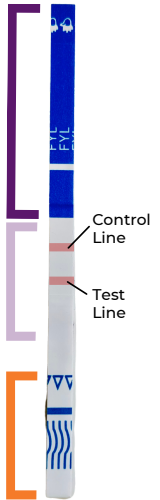
Handling Area

The dark blue section is where you will hold your strip while testing. You should *only touch your strip here.*

Result Area

The middle section displays test results with red lines and shows no lines before testing. Some red lines may appear lighter than others; **this has no correlation to drug concentration.**

Test Area

The bottom part of the strip is marked with blue lines and arrows. This is the part you'll dip into the sample. Do not dip your strip past the solid blue line.

Control Line

Test Line

Fentanyl Fast Facts: What You Should Know

Fentanyl is a powerful synthetic opioid

It's 80-100x stronger than morphine and 50x stronger than heroin.

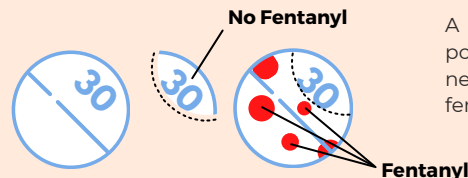### FTS may not detect some fentanyl analogues

Fentanyl test strips detect most, but not all fentanyl analogues. Always exercise caution.

One dose may not represent a whole drug batch

When fentanyl is mixed in other drugs, it can clump together and spread unevenly in pills, powders, and other drugs. This is known as the **chocolate chip cookie effect**. Because of this, it's recommended to test your drugs each time you use, and prepare your sample carefully. Just because one dose is negative for fentanyl, doesn't mean that your whole batch is safe.

The Chocolate Chip Cookie Effect

Think of a chocolate chip cookie. It's possible to take a bite that has no chocolate at all. The same is true for laced and counterfeit drugs.

No Fentanyl

Fentanyl

A piece of a pill, crystal or powder supply could test negative for fentanyl, but fentanyl may still be present.

Getting Started

What You'll Need

- Cooker, cup, or baggie
- Drug for testing
- Clean/sterile water
- Fentanyl test strip

Measuring for Your Sample

For test accuracy, it's important to dilute your drugs in the correct amount of water. It's okay if you don't have tools to measure precisely. There are everyday items that can help.

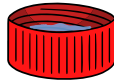**This is about 10 mg**

Measuring Drugs

We use 10 mg as a standard amount for measuring drugs. You can measure this a couple of ways:

- 10 mg micro scoops can be purchased online
- 10 mg can be visualized as enough powder to cover Lincoln's face on a penny

Measuring Water

A 10 mg drug sample should be diluted with 1 ml of water. This can be measured a few ways:

- 1 ml or 1 cc in a clean syringe
- 1/4 teaspoon with a kitchen measuring spoon
- 1/4 of a standard size (20oz) plastic soda bottle cap

Testing Methods

Test Everything You Intend to Consume (Recommended)

It's safest to test the entire dose you intend to consume. If your dose is more than 10 mg, just scale up the amount of water. For example, if you're testing 50 mg of powder, you should add 5 ml of water (or 1 teaspoon).

Representative Sample Testing (Backup Method)

Not everyone is willing to dissolve their entire dose in water. The next best option is to obtain a representative sample from your batch. Crush or chop any pills or crystals into a fine powder. In a baggie or a dish, mix the powder thoroughly to distribute the contents as evenly as possibly. Take a 10 mg sample to test.

Residue Testing (Not Recommended)

Some opt to test only the residue stuck to the inside of a baggie, cooker, etc. We do not recommend residue testing, as this method is most likely to fail at detecting unevenly distributed fentanyl.

Interpreting Your Results

One Line (Control Line)	Two Lines	No Lines or Only Test Line
POSITIVE	**NEGATIVE**	**INVALID**
Sample contains fentanyl	Sample does not contain fentanyl OR sample does not meet the threshold for a positive result	Test is invalid and should be repeated with a new strip

Testing Instructions

1) Prepare and measure your drug for testing.

INJECTIONS: Prepare the injection as normal then set it aside.

PILLS/TABLETS: Crush into the finest powder possible. Remember that counterfeit pills may have fentanyl mixed unevenly into them, so the entire tablet should be crushed to be sure none is missed.

POWDERS OR CRYSTALS: Crush into the finest powder possible.

2) Add clean water to your prepared drug in a cup, cooker, or baggie.

INJECTIONS: After preparing your shot, add 1 ml of clean water to your empty spoon or cooker.

PILLS/POWDERS: Add water to your prepared powder and stir until dissolved. Some binding materials may not dissolve — this is okay.

IMPORTANT:

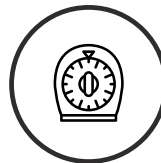Test will only work with clean water.

FOR METH/MDMA

Methamphetamine and MDMA require additional water for accurate testing. Add about 4-5x the water as you would for other tests (5 ml of water for every 10 mg of drug). You can measure water for meth/MDMA tests with:

- 5 ml or 5 cc in a clean syringe
- 1 teaspoon with a measuring spoon
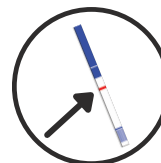- 1 plastic soda bottle cap

3) Insert the test end of the strip into the water and hold for 15 seconds.

Do not dip your strip past the solid blue line.

4) Remove the strip from the water and set it down on a clean surface, or on top of your cup or cooker. Wait three minutes for results.

If no lines appear after five minutes, the test is invalid and you should retest with a new strip.

5) Check for red lines on your test strip. Using the chart to the left, compare your results.

It is important to know that no test can be guaranteed 100% accurate, and no drug is 100% safe.

Fentanyl test strips can't detect every synthetic opioid, and user error can potentially impact results.

You should always proceed with caution and have safer use strategies in place, even if your drug tests negative for fentanyl.