



# MEDICAL MARIJUANA

A [search](#) reveals: Cannabis is a genus of flowering plants in the family Cannabaceae. The number of species within the genus is disputed. Three species may be recognized: Cannabis sativa, Cannabis indica, and Cannabis ruderalis; C. ruderalis may be included within C. sativa; all three may be treated as subspecies of a single species, C. sativa; or C. sativa may be accepted as a single undivided species. The genus is widely accepted as being indigenous to and originating from Asia.

Data is still being gathered on the modern

medical efficacy of cannabis. An ancient and versatile plant valued for its fiber as well as its medicinal qualities and use in spiritual practice, cannabis was cultivated throughout ancient China, Japan, Korea, Siberia, Assyria, Africa and India thousands of years ago. Cannabis fibers were used in cloth and early paper – the word canvass is a derivative of the word cannabis. Seeds were eaten whole and pressed for oil. The leaves and flowers of the plant were used in spiritual practice and healing. Hashish, a resin pressed from cannabis trichomes has many ancient references for spiritual and medicinal use.



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- » [Medical Marijuana Learning Resources from United Patients Group](#)
  - » [Cannabis 101 from Leafly.com](#)
  - » [Patient Resources from American For Safe Access](#)
  - » [State by State Marijuana Laws](#)
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