

Nicotine Salts vs Freebase Nicotine - Which is Better?

If you're new to vaping, it's important to understand what you're inhaling. This will not only ensure a better vaping experience, but also prevent mistakes when purchasing your e-juices. There's nothing worse for new users than bringing home the wrong kind of juice for your device. Whether you're a seasoned cloud chaser or simply trying to quit smoking, knowing what kind of e-juice to get will help you achieve what you're looking for.

Nicotine salts have rapidly gained popularity in recent years as an effective alternative to common **freebase nicotine**. Each has their own benefits and drawbacks, and in the end whichever you choose is based more on preference, the type of device you have, and what you're looking for out of your vaping experience.

As mentioned, **freebase nicotine** used to be the only option available in e-liquids. Back in the 1960s, when the Mad Men were devising ways to make cigarettes more attractive, scientists were hard at work adding ammonia to the nicotine. The throat hits may be a little harsher, but it also absorbs into the bloodstream quicker. When vaping was being developed, they stuck with the formula. Freebase nicotine comes in small, manageable doses, usually between 3 to 12 mg.

Nicotine salt is nicotine in its natural state as it's found in the tobacco plant, mixed with a weak acid such as benzoic. We went into more detail previously, however it's important to note that while the throat hits when vaping are much smoother, the mellow buzz can be deceiving. Nicotine salt comes in much higher concentrations, and they should only be vaped using low wattage devices. Typically, most salt nics come within 25-50mg. If you're new to vaping, it's advisable to stick to 25-30mg, increasing the strength over time.

Benefits of Freebase

As we've mentioned, the benefits of freebase go back a half-century, when cigarette companies were trying to increase the efficacy of nicotine. Nicotine is made of negatively charged particles, meaning they can't move throughout the body's membranes easily. The ammonia enhances the nicotine's alkalinity.

By freebasing the nicotine, the added ammonia increased the bioavailability, or rather how much of the substance is absorbed by the body. The nicotine, when heated, is much more potent and absorbed faster as well. This resulted in reduced-tar cigarettes that were still viewed as satisfying by the user.

Because freebase nicotine was the original ingredient in vape juice, probably its greatest benefit is its availability and compatibility. It's easy to find anywhere vape products are sold, and can be

used in all vaping devices. It's recommended for vapers looking to reduce their overall nicotine consumption, and is also perfect for cloud chasers.

Benefits of Nicotine Salts

Because of smoother draws and notable effects, nic salts have become popular with vapers who are transitioning from cigarettes. The combination of a higher nicotine concentration and a smoother draw offers a more relaxing vaping experience with fewer puffs necessary.

While they have since developed nic salts that can work in sub-ohm machines with higher wattages, it is best to stick to low-powered devices unless you know exactly what you are doing. Salt nicotine is used in both open and closed system devices, with either the option to manually refill or purchase prefilled cartridges or pods with different levels of nicotine.

For some vapers, however, the concentration of nicotine salts may be too strong. Nicotine salts are also not useful to cloud chasers. It's also not recommended for chain vapers, who will likely induce headaches from consuming too much nicotine.

Conclusions

Understanding exactly what goes in your e-liquid is the first step in optimizing your vaping experience. Whether you're looking to blow enormous, impressive clouds or just enjoy a relaxing vape session, there's an option on the market for you.

While it's important to remember to vape responsibly as nicotine is an addictive substance, knowing which e-juice is right for you will increase your overall enjoyment. These two forms of nicotine are vastly different, and are compatible with different devices, so be sure to keep this in mind when making a purchase.