

# Kava Overview

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## **Origins and Cultural Significance**

Derived from the Piper Methysticum shrub, native to the South Pacific. Used in Pacific Islander ceremonies and social gatherings to promote relaxation. Increasing popularity worldwide as a non-alcoholic relaxant.



### **Key Components**

**Active Ingredients**: Contains 18 different kavalactones that vary in concentration across strains and preparations, affecting potency and effects.

#### How is it Consumed?

**Traditional Use**: Roots are cleaned, dried, ground, and steeped in water using a wooden trough and served in coconut shell cups.

**Modern Forms**: Available as traditional grind, instant powder, capsules, and tincture

**Taste Profile**: Earthy, with descriptions varying from cashew-like to peppery.

#### **Benefits & Effects**

Calming Effects: Known for reducing anxiety and stress while maintaining cognitive function.

**Sleep Aid**: Utilized for its sedative properties to improve sleep.

**Social Interaction**: Enhances camaraderie in social settings without alcohol **Therapeutic Potential**: Research ongoing for its use in treating mood disorders.



# Safety & Recommendations

**General Safety**: Safe when consumed properly and in moderation.

**Advisory**: Not recommended for regular alcohol consumers, pregnant or nursing individuals, those under 18, those with liver issues, or those on antidepressants. Ask a healthcare professional before use if you have or have had liver problems, frequently use alcohol or take any medication.

#### **Legal Status and Availability**

**Regulations**: Legal status varies by country; generally available as a dietary supplement in the U.S.



**FDA Disclaimer:** This product is not intended to diagnose, prevent, treat, or cure any disease and has not been evaluated by the FDA. Excessive consumption may impair one's ability to drive or operate heavy equipment. Not recommended for pregnant or nursing women. Keep away from children. Ask a healthcare professional before use if you have or have had liver problems, frequently use alcohol or take any medication.