

How to Pick a Kratom Vendor



BOTANICAL EDUCATION ALLIANCE™
Preserving Plant Legality Through Education

Picking a Kratom vendor can be confusing and overwhelming, as there are so many vendors with so many different claims and prices.

Here is a quick guide on how to identify a vendor that has high quality products, which are safe, and that do not jeopardize the legal status of this amazing herb.

Tip: Do not be fooled by low prices and false product claims.

So before you spend your hard earned dollars, take a look at this quick checklist we have created for both you the consumer, and for those selling Kratom products.

You and only you have total power over which companies flourish, and which companies do not deserve your business. Irresponsible vendors could in fact be responsible for the current negative state regulation we are seeing in the United States.

Vendors not following the proper established guidelines (see below) could in fact be hurting the future of Kratom.

Tip: Remember the biggest difference you can make is with your pocket.

Reputable Manufacturers

It is perfectly normal to contact a supplier and ask for verification of quality.

Continue on to read our consumers guide checklist:



What to Ask For



Laboratory assays stating that their product is what they say it is. This confirms it is not adulterated (Note: this is the biggest concern of every state that has tried to make or has made Kratom a Scheduled I substance).



Laboratory assays that the product is free from contaminants (also called a Certificate of Analysis). Note: you can request the original copy from the lab to be sure it is not a template that your vendor uses over and over.

Tip: This may take some time but it is well worth it. If you get no reply or the vendor is unwilling to comply, move on and find a vendor that will.

GMP - Good Manufacturing Practice



Is the supplier using Good Manufacturing Practices?

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is responsible for ensuring that food, drug, and supplement manufacturers follow their current GMP guidelines¹. Any branded pre-packaged Kratom product should be sold “For consumption” and should follow these guidelines.

But how do you know if they are following these? Look for label ***red flags***

All of these basic things should be on every package, even if purchasing bulk product.

If you plan to consume the Kratom you purchase and not make bath products or conduct research, then these also apply:



Batch Number/Lot Number - a combination of letters, numbers and/or symbols to determine the complete history of manufacturing, packaging, labeling and holding of the batch. Every product should have a Batch/Lot Number, as well as an expiration date.



Statement of Identity - what the product is (e.g. Maeng Da Powder)



Size/Weight – (e.g. NET WT 30g)



Phone number that someone actually calls you back on when you call him or her. If there is no number on the package or on the website we recommend you find another Vendor.

¹ Food and Drug Administration, *Code of Federal Regulations* - Sec 101.36 Nutrition and Labeling of Dietary Supplements





Ethical Marketing and Labeling

If you are buying a brand that is doing any of the following, you are supporting brands that cause law enforcement, government and parents to fear Kratom. Remember most people do not know what Kratom is.

Tip: Do not give these vendors your money. You have a choice. Pick a new vendor.



Brands that openly associate with **opiates** and “**legal highs**” and other drug related buzzwords. They are FALSE and cheap gimmicks to sell more product.



Brands that openly market with designs which are appealing to younger children.



Brands that are using Medical Claims; KRATOM is not a DRUG and it is NOT approved as one. Vendors cannot make any DRUG claims on ANY marketing materials or sales material; this includes social media.

This is also a major concern to state legislatures, law enforcement, and the FDA.

Here is a list of common unauthorized drug descriptions for Kratom products:

- Treats Chronic Pain
- Treats Stress
- Treats Anxiety
- Treats opiate withdrawels
- Acts like an opiate
- Legal Opium



Most responsible vendors are Members of Trade associations such as the American Herbal Products Association (AHPA) or other local organizations.



Is your Vendor Supporting the Effort to Keep Kratom Legal?



Ask your vendor if they volunteer time, contribute free product or donate proceeds of sales to keeping Kratom legal. If they do not contribute in some way, purchase from another vendor.

Remember, you have the power and the choice to be a socially conscious consumer. Real change starts now with **you** and **your** choices!



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