

Penguin CBD

April 16, 2022

My review process:

1. I start by looking at the category of **trust and transparency** for the CBD company as a whole.
2. Then, I do a deep-dive into four **different products** where I look at oil drops, capsules, gummies, and a topical. If the company doesn't make all of these products, I simply review what they do make.
3. Each product is **individually reviewed** for the categories of **ingredients, lab testing, and product safety**.
4. I average the scores for each category, combine them, and take the average of that for the **final** overall score. This score determines whether a company is **Gold, Silver, or Bronze-Medal** Rated.

Notes: Whenever I refer to **lab testing**, I'm referring to **Certificate of Analysis (COA)** lab test results.

General Scoring Steps	Possible Points	Earned Points
Trust and Transparency average score	100	75
Ingredients average score	100	85
Lab Testing average total score	100	0
Product Safety average score	100	0
Total number of points earned	400	160
Final overall score (average of the combined total)		40

Trust and Transparency	Maximum Points	Points Actually Earned	Notes
Does the listed contact info include a contact form or email address, phone number, and mailing address (15)? If the site contains some of these but not all, add (5) points per element.	15	10	no phone number
Did customer service respond to my email and answer all of the questions (5), nearly all (4), or only some (1-3)?	5	5	
Are there straightforward reviews for individual products (20), or are the reviews mixed up (e.g. via Trustpilot) (10-15), or edited/reformatted in any way by the company (1-9)?	20	20	
Is there a money-back satisfaction guarantee for the return of <i>opened</i> products (15) or only <i>unopened</i> (5)?	15	5	

Is the return policy straightforward and free of any major (10) or minor (1-5) misleading fine print?	10	0	
Is the hemp grown in the US (5)?	5	5	
Do they <i>explicitly</i> say what extraction process is used (5)?	5	5	CO2
Have they avoided making any significant claim that appears to be false (excluding CO2) (25) or misleading (1-24 depending on the severity) based on the available evidence (including CBD/product therapeutic claims)?	25	25	
Have they received an FDA warning letter (subtract points based on when it was received)			
Trust and Transparency total points	100	75	
Comments:			

Oil Drops			
Product name	Oil drops (strawberry)		
Is the formulation full-spectrum, broad-spectrum, or isolate?	full-spectrum		
Total # of CBD milligrams	2,500mg		
Price	\$235.00		
Ingredients	Maximum Points	Points Actually Earned	Notes
Does it clearly state how much CBD is in each serving via the product page (10) or the product photo (7)?	10	10	
Are all of the ingredients (including any added flavors/coloring) <i>explicitly listed</i> in full on the product page (20) or via a product page photo (15)?	20	20	
Is this product free of all (30), all but one (20), or all but two (10) artificial ingredients?	30	30	
Is CBD (hemp extract) the first (30), second (20), or third (10) <i>active</i> ingredient?	30	30	
Excluding the CBD, is there no more than one (5) or two (3) additional active ingredients?	5	5	
Is this product free of an excessive number of <i>inactive</i> ingredients (5)?	5	5	
Points may be deducted (ranging from -2 to -25) for ingredients with the potential to cause side effects based on different variables (e.g. severity, quantity).			
Ingredients total points	100	100	
Comments:			
Lab Testing	Maximum Points	Points Actually Earned	Notes
Validity Requirements: 1. Testing was performed by an outside and independent lab. 2. Results are <i>immediately</i> provided via the original lab reports 3. Tests were performed on the correct and final product. 4. Batch/lot numbers must be consistent from page to page.	Product not lab tested.		

Lab name			
Date of analysis			
Batch/lot number			
Are the results available from the product page (10) or somewhere else on the site (5)?	10		
Is the lab report by itself (not mixed up with any other reports) (5)?	5		
Cannabinoid profile testing (20)?	20		
Terpene profile testing (5)?	5		
Pesticide testing (10)?	10		
Residual solvent testing (10)?	10		
Heavy metal testing (10)?	10		
Mycotoxin testing (10)?	10		
Microbial testing (10)?	10		
Foreign matter testing (10)?	10		
Lab Testing total points	100	0	

Comments:

Product Safety	Maximum Points	Points Actually Earned	Notes
Is the amount of CBD listed on the product label within 15% of the amount detected in the lab results (20) or within 20% (15)?	20		
Are the terms full-spectrum (20), broad-spectrum (ND 20), broad-spectrum (<0.01% 15), or isolate (20) used correctly?	20		
Are the lab results reported with "ND" (40), "<LOQ" (35), "pass" for the individual compounds (20), or "pass" for the category (10)?	40		
Is the method of reporting consistent for all testing (20)?	20		
Product safety total points	100	0	

Comments:

Capsules	
Product name	Capsules
Is the formulation full-spectrum, broad-spectrum, or isolate?	broad-spectrum
Total # of CBD milligrams	750mg
Price	\$45.00

Ingredients	Maximum Points	Points Actually Earned	Notes
Does it clearly state how much CBD is in each serving via the product page (10) or the product photo (7)?	10	10	
Are all of the ingredients (including any added flavors/coloring) <i>explicitly listed</i> in full on the product page (20) or via a product page photo (15)?	20	20	
Is this product free of all (30), all but one (20), or all but two (10) artificial ingredients?	30	30	
Is CBD (hemp extract) the first (30), second (20), or third (10) <i>active</i> ingredient?	30	30	
Excluding the CBD, is there no more than one (5) or two (3) additional active ingredients?	5	5	
Is this product free of an excessive number of <i>inactive</i> ingredients (5)?	5	5	
Points may be deducted (ranging from -2 to -25) for ingredients with the potential to cause side effects based on different variables (e.g. severity, quantity).			
Ingredients total points	100	100	
Comments:			
Lab Testing	Maximum Points	Points Actually Earned	Notes
Validity Requirements: 1. Testing was performed by an outside and independent lab. 2. Results are <i>immediately</i> provided via the original lab reports 3. Tests were performed on the correct and final product. 4. Batch/lot numbers must be consistent from page to page.	From 2020		
Lab name			
Date of analysis			
Batch/lot number			
Are the results available from the product page (10) or somewhere else on the site (5)?	10		
Is the lab report by itself (not mixed up with any other reports) (5)?	5		
Cannabinoid profile testing (20)?	20		
Terpene profile testing (5)?	5		
Pesticide testing (10)?	10		
Residual solvent testing (10)?	10		
Heavy metal testing (10)?	10		
Mycotoxin testing (10)?	10		
Microbial testing (10)?	10		
Foreign matter testing (10)?	10		
Lab Testing total points	100	0	
Comments:			

Product Safety	Maximum Points	Points Actually Earned	Notes
Is the amount of CBD listed on the product label within 15% of the amount detected in the lab results (20) or within 20% (15) ?	20		
Are the terms full-spectrum (20) , broad-spectrum (ND 20), broad-spectrum (<0.01% 15), or isolate (20) used correctly?	20		
Are the lab results reported with "ND" (40) , "<LOQ" (35) , "pass" for the individual compounds (20) , or "pass" for the category (10) ?	40		
Is the method of reporting consistent for all testing (20) ?	20		
Product safety total points	100	0	
Comments:			

Gummies			
Product name	Gummies		
Is the formulation full-spectrum, broad-spectrum, or isolate?	Isolate		
Total # of CBD milligrams	300mg		
Price	\$45.00		
Ingredients	Maximum Points	Points Actually Earned	Notes
Does it clearly state how much CBD is in each serving via the product page (10) or the product photo (7) ?	10	10	
Are all of the ingredients (including any added flavors/coloring) <i>explicitly listed</i> in full on the product page (20) or via a product page photo (15) ?	20	20	
Is this product free of all (30) , all but one (20) , or all but two (10) artificial ingredients?	30	0	
Is CBD (hemp extract) the first (30) , second (20) , or third (10) <i>active</i> ingredient?	30	30	
Excluding the CBD, is there no more than one (5) or two (3) additional active ingredients?	5	5	
Is this product free of an excessive number of <i>inactive</i> ingredients (5) ?	5	5	
Points may be deducted (ranging from -2 to -25) for ingredients with the potential to cause side effects based on different variables (e.g. severity, quantity).			
Ingredients total points	100	70	
Comments:			
Lab Testing	Maximum Points	Points Actually Earned	Notes

Validity Requirements: 1. Testing was performed by an outside and independent lab. 2. Results are <i>immediately</i> provided via the original lab reports 3. Tests were performed on the correct and final product. 4. Batch/lot numbers must be consistent from page to page.	Unable to verify it's testing for the correct and final product.		
Lab name			
Date of analysis			
Batch/lot number			
Are the results available from the product page (10) or somewhere else on the site (5) ?	10		
Is the lab report by itself (not mixed up with any other reports) (5) ?	5		
Cannabinoid profile testing (20) ?	20		
Terpene profile testing (5) ?	5		
Pesticide testing (10) ?	10		
Residual solvent testing (10) ?	10		
Heavy metal testing (10) ?	10		
Mycotoxin testing (10) ?	10		
Microbial testing (10) ?	10		
Foreign matter testing (10) ?	10		
Lab Testing total points	100	0	
Comments:			
Product Safety	Maximum Points	Points Actually Earned	Notes
Is the amount of CBD listed on the product label within 15% of the amount detected in the lab results (20) or within 20% (15) ?	20		
Are the terms full-spectrum (20) , broad-spectrum (ND 20), broad-spectrum (<0.01% 15), or isolate (20) used correctly?	20		
Are the lab results reported with "ND" (40) , "<LOQ" (35) , "pass" for the individual compounds (20) , or "pass" for the category (10) ?	40		
Is the method of reporting consistent for all testing (20) ?	20		
Product safety total points	100	0	
Comments:			

Topical	
Product name	CBD Cream
Is the formulation full-spectrum, broad-spectrum, or isolate?	broad-spectrum

Total # of CBD milligrams	250mg		
Price	\$55.00		
Ingredients	Maximum Points	Points Actually Earned	Notes
Does it clearly state how much CBD is in each serving via the product page (10) or the product photo (7)?	10	10	
Are all of the ingredients (including any added flavors/coloring) <i>explicitly listed</i> in full on the product page (20) or via a product page photo (15)?	20	20	
Is this product free of all (30), all but one (20), or all but two (10) artificial ingredients?	30	0	
Is CBD (hemp extract) the first (30), second (20), or third (10) <i>active</i> ingredient?	30	30	
Excluding the CBD, is there no more than one (5) or two (3) additional active ingredients?	5	5	
Is this product free of an excessive number of <i>inactive</i> ingredients (5)?	5	5	
Points may be deducted (ranging from -2 to -25) for ingredients with the potential to cause side effects based on different variables (e.g. severity, quantity).			
Ingredients total points	100	70	
Comments:			
Lab Testing	Maximum Points	Points Actually Earned	Notes
Validity Requirements: 1. Testing was performed by an outside and independent lab. 2. Results are <i>immediately</i> provided via the original lab reports 3. Tests were performed on the correct and final product. 4. Batch/lot numbers must be consistent from page to page.	From 2020		
Lab name			
Date of analysis			
Batch/lot number			
Are the results available from the product page (10) or somewhere else on the site (5)?	10		
Is the lab report by itself (not mixed up with any other reports) (5)?	5		
Cannabinoid profile testing (20)?	20		
Terpene profile testing (5)?	5		
Pesticide testing (10)?	10		
Residual solvent testing (10)?	10		
Heavy metal testing (10)?	10		
Mycotoxin testing (10)?	10		
Microbial testing (10)?	10		
Foreign matter testing (10)?	10		

Lab Testing total points	100	0	
Comments:			
Product Safety	Maximum Points	Points Actually Earned	Notes
Is the amount of CBD listed on the product label within 15% of the amount detected in the lab results (20) or within 20% (15) ?	20		
Are the terms full-spectrum (20) , broad-spectrum (ND 20), broad-spectrum (<0.01% 15), or isolate (20) used correctly?	20		
Are the lab results reported with "ND" (40) , "<LOQ" (35) , "pass" for the individual compounds (20) , or "pass" for the category (10) ?	40		
Is the method of reporting consistent for all testing (20) ?	20		
Product safety total points	100	0	
Comments:			