Alcohol is a drink classified as a depressant drug, which means it slows down the brain and the nervous system. Other factors can weigh in on alcohol’s effects on the body, such as size, weight, health, alcohol tolerance, amount taken, and strength of the drink

Even though it is a depressant drug, depending on the amount consumed and the person’s tolerance, it can have varying effects. When small amounts are consumed, then the effect is like that of a stimulant. But when large amounts are consumed, it will then have an effect of a depressant.

Fermented drinks (beer or wine) have less alcohol content while distilled drinks (liquor) have more alcohol content. The usual alcohol content for each is:

Beer 2–6% alcohol  
Cider 4–8% alcohol  
Wine 8–20% alcohol  
Tequila 40% alcohol  
Rum 40% or more alcohol  
Brandy 40% or more alcohol  
Gin 40–47% alcohol  
Whiskey 40–50% alcohol  
Vodka 40–50% alcohol  
Liqueurs 15–60% alcohol

If a lot of alcohol is consumed the following may also be experienced:

* Confusion
* Blurred vision
* Clumsiness
* Memory loss
* Nausea, vomiting
* Passing out
* Coma
* Death

**Long term effects:**

* Regular colds or flu
* Difficulty getting an erection (males)
* Depression
* Poor memory and brain damage
* Difficulty having children (males and females)
* Liver disease
* Cancer
* High blood pressure and heart disease
* Dependence on alcohol

<http://www.drugfreeworld.org/drugfacts/alcohol.html>

<http://www.druginfo.adf.org.au/drug-facts/alcohol>

(more facts)

<http://yourroom.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/Alcohol-facts.pdf>

<https://pubs.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/alcoholfacts&stats/AlcoholFacts&Stats.pdf>

<https://www.alcoholconcern.org.uk/alcohol-statistics>