

# Emergency Contraception and Medication Abortion: What's the Difference?

	<b>Emergency Contraception (or EC) (Morning After Pill)</b>	<b>Abortion Pill/ Medication Abortion (Mifepristone/RU-486)</b>
<b>What Does It Do?</b>	<i>Prevents</i> a pregnancy after unprotected sex	<i>Ends</i> a pregnancy
<b>Names Of Pills</b>	Levonorgestrel (Plan B®)	Mifepristone (Mifeprex®) Misoprostol (Cytotec®)
<b>What's In The Pills?</b>	Plan B® contains progestin. This is one of the hormones found in daily birth control pills.	<i>Mifepristone</i> stops a pregnancy from growing. <i>Misoprostol</i> causes cramping so the pregnancy comes out of the uterus.
<b>When Do You Take It?</b>	The sooner you take EC, the better it works. EC works up to 5 days after unprotected sex. The 2 pills can be taken together or 12 hours apart.	It works in early pregnancy, up to 9 weeks after your last period. Your healthcare provider gives you one pill to swallow in the office. You take the second medicine at home.
<b>What Happens to Your Body?</b>	Most women feel fine. Nausea is the most common side effect. Some women have vomiting, headache, dizziness, or breast pain.  The next period can come a few days early or a few days late.	After taking the first pill, most women feel fine. After using the second medication at home, women have heavy bleeding, often with clots. This lasts for a couple of hours. Afterwards, lighter bleeding may last 1-3 weeks. Pain varies from mild to very strong cramps off and on. Pain pills help.
<b>How Well Does It Work?</b>	EC lowers your chance of pregnancy by 85 to 99 percent. EC works best if you take the pills right after having unprotected sex.	The abortion pill works about 98-99% of the time. If it does not work, you must have an aspiration abortion.
<b>How Much Does It Cost?</b>	Plan B® costs about \$50 for one pack.	The exact cost depends on where you go.
<b>Insurance Coverage</b>	Many private insurance plans do not cover Plan B®. In some states, Medicaid covers it.	Many insurance plans now cover medication abortion.
<b>How Do You Find It?</b>	Women 18 and older can get Plan B® in a pharmacy without a prescription. Women under 18 need a prescription to get Plan B®. Ask your health care provider or call (888) NOT-2-LATE or visit <a href="http://www.not-2-late.com">www.not-2-late.com</a>	Ask your health care provider, call (800) 772-9100, or go to <a href="http://www.prochoice.org/pregnant/find/">www.prochoice.org/pregnant/find/</a> .