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AUDIBLE CORNERBACK FACEMASK FUMBLE PIGSKIN RUSH **SPIKE**

BLITZ DOWN **FIELDGOAL** HIKE **PUNT** SACK ZONE

CARRY **ENDZONE FULLBACK** PICK QUARTERBACK **SCRIMMAGE**





audible

A play called by the quarterback at the line of scrimmage to make a change from the play that was called in the huddle.

blitz

A defensive maneuver in which one or more linebackers or defensive backs, who normally remain behind the line of scrimmage, instead charge into the opponent's backfield.

carry or carries

A statistic referring to the number of times a rushing player attempts to advance the ball. A ball carrier can be any player that attempts to advance the ball during an offensive play, regardless of position.

cornerback (CB)

A defensive back who lines up near the line of scrimmage across from a wide receiver. Their primary job is to disrupt passing routes and to defend against short and medium passes, and to contain the rusher on rushing plays.

down

A unit of the game that starts with a legal snap or legal free kick after the ball is ready for play and ends when the ball next becomes dead. First down is the first of the plays; fourth is the last down in American (third in Canadian) football. A first down occurs after a change of possession of the ball, after advancing the ball 10 yards following a previous first down and after certain penalties.

end zone

The area between the end line (or deadline in Canadian amateur football) and the goal line, bounded by the sidelines.

face mask, grasping

A foul in which a player grabs the face mask or helmet opening of another player's helmet, usually in the process of making a tackle. It results in a 15-yard penalty.

field goal

A score of three points made by place- or drop-kicking the ball through the opponent's goal other than via a kickoff or free kick following a safety; formerly, "goal from the field". A missed field goal can be returned as a punt, if recovered in-bounds by the defending team. In some leagues, four-point field goals can be scored under special circumstances.

fullback (FB)

A player position on offense. Originally, lined up deep behind the quarterback in the T formation.

fumble

A ball that a player accidentally lost possession of.

hike

Synonym of "snap" - the handoff or pass from the center that begins a play from scrimmage

pick

An interception of a pass, e.g. a pass by the offense can be "picked off" by the defense.



pigskin

A common nickname for american football, whether the sport or the ball itself

punt

A kick in which the ball is dropped and kicked before it reaches the ground. Used to give up the ball to the opposition after offensive downs have been used, as far down the field as possible.

quarterback (QB)

An offensive player who lines up behind the center, from whom he takes the snap.

rush

An attempt to tackle or hurry a player before they can throw a pass or make a kick; a running play

sack

Tackling a ball carrier who intends to throw a forward pass. A sack is also awarded if a player forces a fumble of the ball, or the ball carrier goes out of bounds, behind the line of scrimmage on an apparent intended forward pass play.

scrimmage/line of scrimmage/scrimmage line

One of two vertical planes parallel to the goal line when the ball is to be put in play by scrimmage. For each team in American football, the line of scrimmage is through the point of the ball closest to their end line. The two lines of scrimmage are called the offensive line of scrimmage and defensive line of scrimmage, often shortened to "line".

spike

A play in which the quarterback throws the ball at the ground immediately after the snap. Technically an incomplete pass, it stops the clock. Note that a spike is not considered intentional grounding if it is done with the quarterback under center and immediately after the snap; the only "penalty" is that one down is sacrificed.

zone coverage (also referred to as a zone defense) a defense scheme used to protect against the pass.

Zone coverage schemes require the linebackers and defensive backs to work together to cover certain areas of the field, making it difficult for the opposing quarterback to complete passes.