

Offensive Football Terminology Cheat Sheet

Audible: A verbal command given by the QB at the LOS to change the original play.

Backside: Area on other side of field of point of attack.

BC: Ball carrier.

Bootleg: A pre-determined roll out of the pocket by QB.

CB: Cornerback.

Combo Block: An option for one of two linemen assigned to block one defender to block linebacker.

Counter: A misdirection play by the running back going away from backfield flow.

C: Center

Cross Block: Tight-end blocks down, outside tackle blocks out.

Cutback: An improvised change of direction from the ball carrier to avoid a defender.

DE: Defensive End.

DT: Defensive Tackle.

Draw: A fake pass and drop back leading to a delayed run.

Fold Block: Outside guard blocks out, outside tackle pulls around outside guard to block linebacker.

FB: Fullback.

FL: Flanker receiver. Designated by being off the LOS.

G: Guard.

Gap: An open space between defensive linemen.

HB: Half Back.

Hot Receiver: A receiver ready for a quick pass in case of blitz.

MLB: Middle Linebacker.

In Motion: A player moving laterally or backward at the LOS.

Keeper: QB keeps the ball and runs himself.

LB: Linebacker.

Lead Block: Blocker in front of ball carrier leading point of attack.

Log Block: Block defender to the inside.

LOS: Line of scrimmage.

Man Coverage: Defenders are assigned to cover and follow players.

North/South: Straight ahead running.

NT: Nose Tackle.

OLB: Outside linebacker

Offside: Area on the side of LOS where defense lines up.

Onside: Area on the side of LOS where offense lines up.

Option: A play in which QB can run with ball, hand it off, or pitch it.

Play Action: A fake hand off into a pass play.

Pocket: Area behind the LOS where passer is protected by offensive linemen.

Pulling: Lineman leaves position to move laterally in either direction.

QB: Quarterback.

Reverse: BC runs to opposite sideline of ball flow.

RB: Running Back.

S: Safety.

SB: Slotback. Slot aligned to split end side.

Screen Pass: A pass play behind the LOS where blockers pull out to lead block for receiver.

SE: Split end receiver. Designated by being on the LOS.

T: Tackle.

TE: Tight-end.

Trap Block: Lineman pulls out to block a defender.

Unbalanced Line: Four or more offensive linemen on one side.

WB: Wingback. Aligned 1 yard by 1 yard off the TE.

Wedge Block: Blockers line up shoulder to shoulder and move forward in sync.

WR: Wide Receiver.

Zone Coverage: Defenders are assigned areas of the field to cover.