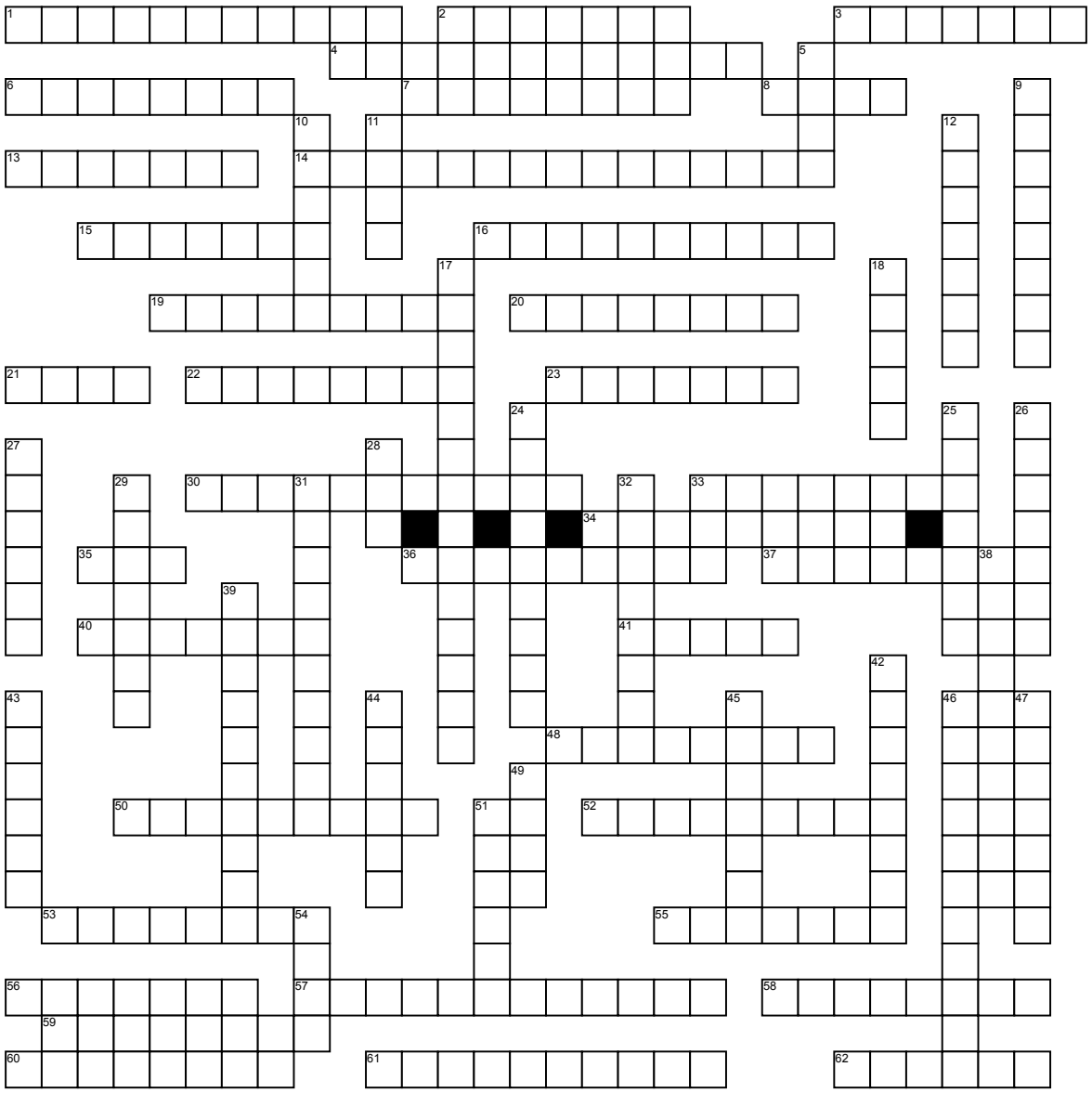
# Football Phrases



**Across**

**1.** a player positioned behind the center who directs a team's offensive play

**2.** a player normally positioned on the line of scrimmage

**3.** an official who watches a game or match closely to ensure that the rules are adhered to and to arbitrate on matters arising from the play

**4.** an act of catching a pass made by an opposing player

**6.** (of a quarterback) run with the ball behind the line of scrimmage, avoiding tackles

**7.** the manner in which a defender or a defensive team cover a player, an area, or a play

**8.** a rapid advance by a defensive player or players, especially toward the quarterback

**13.** an official who watches a game or match closely to ensure that the rules are adhered to and to arbitrate on matters arising from the play

**14.** the imaginary line separating the teams at the beginning of a play

**15.** a disadvantage or handicap imposed on a player or team, typically for infringement of rules

**16.** an intentionally short kick-off that travels forward only slightly further than the legally required distance of 10 yards, and which the kicking team attempts to recover

**19.** the National Football League championship game, played annually between the champions of the National and the American Football Conferences

**20.** an offensive player in the backfield

**21.** (of a lineman) withdraw from and cross behind the line of scrimmage to block opposing players and clear the way for a runner

**22.** a very long, typically unsuccessful pass made in a desperate attempt to score late in the game

**23.** a football

**30.** a squad that is used for kick-offs, punts, and other special plays

**33.** tackle or fend off (a person) by extending an arm rigidly

**34.** a ball one downs deliberately behind one's own goal line or that is kicked through one's end zone. It is taken to the 25-yard line to resume play

**35.** National Football League

**36.** a six-point score made by carrying or passing the ball into the end zone of the opposing side, or by recovering it there following a fumble or blocked kick

**37.** either of the two upright posts of a goal

**40.** the rectangular area at each end of the field into which the ball must be carried or passed and caught to score a touchdown

**41.** a play in which one or more defensive backs charge the quarterback of the opposing team

**48.** an offensive back usually positioned behind the quarterback and to the side of the fullback

**50.** a kick made after the ball is first placed on the ground

**52.** a goal scored by a placekick, scoring three points

**53.** an offensive end who lines up close to the tackle

**55.** the attacking team or players

**56.** a change in the offensive play called by the quarterback at the line of scrimmage

**57.** an offensive player who is positioned at a distance from the end and is used primarily as a pass receiver

**58.** a protective mask covering the nose and mouth or nose and eyes

**59.** a field for football, marked with regularly spaced parallel lines

**60.** one of a series of marks made along parallel lines that delineate the middle of the field, used to spot the ball after a play ends outside these lines

**61.** a defensive player normally positioned behind the line of scrimmage, but in front of the safeties

**62.** an act of seizing and stopping a player in possession of the ball by knocking them to the ground

**Down**

**5.** make a sham move to mislead an opponent

**9.** the time at which half of a game or contest is completed, especially when marked by an intermission

**10.** a person taking part in a sport or game

**11.** a quick backward movement of the ball from the ground that begins a play

**12.** blow a whistle, especially as a signal

**17.** a move in which a quarterback pretends to hand the ball to a running back but instead makes a pass

**18.** an instructor or trainer in sport

**24.** a timing device that is used to indicate how many seconds remain for the offensive team to start a play before being penalized for delaying the game

**25.** a brief break in play

**26.** each of four equal periods into which a game is divided

**27.** a player who punts

**28.** a person who has a strong interest in or admiration for a particular person or thing

**29.** the players in a team who defend the goal

**31.** a defensive back positioned to the outside of the linebackers

**32.** a form of team game played in North America with an oval ball on a field marked as a gridiron

**38.** a forward pass to a player protected by a screen of blockers

**39.** a defensive lineman positioned opposite the offensive center

**42.** either of the two lines bounding the longer sides of a football field

**43.** a defensive back who normally is positioned well behind the line of scrimmage

**44.** a person or thing that is supposed to bring good luck or that is used to symbolize a particular event or organization

**45.** an exchange made by handing the ball to a teammate

**46.** an offensive player, typically a halfback, who specializes in carrying the ball

**47.** a pass thrown either sideways or back

**49.** an act of tackling a quarterback behind the line of scrimmage before he can throw a pass

**51.** to jump over a player while running with the ball

**54.** a chance for a team to advance the ball, ending when the ball carrier is tackled or the ball becomes out of play. A team must advance at least ten yards in a series of four downs in order to keep possession

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