



Hawai'i Surf Jargon, Lingo and Terms:

Aina

Land or the shore

Bail

To jump off the surfboard when the wave will not let you surf it anymore

Bananas

To go nuts; anything good or crazy.

Barney

Someone who is less than skilled at surfing. Originally derived from the cartoon character Barney on "The Flintstones".

Bent

A poorly executed and often painful conclusion to a ride.

Bomb

A big unexpected wave

Carve

Big wake from a great turn

Crew

The other surfers in the water

Ditch, Ditched

To jump off your surf board and swim under a wave when paddling out

Drop

The top to the bottom of a steep wave at the takeoff

Drop in

Cutting in front of a surfer who is already surfing on a wave

Dredging

A wave that is sucking the water off a shallow bottom and breaking heavily

Falls

The part of the wave that throws out when it breaks



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Foam Ball

To inadvertently or purposefully turn a hollow section of a wave into foam by shoulder hopping or other means - preventing a potential tube ride

Freddie

Similar to Barney or Kook, but more reckless and dangerous to other surfers. Is derived from the character, "Freddie" in the movie Nightmare on Elm Street. May also be called Fredrico or Fredrica (for women Freddie's).

Glide

A spiritual place when everything seems to be in synch...the wave, the surfer and the board are one entity.

Gnarly

A fierce, heavy, intimidating but surfable wave

Green Room

Inside the tube of a breaking wave

Goat-boater

Surf ski rider

Grommett

A young surfer

He'e nalu

Hawaiian for riding a surfboard; surfing; which literally translates as wave sliding.

Honey

A female surfer. Old school, but it's still hangin' around. Affection. it's a good thing!

Jag

a lucky wave that happened to come your way

Keg

A nice heavy tube

Kook

A beginner surfer



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Koot-Kot

Coined by the late Gregory Lee Smith - a derivative of the word kook. When someone is a barney or a surfer who thinks they're a better surfer than they might be.

Honey

A female surfer. Affection toward something.

Lip

The part of the wave that first throws out as it breaks

Muku

The side of a wave near the crest or breaking section of a wave

Nocon

A highway surfer or barney. In most cases they incorrectly use surf lingo. Surf doesn't rip; "surfers" do.

Pit

The base of the wave inside the tube

Pitted

Riding inside the tube with the total wave coming over your head

Pitching

The lip of the wave throwing out away from the wave

Pumping

Really good surf

Quiver

A surfers collection of boards

Rip

A section of water pulling out to see

Ripping

When a surfer is surfing really good

Shredding

When a surfer is performing multiple radical maneuvers



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Sick

Good, unreal

Snake

To paddle inside of someone who is in a position to catch the wave and effectively stealing the wave off them

Slot

inside a nice tubing section

Skeg

Longboard single fin setup, permanently glassed to the surfboard.

Sponger

Boogie Boarder, Body boarder

Stoked

Feeling great

Sucky

a wave that is breaking heavy

Styling

looking good on the surfboard

Skegg

80's term for a surfer

Smashed

To receive a thumping by any part of a wave

Sweep

the flow of water pulling along the beach

Trim

To cruise along a wave

Tube

The hollow section inside a wave as it breaks



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Waldo

A barnyard, barney. A surfer who doesn't have much skill, brags about their surfing ability and most of the time has a very heavy stinkbug stance.

Waxhead

Bad term for a surfer

Wipe out

To fall off the surfboard heavily

Worked

To be pulled under and tossed around by the wave after falling off