PICKLEBALL TERMS

The one-page glossary: 30 core words, in plain English

Kitchen	The 7-foot no-volley zone beside the net; its lines are part of it.	**Dink**	A soft shot that drops into the kitchen and bounces low.
Drive	A hard, flat shot hit with pace, usually at an opponent.	**Drop shot**	A soft, arcing shot that lands in or near the kitchen.
Third shot drop	The serving team's soft third shot, played to reach the kitchen line.	**Lob**	A high shot over the net players, aimed deep behind them.
Volley	Hitting the ball out of the air before it bounces.	**Erne**	A volley hit while leaping around the side of the net post.
Around the post	A shot hit around the outside of the net post, below net height.	**Two-bounce rule**	The serve and the return must each bounce before being played.
Fault	Any rule break that ends the rally, like a ball out or in the net.	**Foot fault**	Stepping on or into the kitchen, or on the baseline, when the rules forbid it.
Let	A serve that clips the net and lands in; it is replayed.	**Rally**	The play from the serve until a fault ends the point.
Side out	When the serving side loses the rally and the serve passes over.	**Stacking**	Partners arranging their positions so each covers a chosen side.
Poach	Crossing into your partner's area to take a ball you can attack.	**Skinny singles**	Singles played on half the court width, used as a drill.
Banger	A player who drives almost every ball hard instead of dinking.	**Body bag**	A shot that hits an opponent's body and wins the rally.
Nasty Nelson	A serve aimed to hit the non-receiving partner standing near the line.	**Chicken wing**	An awkward shot jammed into the body on the backhand side.
Shake and bake	One partner drives the ball, the other attacks the pop-up.	**Bert**	An erne hit by your partner on your side of the court.
Pickled	Losing a game without scoring a single point, 11-0.	**Reset**	A soft shot that slows a fast rally back down to dinking.
Speed up	Suddenly hitting a dink hard to catch the opponent off guard.	**Putaway**	An attacking shot hit at a high ball to finish the rally.
Second server	In doubles, the partner who serves after the first server loses a rally.	**Non-volley zone**	The kitchen's official name in the rulebook.