

GLOSSARY & ACRONYM GUIDE

The Flying Disc Museum (FDM) has endeavored to standardize its terminology and acronym usage throughout the site. This guide contains spelling, formatting and other written conventions adopted by the museum to that end. Establishing a common and consistent lexicon helps diminish ambiguity, makes searching the FDM easier, and offers a more reliable, productive and satisfying user experience.

Glossary

Accuracy	A competitive tournament event in which four discs are thrown at a standard target from seven different stations. Discs passing through the target are scored as “hits.”
Airfoil	A part or surface, such as a wing, whose shape controls stability, direction, lift, and thrust; the cross-section shape of a well-designed flying disc.
Antique	Discs created prior to the Wham-O Professional Model’s introduction in 1964, and discs made from those pre-1964 molds (e.g. Royal Kraft Int’l).
Arcuate vanes	Curved ribs on the top of discs (e.g. Flyin Saucer, Li’l Abner).
Cupola	The raised, flat center of a disc with well-defined edges, typically small in relation to the disc diameter. Found on Pluto Platters, Wham-O Professional and Master Models, C.P.I. Saucer Tossers, and a variety of other discs.
Delay marks	Circular markings, more commonly on the underside of the disc, caused by nail delays. Delay marks typically reduce the value of discs for collectors.
Des. Pat.	See <i>Design Patent</i>
Design Patent	The legal protection granted by a government to an individual or business against illegal copying of the unique cosmetic appearance of a device. (See <i>Utility Patent</i> .)
Die	A device used for forming materials; herein used to describe a multi-part mold used to form plastic discs.
Disc Golf	A popular flying disc game based on “ball golf,” using standardized catching devices utilizing chains suspended above a basket attached to a central pole.
Distance	A competitive event in which players attempt to throw a disc the farthest.
Dome	Raised bump in the center of the disc (e.g. Pluto Platter, Holy Toledo).
Engraving	See <i>tooling</i> .

Esker(s)	Narrow bar(s) on bottom of disc caused by removing (trenching out) previous engraving that provides a clean, raised surface that can be left as is or re-tooled/engraved (e.g. some Wham-O Pluto Platters, Flying Saucers and Official Pro Models).
Flat top	See <i>square top</i> .
Flight Lines	See <i>flight rings</i> .
Flight plate	The major surface of the top of a disc extending from the center to the rim.
Flight rings	A series of concentric grooves added to the outer one-third of the top of the Pluto Platter during the creation of the Pro Model (patented by Wham-O's Ed Headrick in 1967) with the design intent of increasing lift and providing a better gripping surface (also known as Lines of Headrick, Flight Lines, Concentric Rings, etc.)
Freestyle	Activity based on creative throwing, catching, and handling of one or more spinning discs. Competitive Freestyle events use judges to subjectively rank the performing teams.
Glow Plastic	Plastic containing a phosphorescent material. When exposed to light for a period, it will glow in the dark. Specified as disc color "Glow" in the FDM.
Guts (Frisbee)	A competitive game in which two teams of up to five players face each other 14 meters apart and attempt to throw the disc in a manner which will be within reach of but uncatchable by the other team.
Header	A separate strip of material (usually printed heavy paper) which is folded over the open end of a plastic bag and stapled closed. A punch hole is usually added to hang the package on a store display rack.
Hot stamp	[two words] Used here to denote any form of applying lettering or a design to a flying disc. Actual hot stamping involves applying the design using colored foils and a heat bonding process.
Injection Molding	During this manufacturing process, plastic pellets or granules are fed from a hopper into a heating chamber; a plunger pushes the plastic through a heating chamber where the material is softened into a fluid state. At the end of this chamber the resin is forced under pressure into a cooled, closed, hollow-cavity mold. Once the plastic cools to a solid state, the mold is opened and the part is ejected.
Injection point	The location where melted plastic is forced into the mold, usually at the center of the top or bottom of a disc. There is often a bump or dome of plastic remaining with varying degrees of finished appearance. (See <i>nipple</i> and <i>sprue</i> .)
Insert	A piece of cardboard or heavy paper, printed with throwing instructions and/or sales information, which is sized and shaped to fit into the concave underside of a disc.

Knock off	Illegal copy of a disc produced by a non-licensed/unauthorized manufacturer.
Label	A small printed paper or foil design adhered to a disc to display decorative, sales, or instructional information.
Lid	Slang term for large discs—Masters, and all 80-series molds (e.g. 80, 80E, 81).
Lines of Headrick	See <i>flight rings</i> .
Mimetic	Disc designed to look like something else (e.g. golf ball, pizza, 8 ball).
Mini	Any flying disc 4.5 inches in diameter or smaller. This size definition conforms to standards by WFDF and MDGF .
Mold	n. A hollow form used to shape plastic material. n2. A number engraved/tooled somewhere on a disc (e.g. Wham-O Pluto Platter, Style 7, Mold 1). v. The physical shaping of a disc by injecting plastic into its cavity.
Mold Number	A small code number or letter usually engraved into a mold to identify it from other copies of the same mold. Not all discs have mold numbers.
Nipple	The structure at the very center of the top (in rare cases the bottom) of a disc, usually raised, where plastic was injected into the mold. (See <i>injection point</i>)
Parting Line	A raised ring on the rim of some discs left at the junction of the two-part injection mold.
Pipco	The DBA name for the business partnership between Fred Morrison and Walter Franscioni that produced and marketed the world's first flying plastic disc in 1948...the Pipco Flyin Saucer.
Pro	Shorthand notation used for Wham-O's Official Pro Model and Wham-O Professional Frisbees.
Prototype	An initial design Style which serves as a test pattern or model for others to follow.
Puddle	Small indentation in center of disc, either on the top or bottom. Often, but not always, at the center of a cupola.
Purge disc	Disc that includes the remnants of one color of plastic as a new color was injected into the mold. (Also referred to as merge/purge or striated.)
Reissue	A disc that was discontinued and later brought back into production (e.g. Sailing Satellite, 50th anniversary Pluto Platter).
Retail	A disc made for retail sale, whether through stores or online outlets.
Retooling	Revising a mold to alter the design to correct a problem or improve its performance. (See <i>Tooling</i> .)
Rim	The outer edge of a disc—usually thickened to create extra weight for gyroscopic stability and extra distance.

Silk Screening	The method of applying an ink-based decoration to a disc using a screen-printing process. (See <i>hot stamp</i> .)
Sky-Pro	[hyphenated] Early Discraft model
Sky-Styler	[hyphenated] Discraft model made for freestyle
Sprue	Excess plastic left on the disc at the injection point after the disc was removed from the mold. (See <i>injection point</i>)
Square top	Fastback Frisbees with a very flat flight plate, on some FB1 and FB2 molds.
Stippled/stippling	An engraving technique that creates a textured surface made up of small spots, specks or cross-hatching, etc. to provide a better grip (e.g. Premier Products Mars Platter).
Stock	See <i>retail</i> .
Style	Term for each unique physical disc design without regard for how long it was produced, how many were made, or what hot stamps or labels were applied. Any modification to a mold or design constitute a new Style.
Supercolor	[one word] The name used by Discraft for its full-color printing onto some models of discs. Note that Discraft uses both Supercolor and SuperColor on its website. (See <i>hot stamp</i>)
Tooling	Raised lettering on the disc. Large tooling is used for names (e.g. lettering on Pluto Platters), while smaller tooling is often used for manufacturer's identity, copyright, mold numbers, or even instructions (e.g. flat flip flies straight).
Ultimate (Frisbee)	A two-team game played on a rectangular field with two end zones. Play is continuous as in soccer.
Ultra-Star	[hyphenated] Discraft model used for ultimate. Note that Discraft's website uses both Ultra-Star and UltraStar, but Ultra-Star is imprinted on their discs.
UMAX	Name given by Stork and DTW to later Wham-O 80-series molds (e.g. 82E).
Utility Patent	The legal protection granted by a government to an individual or business against illegal copying of the functionality of a device based on unique structures critical to its stated purpose. (See <i>Design Patent</i> .)
Variegated-Color Disc	A multi-colored disc resulting from the mixing of different colored plastic pellets, sometimes intentional, often as disc color changes are made during a non-stop mold run. (See <i>Purge Disc</i> .)
wamo	Original name and spelling (no caps; no hyphen) used by Wham-O Manufacturing Company.
Wham-O	Short name for WHAM-O Mfg. Co. (hyphenated; uppercase "O")

Acronyms

AAUCC	All African Ultimate Club Championships
ADGO	Atlanta Disc Golf Organization
AFDC	Atlanta Flying Disc Club
AFDO	American Flying Disc Open
AMWD	AMateur World Doubles [PDGA Amateur World Doubles Championships, previously known as the PDGA National Doubles]
AOUGCC	Asia Oceanic Ultimate and Guts Club Championships
AT	American Trends
ATPP	American Trends Pluto Platter
AUDL	American Ultimate Disc League
BDGA	British Disc Golf Association
BFG	Berkeley Frisbee Group
BUDA	Boston Ultimate Disc Alliance
BULA	Beach Ultimate Lovers Association
C.P.I.	Continental Promotions, Inc., later changed to Concept Products, Inc.
DCW	Disc Covering the World
DDC	Double Disc Court
DGA	Disc Golf Association
DGPT	Disc Golf Pro Tour
DGWC	Disc Golf World Championships
DOTY	Disc of the Year—awards issued by the International Frisbee Association and Discovering the World in various years.
DTW	Discovering the World
EUC	European Ultimate Championships
EUF	European Ultimate Federation
FB	Fastback
FDCA	Flying Disc Collectors Association
FDM	Flying Disc Magazine or Flying Disc Museum
FFDF	French Flying Disc Federation
FICO	Frisbee Italian Championship Open
FPA	Freestyle Players Association
FPAW	Freestyle Players Association Worlds

FS	Flyin Saucer (the original Pipco mold and its derivatives, FS1–FS13)
GPA	Guts Players Association
HDX	High Durability eXperimental plastic—formulated to resist cracking, especially in cold weather—that is the basis of the Wham-O HDX line of discs.
HMCU	Humbly Magnificent Champions of the Universe
HOF	Hall of Fame (a number Halls exist at world, national, and state levels)
IFA	International Frisbee Association
IFDCA	International Flying Disc Collectors Association
IFT	International Frisbee Tournament
JFDA	Japan Flying Disc Association
MDGF	Mini Disc Golf Federation
MFA	Minnesota Frisbee Association
MLU	Major League Ultimate
MTA	Maximum Time Aloft
NAFDS	North American Flying Disc Series
NAS	North American Series
NCDGC	National Collegiate Disc Golf Championships
NCS	National Championship Series (usually considered part of NAS)
NEFA	New England Flying disc Association, or New England Frisbee disc Athletics (a pro demonstration team)
PADA	Philadelphia Area Disc Alliance
PAUCC	Pan American Ultimate Club Championships
PDGA	Professional Disc Golf Association
PDGAWC	Professional Disc Golf Association World Championships
PDGWC	Professional Disc Golf World Championships
RKI	Royale Krafts International
SCF	Self Caught Flight (also self-caught flight or Self-caught Flight in text)
SCP	Southern California Plastic Company
SOTG	Spirit of the Game
SS	Space Saucer. Six injection-molded Styles with many earlier hand-formed and hand-stamped variations are known.
TMB	Trademark Band—branding added to most discs by Wham-O in late 1970s.
TRC	Throw, Run & Catch

UPA	Ultimate Players Association
USADGC	United State Amateur Disc Golf Championship
USAU	USA Ultimate
USDGC	United States Disc Golf Championship
USGPA	U.S. Guts Players Association
USMDGC	United States Masters Disc Golf Championship
USWDGC	United States Woman's Disc Golf Championships
UV	Ultraviolet—a type of plastic that changes color when exposed to the sun's ultraviolet light, typically changing from clear to purple, red, or blue.
WAFC	Washington Area Frisbee Club
WC	World Class
WCBU	World Championships of Beach Ultimate
WCFM	World Class Frisbee Master
WDGC	World Disc Golf Championships
WFC	World Frisbee (disc) Championships
WFDF	World Flying Disc Federation
WFS	Wham-O Flying Saucer (currently WFS1–WFS11)
WGGMBUC	World Great Grandmasters Beach Ultimate Championships
WHMC	Western Historical Manuscript Collection, which houses a collection of photographs and office files donated by Wham-O in 2006.
WJFS	Wham-O Junior Flying Saucer (The original 1958 mold and its derivatives, i.e. Speedy and Horseshoe Model).
WJUC	World Junior Ultimate Championships
WMUCC	World Masters Ultimate Club Championships
WOC	World Overall Championships
WPPn	Wham-O Pluto Platter styles, where n = style 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7.
WTDGC	World Team Disc Golf Championships
WU24UC	World U24 Ultimate Championships