100 Oilfield Terms Every Worker Should Know

S.No	Term	Definition
1	Annulus	The space between two concentric objects, such as the wellbore and casing or tubing.
2	BOP (Blowout Preventer)	A large valve used to seal, control, and monitor oil and gas wells to prevent blowouts.
3	Casing	Steel pipe inserted into a drilled well to prevent the wellbore from collapsing and to control fluid flow.
4	Christmas Tree	An assembly of valves, spools, and fittings used to control the flow of oil or gas from a well.
5	Derrick	A tall, tower-like structure used for drilling wells.
6	Drill Bit	The cutting tool used at the bottom of the drill string to break apart rock and drill into the earth.
7	Formation	A body of rock identified by its composition, structure, and fossil content.
8	Fracking	Hydraulic fracturing, a technique used to extract oil or gas by injecting fluid into rock formations.
9	Mudlogging	The process of analyzing drilling fluids to determine the characteristics of the rock formations.
10	Perforation	Holes made in the casing to allow oil or gas to enter the wellbore from the surrounding rock.
11	Reservoir	A subsurface pool of hydrocarbons contained in porous or fractured rock formations.
12	Roughneck	A laborer who works on the drilling floor handling pipes and other equipment.
13	Roustabout	An entry-level worker in the oilfield, typically responsible for maintenance and general labor.

14	Shale Play	A geographical area that contains significant accumulations of shale oil or gas.
15	Spud	The initial drilling phase of a well, when the drill bit first penetrates the earth.
16	Stuck Pipe	A situation where the drill string becomes stuck in the wellbore due to mechanical or formation issues.
17	Wellbore	The hole drilled by the rig, which may or may not contain oil or gas.
18	Wildcat Well	A well drilled in an area not known to be an oilfield, in hopes of discovering new reserves.
19	Workover	The process of performing maintenance or remedial work on a producing well to restore production.
20	Kick	The unwanted flow of formation fluids into the wellbore during drilling, which can lead to a blowout.
21	Toolpusher	The senior supervisor on a drilling rig, responsible for day-to-day operations.
22	Trip	The process of pulling the drill string out of the wellbore or running it back in.
23	Crown Block	A fixed assembly of pulleys at the top of the derrick through which the drilling line runs.
24	Drilling Mud	A fluid used in the drilling process to lubricate the drill bit, cool it, and carry cuttings to the surface.
25	Formation Pressure	The pressure within a reservoir, which must be controlled to avoid blowouts.
26	Gas Cap	A pocket of gas that sits above the oil in a reservoir.
27	Hook Load	The weight supported by the derrick or mast of a drilling rig.
28	LWD (Logging While Drilling)	Technology used to gather data about the formation while drilling.
29	Mud Pump	A large, high-pressure pump that moves drilling mud through the drill string and back to the surface.
30	Nipple Up	The process of assembling the blowout preventer stack on the wellhead.
31	Petrophysics	The study of the physical and chemical properties of rock formations related to the exploration and production of oil and gas.
32	P&A (Plug and Abandon)	The process of permanently closing a well, often at the end of its productive life.

33	Ram BOP	A blowout preventer that uses rams to seal off the wellbore.
34	Rotary Table	The part of the drilling rig that turns the drill string.
35	Seismic Survey	A method of mapping underground rock formations by sending sound waves into the earth.
36	Sidetrack	The process of drilling a new path from an existing wellbore to reach a different part of the reservoir.
37	Slips	Wedge-shaped devices that grip the drill pipe to hold it in place while making or breaking connections.
38	Top Drive	A modern drilling rig component that turns the drill string, providing more torque and efficiency.
39	Trip Tank	A small tank used to monitor the volume of drilling fluid during tripping operations.
40	V-Door	An opening in the side of the rig floor where pipe is hoisted into or out of the drilling rig.
41	Wellhead	The equipment at the surface of a well used to control pressure and flow.
42	Whipstock	A tool used to deflect the drill bit from its original path when directional drilling.
43	Work String	The tubing or pipe used during workover operations.
44	Artificial Lift	A technique used to increase the flow of liquids, such as oil or water, from a production well.
45	Back Pressure	The pressure opposing the desired flow of fluids in a well.
46	Barrel	A standard unit of measurement for oil (42 US gallons).
47	Blowout	The uncontrolled release of crude oil or natural gas from a well after pressure control systems fail.
48	Burner Tip	The point where gas is burned to produce heat.
49	Cathead	A rotating drum used to apply tension to a line for lifting equipment on the rig.
50	Choke	A device used to control the flow of fluids from a well.
51	Conductor Casing	The first and largest diameter casing set in a well, designed to prevent the surface hole from caving.
52	Cuttings	Fragments of rock broken away by the drill bit during the drilling process.

53	Derrickman	The crew member responsible for the operation and maintenance of the drilling rig’s derrick.
54	Downhole	A term referring to equipment or operations that occur in the wellbore beneath the surface.
55	Drill Collar	A thick-walled pipe placed above the drill bit to put weight on the bit and help it cut through rock.
56	Drill Pipe	Hollow, steel pipe used to rotate the drill bit and circulate drilling fluid.
57	Fishing	The process of retrieving tools or equipment lost or stuck in the wellbore.
58	Formation Damage	Impairment of a reservoir's ability to produce hydrocarbons due to changes in rock or fluid properties.
59	H2S (Hydrogen Sulfide)	A toxic gas often encountered in oil and gas operations, requiring strict safety protocols.
60	Hard Banding	A protective coating applied to drill pipe to reduce wear during drilling operations.
61	Hydrostatic Pressure	The pressure exerted by a column of fluid at rest in a wellbore.
62	Joint	A single length of pipe used in drilling or production operations.
63	Kill Fluid	A specially formulated fluid used to stop the flow of formation fluids into a well.
64	Leg	One of the support structures used in offshore platforms.
65	LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas)	Natural gas that has been cooled to a liquid state for easier transportation.
66	Make Up	The process of assembling drill pipe or tools by screwing them together.
67	Manifold	A series of pipes and valves that direct the flow of oil or gas from multiple wells to a single point.
68	Mud Engineer	A specialized technician who designs and monitors the properties of drilling fluid.
69	Oil Sand	A mixture of sand and bitumen, which is processed to extract crude oil.
70	Open Hole	A section of the wellbore that is not cased with steel pipe.
71	Overburden Pressure	The pressure exerted by the weight of the overlying rock layers on a reservoir.
72	Permeability	The ability of rock to transmit fluids, such as oil or gas.

73	Pore Pressure	The pressure of fluids contained in the pores of a rock formation.
74	Reamer	A tool used to enlarge the wellbore during drilling operations.
75	Reservoir Drive	The natural forces, such as water or gas, that push oil or gas out of a reservoir.
76	Shut-in Pressure	The pressure in a well when it is closed and not producing.
77	Sour Gas	Natural gas that contains significant amounts of hydrogen sulfide (H2S).
78	TDS (Total Dissolved Solids)	A measure of all organic and inorganic substances dissolved in water, affecting drilling operations.
79	Tieback	A method of connecting subsea equipment to the surface or another point of operation.
80	Tripping	The process of pulling the drill string out of the wellbore or running it back in.
81	Tubing	Pipe used to transport oil or gas from the reservoir to the surface.
82	Underbalance Drilling	A technique where the pressure in the wellbore is kept lower than the formation pressure to avoid damage.
83	Well Completion	The process of finishing a well to make it ready for production.
84	Well Testing	The process of evaluating the performance of a well to determine its production potential.
85	Wireline	A cable used to lower tools and instruments into a well.
86	Zonal Isolation	The process of sealing off different zones in the wellbore to prevent fluid movement between them.
87	Abandonment	The process of permanently closing a well that is no longer productive or viable.
88	Acidizing	A technique used to enhance well productivity by injecting acid to dissolve rock and improve permeability.
89	Annular Preventer	A type of blowout preventer (BOP) that seals around the drill pipe or casing in a wellbore.
90	Blowout Preventer (BOP)	A large valve used to control well pressure and prevent blowouts during drilling operations.
91	Boil-Off Gas	Vaporized LNG that occurs during the transportation and storage of liquefied natural gas.
92	Casing Head	A heavy steel fitting on top of the well casing used to control wellhead pressure.

93	Completion Fluid	A specially designed fluid used in the final stage of preparing a well for production.
94	Conventional Reservoir	A type of reservoir where oil and gas are found in permeable rock formations, making extraction easier.
95	Desander	Equipment used to remove sand and solids from drilling fluid.
96	Dogleg	A sharp change in the angle or direction of the wellbore.
97	ESP (Electric Submersible Pump)	A type of pump used to lift fluids from the well to the surface, commonly used in high-volume wells.
98	Foam Drilling	A drilling technique that uses foam-based drilling fluid to minimize formation damage and increase penetration.
99	Gas Cap	The free gas that exists at the top of an oil reservoir.
100	Hot Oil Unit	A truck-mounted unit used to heat oil, usually to remove paraffin build-up in pipelines or wells.

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