

PRISON SLANG

affiliated: member of a gang
A&P: inmate store, commissary
blow: cigarette
bug: inmate with mental problems; "head case"
bust a nut: masturbation
bust some z's: take a nap
call out: issue a challenge
catching a train: inmates chained together when being transported to another facility
cellie: roommate
chomo: child molester
contraband: any illegal item in an inmate's possession
convict: tough prisoner who has proven himself many times over the years
crib: inmate's bunk/cell
crow: inmate who acts as lookout while other inmates violate prison rules
dirty dog: sorry, no-good inmate
dirty guard: guard "on the take"; involved in illegal activities
did a nickel: served five years
fish: newcomer to prison; "mark"
fish tank: intake processing unit at prison
fishing: using string/rope to send items from one cell to another
flat time: serve entire sentence
fronting: exaggerated behavior...loud talk, macho gestures, acting tough
front porch: area outside a cell door
gassing: throwing feces at a corrections officer/staff member
gate money: payment (bus ticket, cash) given to inmate upon release from prison
ghetto penthouse: top tier in a cellblock
good time: time subtracted from sentence for good behavior, etc.
goon squad: officers dressed in riot gear to quell riots/extract inmates from cells
hats and bats: prison SWAT team (see: goon squad)
hold your mud: not backing down in a prison setting
hole: isolation cell; solitary confinement
home boy: inmate from your neighborhood
house: cell (for lifers it is "home")
it's outta line: unbelievable
jacket: prisoner's file/reputation
jackpotting: "stacking the deck"; trumping up charges against an inmate
jockers: aggressive male inmates who prey on other inmates (also called "wolves")
joint: prison/jail
juice: pull, power, influence; can make things happen
keistering: concealing contraband items in rectum
law dog: legal clerk, inmate working in prison library
lower/top tray: lower/top bunk bed
Mighty Whitey: white prison administrators/cops
mule: freeworlder who transports contraband in/out of prison for inmates

newjack: new corrections officer
off: kill somebody
old heads: lifers/those who have served long time in prison
pack the rabbit: hide something in rectum (see: keistering)
P.C.: protective custody (homos, chomos, weak inmates)
peeling an onion: busting someone's head open
pimp (bitch) slap: slap across the face
potter's field: burial ground/cemetery for the unknown/indigent
pruno (buck): prison-made booze; doesn't taste good but gives a "buzz"
Public Pretender: public defender; looked down on as a lousy lawyer
pumping iron: lifting weights
punk: inmate who sexually submits to stronger inmate
rabbit: escaped inmate
railroaded: get blamed for something you didn't do
raw dog: anal intercourse without lubrication
real man: won't tolerate being disrespected; can take it/dish it out; right guy
reruns: inmates who return to prison after being released
road dog: inmate who roams the yard looking for trouble
Rollie: cigarette made by an inmate
running wild/bowlegged: inmate serving consecutive sentences
sally port: area between two fences used as a checkpoint
scandalous: far out, unbelievable, alright, o.k., outrageously cool
screw: correctional officer/guard/hack
script: money in prison
scroll: contract put out on someone; "hit" agreement
selling wolf tickets they can't cash: making threats they can't back up
shakedown: unannounced search of inmates/cells, other areas for contraband
shank: homemade knife (shiv)
SHU: Secure Housing Unit; used to house gang leaders, disruptive inmates
sleeves: tattoos from neck to wrist
sloeking: hitting someone with a bag of soap bars, padlocks, etc.
snitch: squealer/rat; informs on other inmates for favors from prison officials
snitch inoculation: forced anal intercourse; butt job
state issue: clothes, blankets, towels, etc. provided to inmate when entering prison
STG: Security Threat Group: general label for inmate groups/prison gangs
swag: appearance, style, way one presents one's self
ticket: rule violation write up
throwdown: fight
tier time: time out of cell (shower, telephone, etc.)
turn: get out of a gang; become unaffiliated
up in the mix: to be in the prison life
went for a rib: provoked an inmate into doing something