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a·dorn  (ə-dôrn)

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tr.v. **a·dorned**, **a·dorn·ing**, **a·dorns**

1. To lend beauty to: *flowers adorned the walkway.*

2. To enhance or decorate with or as if with ornaments: "[He] requires the presence of titles to legitimate and adorn ... his imperfect status" ([Cynthia Ozick](#)).

[Middle English *adornen*, from Old French *adourner*, from Latin *adōrnāre* : *ad-*, *ad-* + *ōrnāre*, to decorate; see **ar-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

a·dorn *er n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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