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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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ar·mil·lar·y sphere  (är mə-lě'ē, är-mīl ə-rē)

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n.

An old astronomical model with solid, usually metal rings, all great circles of a single sphere, used to display relationships among the principal celestial circles.

[Translation of French *sphère armillaire*, from Latin *armilla*, bracelet, from *armus*, shoulder; see **ar-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]



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armillary sphere

by Adam Heroldt

(active 1616-1649)

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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:

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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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