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o·val  (ō vəl)

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adj.

1. Resembling an egg in shape.
2. Resembling an ellipse in shape; elliptical.

n.

1. An egg-shaped or elliptical form or figure.
2. An elliptical track, as for racing or athletic events.

[Medieval Latin *ōvālis*, from Latin *ōvum*, egg; see **awi-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

o val·ly *adv.*

o val·ness *n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

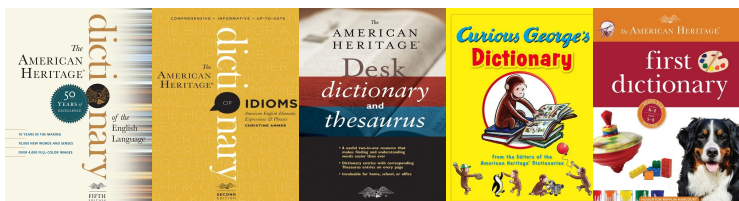
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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