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butt¹  (bŭt)

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v. **butt**·ed, **butt**·ing, **butts**

v.tr.

To hit or push against with the head or horns; ram.

v.intr.

1. To hit or push something with the head or horns.

2. To project forward or out.

n.

A push or blow with the head or horns.

Phrasal Verbs:

butt in

1. To interfere or meddle in other people's affairs.

2. To interrupt the conversation or activity of other people.

3. To move into a line of people or things out of turn.

butt out *Slang*

To disengage from a matter involving another person.

[Middle English *butten*, from Old French *bouter*, to strike, of Germanic origin; see **bhau-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

butt er n.

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butt²  (bŭt)

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tr. & intr.v. **butt**·ed, **butt**·ing, **butts**

To join or be joined end to end; abut.

n.

1. A butt joint.

2. A butt hinge.

[Middle English *butten*, from Anglo-Norman *butter* (variant of Old French *bouter*; see [BUTT](#)¹) and from *but*, end; see [BUTT](#)⁴.]

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butt³  (bŭt)

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n.

1. One that serves as an object of ridicule or contempt: *I was the butt of their jokes.*
 2.
 - a. A target, as in archery or riflery.
 - b. **butts** A target range.
 - c. An obstacle behind a target for stopping the shot.
 3. An embankment or hollow used as a blind by hunters of wildfowl.
 4.
 - a. *Archaic* A goal.
 - b. *Obsolete* A bound; a limit.
-

[Middle English *butte*, target, from Old French, from *but*, goal, end, target; see [BUTT](#)⁴.]

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butt⁴ 🔊 (bŭt)

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- n.*
1. The larger or thicker end of an object: *the butt of a rifle.*
 2.
 - a. An unburned end, as of a cigarette.
 - b. *Informal* A cigarette.
 3. A short or broken remnant; a stub.
 4. *Informal* The buttocks; the rear end.
- adv.*
- Slang* Very. Used as an intensive: *butt ugly*; *butt expensive*.
-

[Middle English *butte*, from Old French *but*, end, of Germanic origin.]

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butt⁵ 🔊 (bŭt)

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- n.*
1. A large cask.
 2. A unit of volume equal to two hogsheads, usually the equivalent of 126 US gallons (about 477 liters).
-

[Middle English, from Old French *boute*, from Vulgar Latin **butta*, from Late Latin *buttis*; see [BOTTLE](#).]

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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:

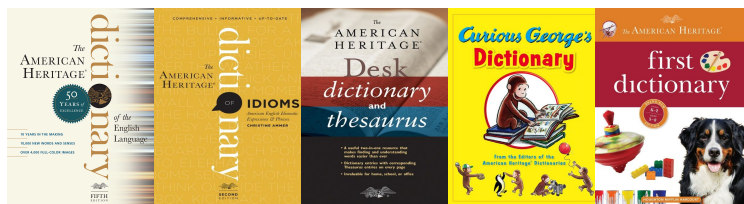
[Indo-European Roots](#)

[Semitic Roots](#)

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

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