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blaze¹ 🔊 (blāz)

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n.

1.

a. A brilliant burst of fire; a flame.

b. A destructive fire.

2. A bright or steady light or glare: *the blaze of the desert sun.*

3. A brilliant, striking display: *flowers that were a blaze of color.*

4. A sudden outburst, as of emotion: *a blaze of anger.*

5. blazes Used as an intensive: *Where in blazes are my keys?*

v. blazed, blaz·ing, blaz·es

v.intr.

1. To burn with a bright flame.

2. To shine brightly.

3. To be resplendent: *a garden blazing with flowers.*

4. To flare up suddenly: *My neighbor's temper blazed.*

5. To shoot rapidly and continuously: *Machine guns blazed.*

v.tr.

To shine or be resplendent with: *eyes that blazed hatred.*

[Middle English *blase*, from Old English *blæse*; see **bhel**-¹ [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

blaz ing·ly *adv.*

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blaze² 🔊 (blāz)

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n.

1. A white or light-colored spot or stripe on the face of an animal, such as a horse.

2. A mark to indicate a trail, usually painted on or cut into a tree.

tr.v. blazed, blaz·ing, blaz·es

1.

a. To mark (a tree) with a blaze.

b. To indicate (a trail) by making blazes.

2. To prepare or lead (the way in an endeavor): *blazed the way in space exploration.*

[Of Germanic origin; akin to [BLAZE](#)¹.]



(click for a larger image)



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blaze²

top: on a horse's face

bottom: along the Tour du

Cézallier walking trails

Puy-de-Dôme region, France

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blaze³  (blāz)

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tr.v. **blazed**, **blaz·ing**, **blaz·es**

To make known publicly; proclaim: *Headlines blazed the news.*

[Middle English *blasen*, from Middle Dutch *blāsen*, to blow up, swell; see **bhlē-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

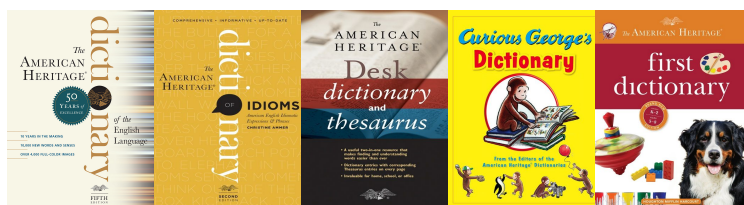
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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