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ful·mi·nate  (f l mə-nāt', fül -)

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v. **ful·mi·nat·ed**, **ful·mi·nat·ing**, **ful·mi·nates**

v.*intr.*

1. To issue a thunderous verbal attack or denunciation: *fulminated against political chicanery.*

2. To explode or detonate.

v.*tr.*

1. To issue (a denunciation, for example) thunderously.

2. To cause to explode.

n.

An explosive salt of fulminic acid, especially fulminate of mercury.

[Middle English *fulminaten*, from Latin *fulmināre*, *fulmināt-*, to strike with lightning, from *fulmen*, *fulmin-*, lightning that strikes; see **bhel-**¹ [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots.](#)]

ful'mi·na tion *n.*

ful mi·na'tor *n.*

ful mi·na'to'ry (-nə-tôr'ē) *adj.*

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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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