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in·flame 🔊 (ín-flām)

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v. **in·flamed**, **in·flam·ing**, **in·flames**

v.tr.

1. To arouse to passionate feeling or action: *crimes that inflamed the entire community.*
2. To make more violent; intensify: *"inflamed to madness an already savage nature" (Robert Graves).*
3.
 - a. To cause (the skin) to redden or grow hot, as from strong emotion or stimulants.
 - b. To turn red or make glow: *Great bonfires inflamed the night.*
4. To produce inflammation in (a tissue or organ).
5. To set on fire; kindle.

v.intr.

1. To become excited or aroused.
2. To be affected by inflammation.
3. To catch fire.

[Middle English *enflaumen*, from Old French *enflammer*, from Latin *īnflammāre* : *in-*, intensive pref.; see [IN-](#)² + *flammāre*, to set on fire (from *flamma*, flame; see [bhel-](#)¹ [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)).]

in·flam er n.

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

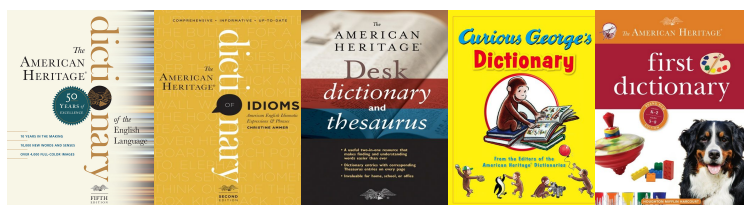
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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