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English
Language



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phal·lus  (fāl əs)

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n. pl. phal·li (fāl ī) or **phal·lus·es**

1. *Anatomy*

a. The penis.

b. The sexually undifferentiated tissue in an embryo that becomes the penis or clitoris.

2. A representation of the erect penis as an embodiment of generative power.

[Late Latin, from Greek *phallos*; see **bhel-**² [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

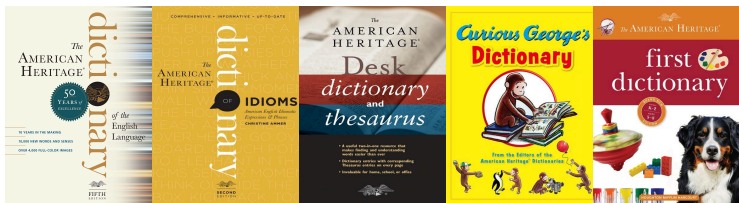
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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