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bleed  (blēd)

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v. **bled** (blēd), **bleed·ing**, **bleeds**

v.*intr.*

1. To emit or lose blood.
2. To be wounded, especially in battle.
3. To feel sympathetic grief or anguish: *My heart bleeds for the victims of the air crash.*
4. To exude a fluid such as sap.
5. To pay out money, especially an exorbitant amount.
6.
 - a. To run together or be diffused, as dyes in wet cloth.
 - b. To undergo or be subject to such a diffusion of color: *The madras skirt bled when it was first washed.*
7. To show through a layer of paint, as a stain or resin in wood.
8. To be printed so as to go off the edge or edges of a page after trimming.

v.*tr.*

1.
 - a. To take or remove blood from.
 - b. To extract sap or juice from.
2.
 - a. To draw liquid or gaseous contents from; drain.
 - b. To draw off (liquid or gaseous matter) from a container.
3.
 - a. To obtain money from, especially by improper means.
 - b. To drain of all valuable resources: *"Politicians ... never stop inventing illicit enterprises of government that bleed the national economy" (David A. Stockman).*
4.
 - a. To cause (an illustration, for example) to bleed.
 - b. To trim (a page, for example) so closely as to mutilate the printed or illustrative matter.

n.

1. An instance of bleeding.
2. Illustrative matter that bleeds.
3.
 - a. A page trimmed so as to bleed.
 - b. The part of the page that is trimmed off.

Phrasal Verbs:

bleed off

Aerospace To decrease: *"Mike reared the chopper almost vertical to bleed off airspeed" (Robert Coram).*

bleed out

1. To lose or cause to lose all or almost all of the blood from the body: *The victim would have bled out if the paramedics hadn't arrived quickly. The hunter bled out the deer.*
2. To lose or cause to lose all or almost all of a substance: *Allow the air to bleed out of the system.*

[Middle English *bleden*, from Old English *blēdan*; see **bhel-**³ in the Appendix of Indo-European roots.]

Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

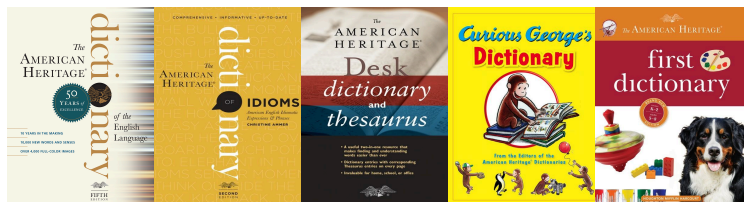
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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