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bel·lows  (běl ōz, -əz)

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pl.n. (used with a sing. or pl. verb)

1.

a. An apparatus for producing a strong current of air, as for sounding a pipe organ or increasing the draft to a fire, consisting of a flexible, valved air chamber that is contracted and expanded by pumping to force the air through a nozzle.

b. Something, such as the pleated windbag of an accordion, that resembles this apparatus.

2. The lungs.

[Middle English *belowes*, from Old English *belgas*, pl. of *belg*; see **bhelgh-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]



(click for a larger image)

bellows

three-row diatonic accordion

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Bel·lows  (běl ōz), **George Wesley** 1882-1925.

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American artist of the Ashcan school, noted for his energetic paintings of sporting scenes, such as *Stag at Sharkey's* (1907).

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

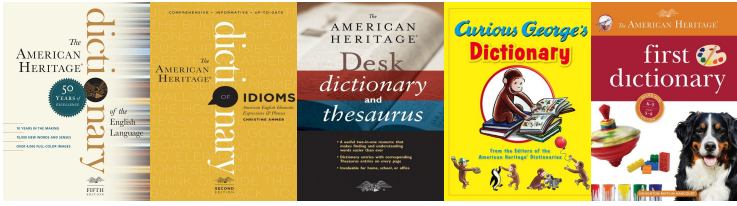
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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