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fu·ture  (fy chər)

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n.

1. The indefinite time yet to come: *will try to do better in the future.*
2. Something that will happen in time to come: "*The future comes apace*" (*Shakespeare*).
3. A prospective or expected condition, especially one considered with regard to growth, advancement, or development: *a business with no future.*
4. often **futures** A financial instrument that obligates the holder to buy or sell an asset at a set price on a specified date in the future: *a market for copper futures.*
5. *Grammar*
 - a. The form of a verb used in speaking of action that has not yet occurred or of states not yet in existence.
 - b. A verb form in the future tense.

adj.

That is to be or to come; of or existing in later time.

[Middle English, from Old French *futur*, from Latin *futūrus*, about to be; see **bheu-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

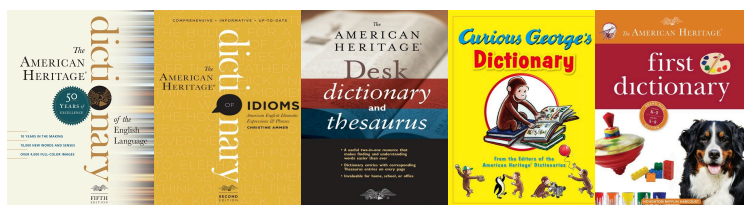
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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