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bus·tle¹ (bŭs əl)

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intr. & tr.v. **bus·tled, bus·tling, bus·tles**

To move or cause to move energetically and busily.

n.

Excited and often noisy activity; a stir.

[Possibly variant of obsolete *buskle*, frequentative of *busk*, to prepare oneself, from Old Norse *būask*, reflexive of *būa*, to prepare; see **bheu-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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bus·tle² (bŭs əl)

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n.

1. A frame or pad to support and expand the fullness of the back of a skirt.
2. A bow, peplum, or gathering of material at the back of a skirt below the waist.

[Origin unknown.]



(click for a larger image)

bustle²

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

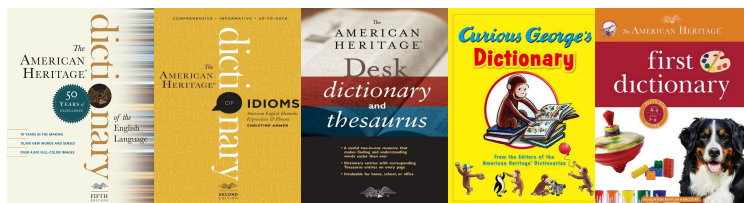
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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