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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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bare¹ (bâr)

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adj. **bar·er, bar·est**

1. Lacking the usual or appropriate covering or clothing; naked: *a bare arm*.
2. Exposed to view; undisguised: *bare fangs*.
3. Lacking the usual furnishings, equipment, or decoration: *bare walls*.
4. Having no addition, adornment, or qualification: *the bare facts*.
5. Just sufficient; mere: *the bare necessities*.
6. *Obsolete* Bareheaded.

tr.v. **bar·ed, bar·ing, bares**

1. To make bare; uncover or reveal: *bared their heads; baring secrets*.
2. To expose: *The dog bared its teeth*.

[Middle English *bar*, from Old English *bær*; see **bhoso-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

bare ness *n.*

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bare² (bâr)

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v.

Archaic

A past tense of [bear](#)¹.

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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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