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in·ter·dict (in'tər-dīkt)

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tr.v. **in·ter·dict·ed**, **in·ter·dict·ing**, **in·ter·dicts**

1. To prohibit (an action or thing) or forbid (someone) to do something, especially by legal or ecclesiastical order.

2.

a. To cut or destroy (a line of communication) by firepower so as to halt an enemy's advance.

b. To confront and halt the activities, advance, or entry of: "*the role of the FBI in interdicting spies attempting to pass US secrets to the Soviet Union*" (*Christian Science Monitor*).

n. (in tər-dīkt')

1. An authoritative prohibition, especially by court order.

2. *Roman Catholic Church* An ecclesiastical censure that bars an individual, members of a given group, or inhabitants of a given district from participation in most sacraments.

[Alteration of Middle English *enterditen*, to place under a church ban, from Old French *entredit*, past participle of *entredire*, to forbid, from Latin *interdicere*, *interdict-* : *inter-*, *inter-* + *dicere*, to say; see **deik-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

in'ter·dic tion *n.*

in'ter·dic tive, **in'ter·dic to·ry** (-dīk tər-rē) *adj.*

in'ter·dic tive·ly *adv.*

in'ter·dic tor *n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

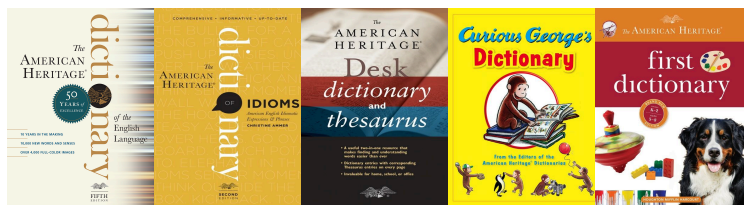
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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