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dictionary

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Language



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ded·i·cate  (děd ĭ-kāt')

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tr.v. **ded·i·cat·ed**, **ded·i·cat·ing**, **ded·i·cates**

1. To set apart for a deity or for religious purposes; consecrate.
2. To set apart for a special use: *dedicated their money to scientific research.*
3. To commit (oneself) to a particular course of thought or action: *dedicated ourselves to starting our own business.*

See Synonyms at [devote](#).

4. To address or inscribe (a literary work, for example) to another as a mark of respect or affection.

5.

- a. To open (a building, for example) to public use.
- b. To show to the public for the first time: *dedicate a monument.*

[Middle English *dedicaten*, from Latin *dēdicāre*, *dēdicāt-* : *dē-*, *de-* + *dicāre*, to proclaim; see **deik-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

ded i·ca'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:

[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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