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AMERICAN  
HERITAGE®

dictionary

of the  
English  
Language


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**or·tho·dox**  (ôr thă-dōks')

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*adj.*

1. Adhering to the accepted or traditional and established faith, especially in religion.
2. Adhering to the Christian faith as expressed in the early Christian ecumenical creeds.
3. **Orthodox**
  - a. Of or relating to any of the churches or rites of the Eastern Orthodox Church.
  - b. Of or relating to Orthodox Judaism.
4. Adhering to what is commonly accepted, customary, or traditional: *an orthodox view of world affairs.*

*n.*

1. One that is orthodox.
2. **Orthodox** A member of an Eastern Orthodox church.

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[Middle English *orthodoxe*, from Old French, from Late Latin *orthodoxus*, from Late Greek *orthodoxos* : Greek *ortho-*, *ortho-* + Greek *doxa*, opinion (from *dokein*, to think; see **dek-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)).]

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**or tho·dox'ly** *adv.*

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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:

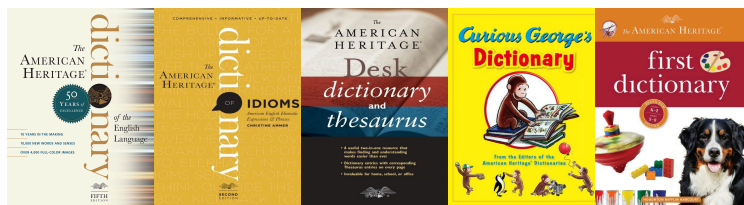
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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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