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de·cur-i-on  (dĭ-ky r ē-ən)

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n.

1. An officer in command of ten men in the army of ancient Rome.
2. A member of a municipal senate in ancient Rome that ran local government.

[Latin *decuriō*, from *decuria*, group of ten men, administrative body of ten families, from **decu-viria* : *decem*, ten; see **dek** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#) + *vir*, man; see **wi-ro-** [in the Appendix of 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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