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dictionary

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Language



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de·cus·sate  (dĭ-kŭs āt', dĕk ə-sāt')

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tr. & intr.v. **de·cus·sat·ed**, **de·cus·sat·ing**, **de·cus·sates**

To cross or become crossed so as to form an X; intersect.

adj.

1. Intersected or crossed in the form of an X.

2. *Botany* Arranged on a stem in opposite pairs, at right angles to those above or below: *decussate leaves*.

[Latin *decussāre*, *decussāt-*, from *decussis*, the number ten, intersection of two lines (from the Romans' use of X for the numeral 10), a ten-as coin : *decem*, ten; see **dek** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#) + *assis*, as (coin).]

de·cus sate'ly *adv.*



(click for a larger image)

decussate

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

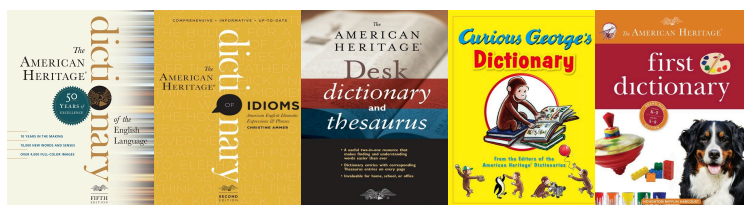
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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