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AMERICAN
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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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phil·o·den·dron  (fil'ə-dĕn drən)

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n. pl. **phil·o·den·drons** or **phil·o·den·dra** (-drə)

Any of various climbing tropical American plants of the genus *Philodendron*, many of which are cultivated as houseplants.

[New Latin *Philodendron*, genus name, from Greek, neuter of *philodendros*, fond of trees (from the fact that in its tropical American habitat it twines around trees) : *philo-*, philo- + *dendron*, tree; see **deru-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]



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philodendron

Philodendron sp.

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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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