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sub·due  (səb-dy)

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tr.v. **sub·dued**, **sub·du·ing**, **sub·dues**

1. To subjugate (a region or people, for example) by military force.

2.

a. To bring under control by physical force, persuasion, or other means; overcome: *subdued the wild horse*; *subdued the rebellion in the party ranks*.

b. To make less intense or prominent; reduce or tone down: *I was unable to subdue my excitement about the upcoming holiday*.

3. To bring (land) under cultivation: *Farmers subdued the arid lands of Australia*.

[Middle English *subduen*, alteration (influenced by Latin *subdere*, to subject) of Old French *suduire*, to seduce, from Latin *subducere*, to withdraw (probably influenced by Latin *sēducere*, to seduce) : *sub-*, away; see [SUB-](#) + *dūcere*, to lead; see [deuk-](#) [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

sub·du a·ble *adj.*

sub·du er *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:

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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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