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taut  (tôt)

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adj. **taut·er**, **taut·est**

1.

a. Pulled or drawn tight; not slack. See Synonyms at [tight](#).

b. Flexed or not loose: *taut muscles*.

c. Strained or tense: *taut nerves*.

2.

a. Kept in good order; trim: *a taut ship*.

b. Marked by the efficient, sparing, or concise use of something, such as language or detail: *a taut movie script*.

[Middle English *tohte*, distended, perhaps ultimately from Old English *togian*, to drag; see [TOW](#)¹.]

taut ly *adv.*

taut ness *n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

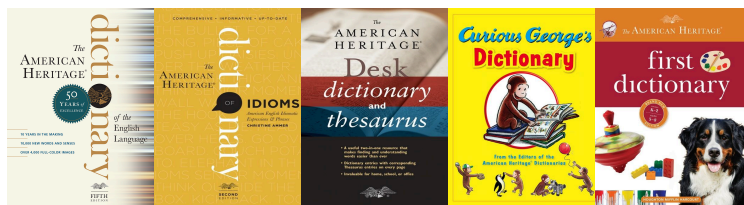
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