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bard ¹ (bärd)

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n.

1. One of an ancient Celtic order of minstrel poets who composed and recited verses celebrating the legendary exploits of chieftains and heroes.
2. A poet, especially a lyric poet.

[Middle English, from Irish and Scottish Gaelic *bard* and from Welsh *bardd*; see **g^wera-** ² [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

bard *ic adj.*

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bard ² also **barde** (bärd)

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n.

A piece of armor used to protect or ornament a horse.

tr.v. **bard·ed**, **bard·ing**, **bards**

1. To equip (a horse) with bards.
2. To cover (meat) in thin pieces of bacon or fat to preserve moisture during cooking.

[Middle English *barde*, from Old French, from Old Italian *barda*, from Arabic *barda'a*, packsaddle, from Persian *pardah*; see [PURDAH](#).]

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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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