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de·face  (dĭ-fās)

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tr.v. **de·faced**, **de·fac·ing**, **de·fac·es**

1. To mar or spoil the appearance or surface of; disfigure.
2. To impair the usefulness, value, or influence of.
3. *Obsolete* To obliterate; destroy.

[Middle English *defacen*, from Old French *desfacier* : *des-*, de- + *face*, face; see [FACE](#).]

de·face a·ble *adj.*

de·face ment *n.*

de·fac er *n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

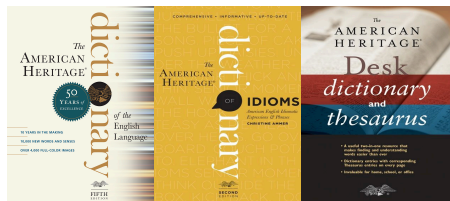
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

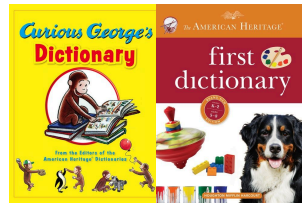
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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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