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ef·fa·cé  (ěf'ə-sā)

Share:

n.

A position in ballet in which the dancer stands at an angle to the audience so that part of the body is hidden from view.

[French, from past participle of *effacer*, to efface; see [EFFACE](#).]

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ef·face  (ĭ-fās)

Share:

v. **ef·faced**, **ef·fac·ing**, **ef·fac·es**

v.tr.

1. To rub or wipe out; erase: *The serial number had been effaced from the stolen product.*
2. To remove or make indistinct: *"Five years' absence had done nothing to efface the people's memory of his firmness" (Alan Moorehead).*
3. To conduct (oneself) inconspicuously: *"When the two women went out together, Anna deliberately effaced herself and played to the dramatic Molly" (Doris Lessing).*
4. *Medicine* To cause to become shorter, softer, and thinner during labor: *The cervix was effaced as the contractions continued.*

v.intr.

Medicine To become shorter, softer, and thinner during labor. Used of the cervix.

[Middle English *effacen*, from French *effacer*, from Old French *esfacier* : *es-*, out (from Latin *ex-*, *ex-*) + *face*, face; see [FACE](#).]

ef·face **a·ble** *adj.*

ef·face **ment** *n.*

ef·fac **er** *n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

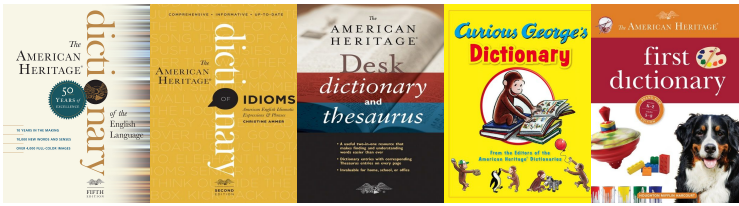
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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European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

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