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ef·fem·i·nate  (ĩ-fēm ə-nīt)

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adj.
Having or showing qualities or characteristics more often associated with females than males; unmanly: "*gentle, kind, effeminate remorse*" (*Shakespeare*).

[Middle English *effeminat*, from Latin *effēminātus*, past participle of *effēmināre*, to make feminine : *ex-*, *ex-* + *fēmina*, woman; see **dhē(i)-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

ef·fem i·na·cy (-nə-sē), **ef·fem i·nate·ness** *n.*

ef·fem i·nate *n.*

ef·fem i·nate·ly *adv.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

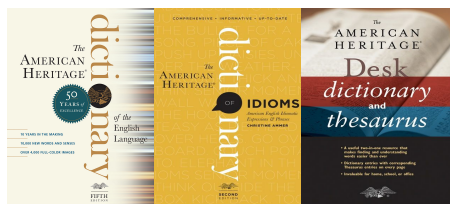
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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