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af·firm  (ə-fûrm)

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v. af·firmed, af·firm·ing, af·firms

v.tr.

1. To declare positively; assert to be true: *a philosopher affirming the existence of free will; a document affirming that each student has completed the course.*

2. To declare support for or belief in: *affirm the right to self-determination.*

3. Law To rule (a court decision) to have been correct; confirm: *The Supreme Court affirmed the lower court's decision.*

v.intr.

Law

To assert that one will give true testimony equivalent to that which would be given while under oath.

[Middle English *affermen*, from Old French *afermer*, from Latin *affirmāre* : *ad-*, *ad-* + *firmāre*, to strengthen (from *firmus*, strong; see **dher-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)).]

af·firm a·ble *adj.*

af·firm a·bly *adv.*

af·fir mant *adj. & n.*

af·firm er *n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

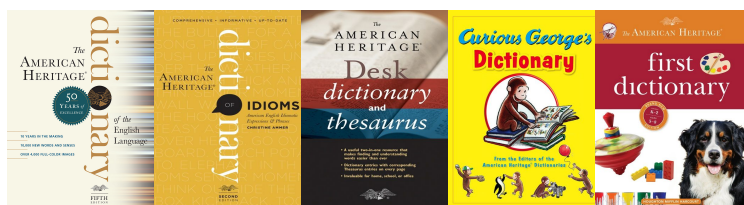
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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