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town  (toun)

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n.

1.

a. A population center that is larger than a village and smaller than a city.

b. A territorial and political unit governed by a town meeting, especially in New England.

c. *Informal* A city: *New York is a big town.*

d. *Chiefly British* A rural village that has a market or fair periodically.

e. The residents of a town: *The whole town was upset at the news.*

2. An area that is more densely populated or developed than the surrounding area: *going into town to shop.*

3. The residents of a community in which a university or college is located, as opposed to the students and faculty: *a dispute pitting town against gown.*

4. A group of prairie dog burrows.

Idiom:

on the town *Informal*

In spirited pursuit of the entertainment offered by a town or city.

[Middle English, from Old English *tūn*, enclosed place, village; see **dheu-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Town (toun), **Ithiel** 1784-1844.

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American architect particularly known for the design and construction of truss bridges.

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

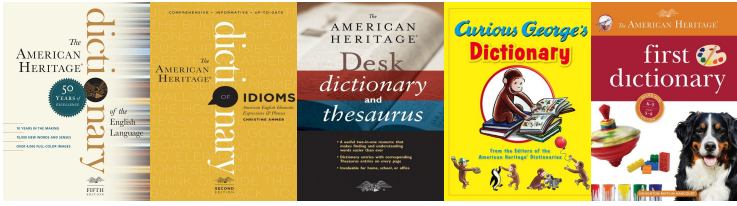
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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