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dictionary

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cham·o·mile or **cam·o·mile** 🗣️ (kăm ə-mīl', -mēl')

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n.

1. An aromatic perennial herb (*Chamaemelum nobile*) in the composite family, native to Europe and the Mediterranean region, having feathery foliage and flower heads with white rays and yellow centers.
2. A similar, related Eurasian annual plant (*Matricaria recutita*).
3. The dried flower heads of either one of these plants, used to make an herbal tea and yielding an oil used in commercial flavorings and perfumery.

[Middle English *camomille*, from Old French, from Late Latin *chamomilla*, alteration of Latin *chamaemēlon*, from Greek *khamaimēlon* : *khamai*, on the ground; see **dhghem-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#) + *mēlon*, apple.]



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chamomile

Chamaemelum nobile

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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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