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dictionary

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English
Language



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[guide to the dictionary](#)



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in·fix  (in-fiks)

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tr.v. **in·fixed**, **in·fix·ing**, **in·fix·es**

1. To fix in the mind; instill.

2. *Linguistics* To insert (a morphological element) into the body of a word.

n. (in fiks')

Linguistics

An inflectional or derivational element appearing in the body of a word. For example, in Tagalog, the active verb *sulat*, "write," can be converted to a passive, "written," by inserting the infix *-in-*, yielding *sinulat*.

[Back-formation from Middle English *infixed*, stuck in, from Latin *infixus*, past participle of *infigere*, to fasten in : *in-*, in; see *in*² + *figere*, to fasten; see *dhig*ʷ- [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

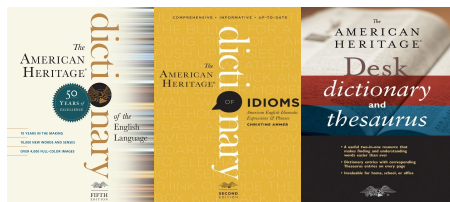
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

[Semitic Roots](#)

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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