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an·ti·dote  (ăn tĭ-dōt')

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n.

1. A remedy or other agent used to neutralize or counteract the effects of a poison.
2. An agent that relieves or counteracts: *jogging as an antidote to nervous tension.*

tr.v. **an·ti·dot·ed**, **an·ti·dot·ing**, **an·ti·dotes**

To relieve or counteract with an antidote: "*Hallie's family life is laced with the poison of self-hatred, a poison that Sam has antidoted with love and understanding*" (Christopher Swan).

[Middle English, from Latin *antidotum*, from Greek *antidoton*, from *antididonai*, *antido-*, to give as a remedy against : *anti-*, *anti-* + *didonai*, to give; see **dō-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

an'ti·dot al (ăn'tĭ-dōt l) *adj.*

an'ti·dot al·ly *adv.*

Usage Note: *Antidote* may be followed by *to*, *for*, or *against*: *an antidote to boredom; an antidote for snakebite; an antidote against inflation.*

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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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