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dictionary

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zwie·back  (swē bāk', -bāk', swī -, zwē -, zwī -)

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n.

A usually sweetened bread first baked as a loaf and later cut into slices and toasted.

[German : *zwie-*, twice (from Middle High German *zwi-*, from Old High German; see **dwo-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)) + *backen*, to bake (from Middle High German, from Old High German *bahhan*, *backan*).]

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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:

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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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