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di·dym·i·um  (dī-dīm ē-əm)

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n.

1. A metallic mixture, once considered an element, composed of neodymium and praseodymium.
2. A mixture of rare-earth elements and their oxides used chiefly in manufacturing and in coloring various forms of glass.

[From Greek *didumos*, twin, double (from the fact that it was usually found associated with the previously discovered lanthanum); see **dwo-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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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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