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n.

1. often **orts** A small scrap or leaving of food after a meal is completed.
2. A scrap; a bit.

[Middle English *orte*, food left by animals, probably from Middle Dutch : *oor*, out; see **ud-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#) + *eten*, to eat; see **ed-** [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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