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in·ti·mate¹  (ĩn tə-mīt)

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adj.

1. Characterized by close personal acquaintance or familiarity: *intimate friends*.
2. Relating to or indicative of one's deepest nature: *intimate prayers*.
3. Essential; innermost: *the intimate structure of matter*.
4. Marked by informality and privacy: *an intimate nightclub*.
5. Very personal; private: *an intimate letter*.
6. Of or involved in a sexual relationship: *Have they been intimate?*

n.

A close friend or confidant.

[Latin *intimātus*, past participle of *intimāre*, to make familiar with; see [INTIMATE](#)².]

in ti·mate·ly *adv.*

in ti·mate·ness *n.*

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in·ti·mate²  (ĩn tə-māt')

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tr.v. **in·ti·mat·ed**, **in·ti·mat·ing**, **in·ti·mates**

1.

- a. To state or express indirectly: *She intimated that she did not want him to call back*. See Synonyms at [suggest](#).
- b. To make evident indirectly: *His worn clothes intimated that he was in need of money*.

2. Archaic To announce; proclaim.

[Latin *intimāre*, *intimāt-*, to make known, from *intimus*, innermost; see **en** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

in ti·mat'er *n.*

in'ti·ma tion *n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

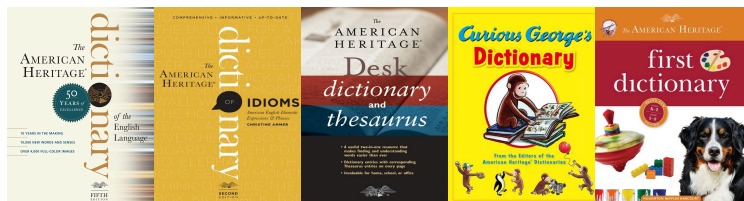
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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