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in·di·gent  (in dī-jənt)

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adj.

1. Experiencing want or need; impoverished: *distributed food to indigent families.*
2. *Archaic* Lacking or deficient.

n.

A poor or destitute person.

[Middle English, from Old French, from Latin *indigēns*, *indigent-*, present participle of *indigēre*, to need : *indu-*, in; see **en** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#) + *egēre*, to lack.]

in di·gent·ly *adv.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

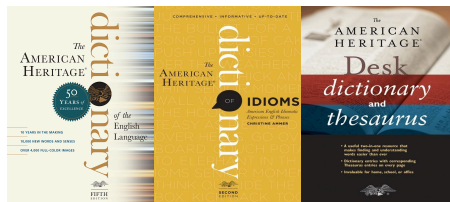
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

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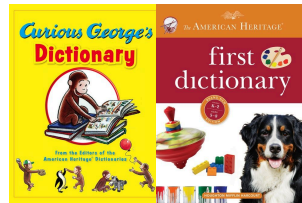
The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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