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rear¹  (rîr)

Share:

n.

1. A hind part.
2. The point or area farthest from the front: *the rear of the hall*.
3. The part of a military deployment usually farthest from the fighting front.
4. *Informal* The buttocks.

adj.

Of, at, or located in the rear.

[Middle English *rere*, rear of an army, short for *rerewarde*, rear guard; see [REARWARD](#)².]

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rear²  (rîr)

Share: Post

v. reared, rear·ing, rears

v.tr.

1. To care for (children or a child) during the early stages of life; bring up. See Usage Note at [raise](#).
2. To tend (growing plants or animals).
3. To build; erect.
4. *Archaic* To lift upright; raise.

v.intr.

1. To rise on the hind legs, as a horse.
2. To rise high in the air; tower.

[Middle English *rerēn*, to raise, from Old English *ræran*; see *er*-¹ [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

rear *er n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

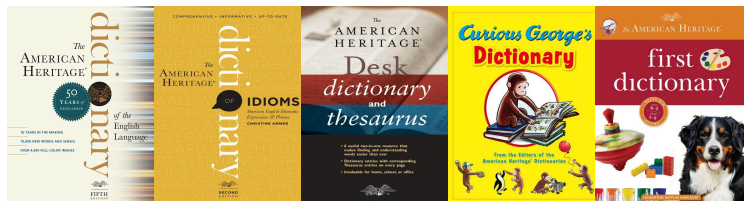
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

[Semitic Roots](#)

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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