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rud·der  (rŭd ər)

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n.

1.

a. A vertically hinged plate of metal, fiberglass, or wood mounted at the stern of a ship or boat for directing its course.

b. A similar structure at the tail of an aircraft, used for effecting horizontal changes in course.

2. A controlling agent or influence over direction; a guide.

[Middle English *ruder*, from Old English *rōther*, steering oar; see **era-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

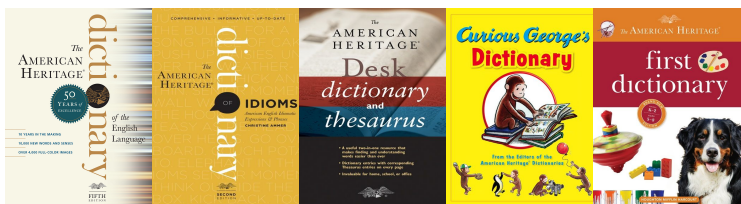
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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European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

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