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proud  (proud)

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adj. **proud·er, proud·est**

1. Feeling pleasurable satisfaction over an act, possession, quality, or relationship by which one measures one's stature or self-worth: *proud of one's child; proud to serve one's country.*
2. Occasioning or being a reason for pride: *a proud moment when she received her diploma.*
3. Feeling or showing justifiable self-respect: *too proud to beg.*
4. Filled with or showing excessive self-esteem: *a proud and haughty aristocrat.*
5. Of great dignity; honored: *a proud name.*
6. Majestic; magnificent: *proud alpine peaks.*
7. Spirited. Used of an animal: *proud steeds.*

[Middle English, from Old English *prūd*, from Old French *prou, prud*, brave, virtuous, oblique case of *prouz*, from Vulgar Latin **prōdis*, from Late Latin *prōde*, advantageous, from Latin *prōdesse*, to be good : *prōd-*, for (variant of *prō-*, with *d* on the model of *red-*, prevocalic variant of *re-*, back, again; see [PRO-¹](#)) + *esse*, to be; see [es-](#) [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

proud *ly* *adv.*

proud *ness* *n.*

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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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