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preg·nant¹  (prĕg nənt)

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- adj.*
1. Carrying developing offspring within the body.
 2.
 - a. Weighty or significant; full of meaning: *a conversation occasionally punctuated by pregnant pauses.*
 - b. Of great or potentially great import, implication, or moment: *"It was a politically pregnant time in Poland" (New York).*
 3. Filled or fraught; replete: *"This was, from the Party's point of view, both deplorable in itself and pregnant with danger for the future" (Robert Conquest).*
 4. Having a profusion of ideas; creative or inventive.
 5. Producing results; fruitful: *a pregnant decision.*

[Middle English, from Old French, from Latin *praegnāns*, *praegnant-*, variant of *praegnās*; see **gena-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

preg nant·ly *adv.*

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preg·nant²  (prĕg nənt)

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adj.
Archaic
Convincing; cogent. Used of an argument or a proof.

[Middle English, probably from Old French *preignant*, present participle of *prembre*, to press, from Latin *premere*; see **per-**⁴ [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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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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