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in·gen·ious  (ĩn-jēn yəs)

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adj.

1. Having great inventive skill and imagination: *an ingenious negotiator.*
2. Marked by or exhibiting originality or inventiveness: *an ingenious solution to the problem.*
3. *Obsolete* Having genius; brilliant.

[Middle English, from Old French *ingenios*, from Latin *ingeniōsus*, from *ingenium*, inborn talent; see **gena-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

in·gen ious·ly *adv.*

in·gen ious·ness *n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

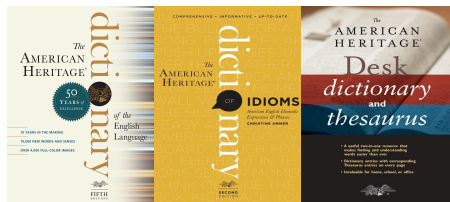
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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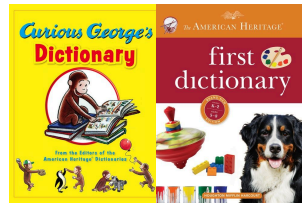
The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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