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pri·mo·gen·i·ture  (prī'mō-jěn ĭ-ch r')

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n.

1. The state of being the firstborn or eldest child of the same parents.
2. *Law* The right of the eldest child, especially the eldest son, to inherit the entire estate of one or both parents.

[Late Latin *prīmōgenitūra* : Latin *prīmō*, at first (from *prīmus*, first; see **per**¹ [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)) + Latin *genitūra*, birth (from *genitus*, past participle of *gignere*, to beget; see **gena-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)).]

pri'mo·gen i-tar'y (-jěn ĭ-tĕr'ē), **pri'mo·gen i-tal** (-təl) *adj.*

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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](#)

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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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