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im·preg·nate  (ĩm-prĕg nāt)

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tr.v. **im·preg·nat·ed**, **im·preg·nat·ing**, **im·preg·nates**

1. To make pregnant; inseminate.
2. To fertilize (an ovum, for example).
3. To fill throughout; saturate: *a cotton wad that was impregnated with ether.*
4. To permeate or imbue: *impregnate a speech with optimism.*

adj. (also -nīt)

Saturated or filled.

[Probably from Late Latin *impraegnātus*, pregnant : Latin *in-*, in; see [IN](#)² + Latin *praegnātus*, variant of *praegnās*, pregnant; see [PREGNANT](#)¹.]

im'preg·na tion *n.*

im·preg na'tor *n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

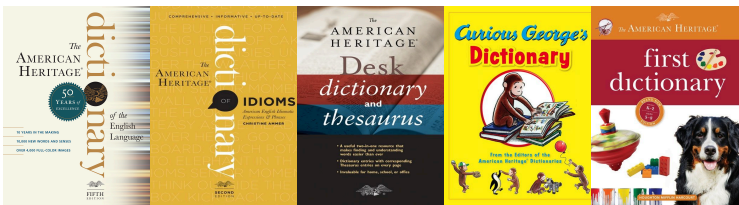
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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