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pro·gram  (prō grām', -grām)

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n.

1.

a. A listing of the order of events and other pertinent information for a public presentation.

b. The presentation itself: *a program of piano pieces*.

2. A scheduled radio or television show.

3. An ordered list of events to take place or procedures to be followed; a schedule: *a program of physical therapy for a convalescent*.

4. A system of services, opportunities, or projects, usually designed to meet a social need: *"Working parents rely on the center's after-school latchkey program" (New York Times)*.

5.

a. A course of academic study; a curriculum.

b. A plan or system of academic and related or ancillary activities: *a work-study program*.

c. A plan or system of nonacademic extracurricular activities: *the football program*.

6. A set of coded instructions that enables a machine, especially a computer, to perform a desired sequence of operations.

7. An instruction sequence in programmed instruction.

8.

a. All or part of the genetic code of a cell or organism.

b. A characteristic sequence of developmental or behavioral events in a cell or organism, often considered to result from the expression of genes.

c. A stimulus or training sequence that causes an organism to exhibit a behavior, as by conditioning.

tr.v. **pro·grammed**, **pro·gram·ming**, **pro·grams** or **pro·gramed** or **pro·gram·ing**

1. To include or schedule in a program: *program a new musical composition*.

2. To design a program for; schedule the activities of.

3. To provide (a machine) with a set of coded working instructions.

4. To stimulate or train to perform automatically in a specified way: *consumers who have been programmed to buy brand names*.

5. To prepare an instructional sequence for (material to be taught) in programmed instruction.

6.

a. To provide (a cell or organism, for example) with a genetic program: *cells that are programmed to produce insulin*.

b. To cause (an effect or action) by means of a genetic program; determine genetically: *"The basic housekeeping duties that a human and a yeast cell must perform are the same and are programmed by recognizably similar genes inherited from a common, single-celled ancestor" (Nicholas Wade)*.

Idiom:

get with the program

To follow or conform to a set of guidelines or expectations.

[Late Latin *programma*, public notice, from Greek *programma*, *programmat-*, from *prographein*, to write publicly : *pro-*, forth; see [PRO-](#)² + *graphein*, to write; see [gerbh-](#) [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

pro·gram'ma·bil i·ty *n.*

pro gram'ma·ble *adj.*

Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

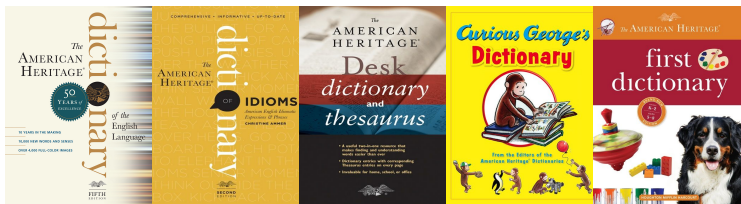
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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