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pro·hib·it  (prō-hīb ĭt)

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tr.v. **pro·hib·it·ed**, **pro·hib·it·ing**, **pro·hib·its**

1. To forbid by authority: *Smoking is prohibited in most theaters.* See Synonyms at [forbid](#).
2. To prevent; preclude: *Modesty prohibits me from saying what happened.*

[Middle English *prohibiten*, from Latin *prohibēre*, *prohibit-* : *pro-*, in front; see [PRO](#)¹ + *habēre*, to hold; see [ghabh-](#) [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:

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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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