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- n.*
1. Something that is bestowed voluntarily and without compensation: *I received several gifts for my birthday. Your gift of \$100 is greatly appreciated.*
 2. The act of giving: *The painting came into their possession by gift.*
 3. A talent, endowment, aptitude, or inclination: *She has a gift for playing the piano.*
- tr.v. gift·ed, gift·ing, gifts*
1. To present something as a gift to: *gifted his niece with a watch.*
 2. To give as a gift: *"King Charles II ... had gifted the land of Carolina to certain members of his court" ([Marilyn Yalom](#)).*
 3. To endow with: *Nature has gifted her with a fine voice.*

[Middle English, from Old Norse; see **ghabh-** [in the Appendix of 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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