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dictionary

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English
Language



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bin·na·cle  (bĭn ə-kəl)

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n.

A case that supports and protects a ship's compass, located near the helm.

[Alteration of Middle English *bitakille*, from Old Spanish *bitácula* or from Old Portuguese *bitácola*, both from Latin *habitāculum*, habitation, from *habitāre*, to inhabit; see **ghabh-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]



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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

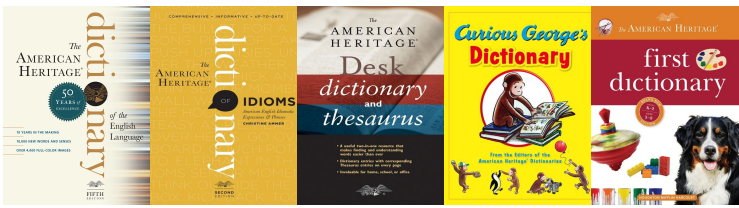
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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