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gun·sel  (gŭn səl)

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n.

Slang

A hoodlum or other criminal, especially one who carries a gun.

[Alteration (influenced by [GUN](#)) of earlier *gonsil*, *guntzel*, naïve youth, hobo's younger male lover, punk, from Yiddish *gendzl*, gosling, diminutive of *gandz*, goose, from Middle High German *gans*, from Old High German; see [ghans-](#) [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

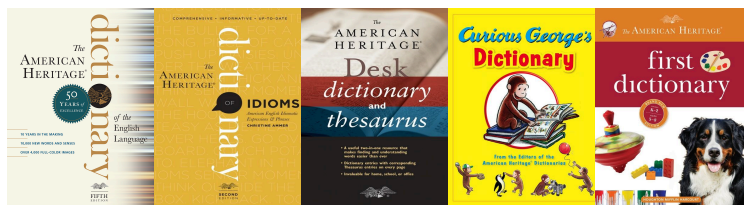
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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