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gon·zo  (gŏn zō)

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adj.

Slang

1. Using an exaggerated, highly subjective style, as in journalism: *"a hyperkinetic, gonzo version of Graham Greene" (New Yorker).*
2. Extreme, unconventional, or bizarre: *gonzo artwork; a gonzo snowboarding style.*
3. Crazy, excited, or unrestrained: *Fans went gonzo when the band came out.*

[Perhaps Italian, simpleton (perhaps short for *Borgonzone*, Burgundian) or Spanish *ganso*, dullard, goose (of Germanic origin; 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:

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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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