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gleam  (glēm)

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n.

1. A brief beam or flash of light: *saw gleams of daylight through the cracks.*
2. A steady but subdued shining; a glow: *the gleam of burnished gold.*
3. A brief or dim indication; a trace: *a gleam of intelligence.*

intr.v. **gleamed, gleam·ing, gleams**

1. To emit a gleam; flash or glow: "*Their tile roofs gleamed in the moon's pallid radiance*" (Laura Joh Rowland). See Synonyms at [flash](#).
2. To be reflected as a gleam: *The sun gleamed on the water.*
3. To be manifested or indicated briefly or faintly.

[Middle English *glem*, from Old English *glēm*; see **ghel-**² [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

gleam *er n.*

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