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glad¹  (glăd)

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adj. **glad·der, glad·dest**

1.

a. Experiencing or exhibiting joy and pleasure.

b. Appreciative: *was glad to be home.*

2. Providing joy and pleasure: *a glad occasion.*

3. Very willing; pleased: *glad to help.*

tr. & intr.v. **glad·ded, glad·ding, glads**

Archaic

To gladden.

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

glad *ly adv.*

glad *ness n.*

Synonyms: **glad**¹, **happy, cheerful, lighthearted, joyful, joyous**

These adjectives mean being in or showing good spirits. *Glad* often refers to the feeling that results from the gratification of a wish or from satisfaction with immediate circumstances: "*They were smiling, lifting their hands to me, glad to be together, glad to see me*" (Wendell Berry).

Happy applies to a feeling of pleasure, satisfaction, or joy: "*Ask yourself whether you are happy, and you cease to be so*" (John Stuart Mill).

Cheerful suggests characteristic good spirits: *a cheerful volunteer.*

Lighthearted stresses the absence of care: "*We knew that things were hard for our Bohemian neighbors, but the two girls were lighthearted and never complained*" ([Willa Cather](#)).

Joyful and *joyous* suggest lively, often exultant happiness: *a joyful heart; joyous laughter.*

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glad²  (glăd)

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n.

Botany

A gladiolus.

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

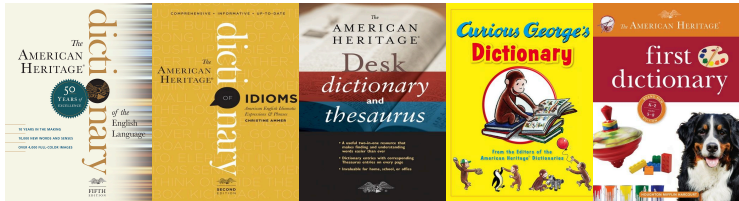
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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