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Language



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glide  (glīd)

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v. **glid·ed**, **glid·ing**, **glides**

v.*intr.*

1. To move in a smooth, effortless manner: *a submarine gliding through the water*. See Synonyms at [slide](#).
2. To move silently and furtively: *The thief glided across the room*.
3. To occur or pass imperceptibly: *The autumn days glided by*.
4. To fly without propulsion from wings or an engine.
5. *Music* To blend one tone into the next; slur.
6. *Linguistics* To articulate a glide in speech.

v.*tr.*

1. To cause to move or pass smoothly, silently, or imperceptibly: *glided the key into the lock*.
2. To operate or fly (an aircraft) without propulsion from wings or an engine: *She glided the paraglider over the trees*.

n.

1. The act of gliding.
2. *Music* A slur.
3. *Linguistics*
 - a. The transitional sound produced by passing from the articulatory position of one speech sound to that of another.
 - b. See [semivowel](#).

[Middle English *gliden*, from Old English *glīdan*; see **ghel**-² in the Appendix of 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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