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dictionary

of the
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Language



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for·get  (fər-gět , fôr-)

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v. **for·got** (-gŏt), **for·got·ten** (-gŏt n) or **for·got**, **for·get·ting**, **for·gets**

v.tr.

1. To be unable to remember (something).
2. To treat with thoughtless inattention; neglect: *forget one's family*.
3. To leave behind unintentionally.
4. To fail to mention.

5.

a. To banish from one's thoughts: *forget a disgrace*.

b. *Informal* To disregard on purpose. Usually used in the imperative: *Oh, forget it. I refuse to go!*

v.intr.

1. To cease remembering: *Let's forgive and forget*.
2. To fail or neglect to become aware at the proper or specified moment: *forgot about my dental appointment*.

Idiom:

forget (oneself)

To lose one's reserve, temper, or self-restraint.

[Middle English *forgeten*, from Old English *forgietan*; see **ghend-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

for·get ter n.

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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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