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HERITAGE®

dictionary

of the  
English  
Language

  


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**harp·si·chord**  (härp sĭ-kôrd')

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*n.*

A keyboard instrument whose strings are plucked by means of quills or plectrums.

[Alteration of obsolete French *harpechorde*, from Italian *arpicordo* : *arpa*, harp (from Late Latin *harpa*, of Germanic origin) + *corda*, string (from Latin *chorda*, from Greek *khordē*; see **gher-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)).]

**harp si·chord'ist** *n.*

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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:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

[Semitic Roots](#)

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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