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GUT

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gut (gŭt)

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- n.*
- The digestive tract or a portion thereof, especially the intestine or stomach.
 - The embryonic digestive tube, consisting of the foregut, the midgut, and the hindgut.
 - guts** The bowels or entrails; viscera.
 - Informal* A large belly or abdomen, especially one resulting from overeating or a sedentary lifestyle: “*Aldo, old before his time, had grown a gut and developed a persistent phlegmy cough*” (Michael Byers).
 - Informal*
 - Innermost emotional or visceral response: *She felt in her gut that he was guilty.*
 - guts** The inner or essential parts: “*The best part of a good car ... is its guts*” (Leigh Allison Wilson).
 - guts** *Informal* Courage; fortitude: *It takes guts to be a rock climber.*
 - Thin, tough cord made from the intestines of animals, usually sheep, used as strings for musical instruments or as surgical sutures.
 - Fibrous material taken from the silk gland of a silkworm before it spins a cocoon, used for fishing tackle.
 - A narrow passage or channel.
 - Sports*
 - The central, lengthwise portion of a playing area.
 - The players occupying this space: *The fullback ran up the gut of the defense.*
 - Slang* A gut course.
tr.v. gut-ted, gut-ting, guts
 - To remove the intestines or entrails of; eviscerate.
 - To extract essential or major parts of: *gut a manuscript.*
 - To destroy the interior of: *Fire gutted the house.*
 - To reduce or destroy the effectiveness of: *A stipulation added at the last minute gutted the ordinance.*
- adj.*
Slang
Arousing or involving basic emotions; visceral: “*Conservationism is a gut issue in the West*” (Saturday Review).
Idiom:
gut it out *Slang*
To show pluck and perseverance in the face of opposition or adversity.

[From Middle English *guttas*, entrails, from Old English *guttas*; see **gheu-** in the Appendix of Indo-European roots.]

gut *ty adj.*

Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

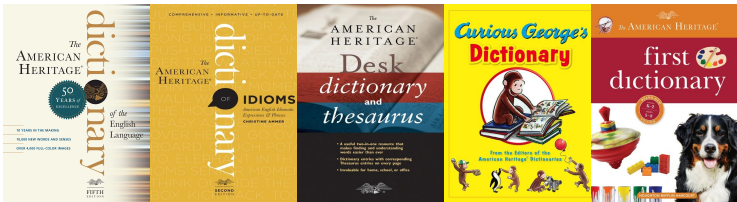
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

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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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