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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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font¹  (fɒnt)

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n.

1. A basin for holding baptismal water in a church.
2. A receptacle for holy water; a stoup.
3. The oil reservoir in an oil-burning lamp.
4. An abundant source; a fount: *She was a font of wisdom and good sense.*

[Middle English, from Old English, from Late Latin *fōns*, *font-*, from Latin, fountain.]

font al (fɒn təl) *adj.*

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font²  (fɒnt)

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n.

Printing

A complete set of type of one size and face.

[French *fonte*, casting, from Old French (from Vulgar Latin **fundita*, from Late Latin, feminine of **funditus*, past participle of Latin *fundere*, to pour forth; see [FONDANT](#)) or from Old French *fondre*, to melt (from Latin *fundere*).]

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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:

[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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