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dictionary

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English
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ret·ro·gress  (rĕt rə-grĕs', rĕt'rə-grĕs)

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intr.v. **ret·ro·gressed**, **ret·ro·gress·ing**, **ret·ro·gress·es**

1. To return to an earlier, inferior, or less complex condition.
2. To go or move backward.

[Latin *retrōgradī*, **retrōgress-*: *retrō-*, retro- + *gradī*, to go; see **ghredh-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

ret'ro·gres sion (-grĕsh ən) *adj.*

ret'ro·gres sive *adj.*

re'tro·gres sive·ly *adv.*

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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](#)

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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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