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AMERICAN
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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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couth  (k th)

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adj.

Refined; sophisticated: *"We forgot ... all the promises we'd made to be civilized and ladylike, couth and kempt" (Karen Russell).*

n.

Refinement; sophistication: *"The man has no couth" (Los Angeles Times).*

[Back-formation from [UNCOUTH](#).]

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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:

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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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