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fil·i·gree  (fĭl ǐ-grē')

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- n.*
1. Delicate and intricate ornamental work made from gold, silver, or other fine twisted wire.
 2.
 - a. An intricate, delicate, or fanciful ornamentation.
 - b. A design resembling such ornamentation: *filigrees of frosting on a cake.*
- tr.v. fil·i·greet, fil·i·gree·ing, fil·i·grees*
To decorate with or as if with filigree.

[Alteration of French *filigrane*, from Italian *filigrana* : Latin *filum*, thread; see **g^whī-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#) + Latin *grānum*, grain; see **g ā-no-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

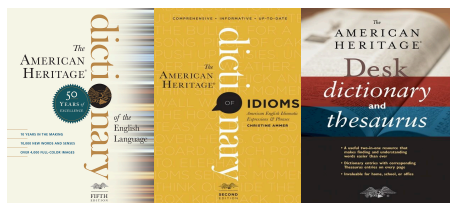
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

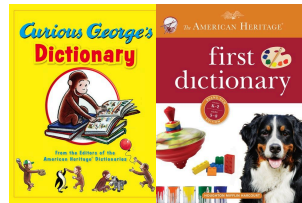
[Semitic Roots](#)

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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