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in·cise  (ĭn-sīz)

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tr.v. **in·cised, in·cis·ing, in·cis·es**

1. To cut into, as with a sharp instrument: *incised the tablet with chisels; a plateau that had been deeply incised by streams.*

2.

a. To engrave (designs or writing, for example) into a surface; carve.

b. To engrave designs, writing, or other marks into.

[French *inciser*, from Old French *enciser*, from Vulgar Latin **incīsāre*, frequentative of Latin *incīdere*, *incīs-* : *in-*, *in-*; see [in-](#)² + *caedere*, to cut; see **kaa-id-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

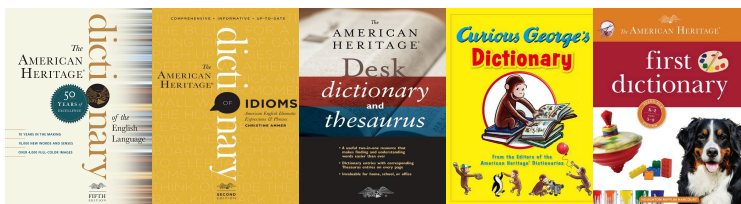
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

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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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