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can·dle  (kăn dl)

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n.

1.

a. A solid, usually cylindrical mass of tallow, wax, or other fatty substance with an axially embedded wick that is burned to provide light.

b. Something resembling this object in shape or use.

2. Physics An obsolete unit of luminous intensity, originally defined in terms of a wax candle with standard composition, later in terms of a carbon-filament lamp, and superseded by the candela. Also called *international candle*.

tr.v. **can·dled, can·dling, can·dles**

To examine (an egg) for freshness or fertility by holding it before a bright light.

[Middle English *candel*, from Old English and from Anglo-Norman *candele*, both from Latin *candēla*, from *candēre*, to shine; see **kand-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

can dler *n.*

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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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