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in·cense ¹ (ĩn-sěns)

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tr.v. **in·censed, in·cens·ing, in·cens·es**

To cause to be extremely angry; infuriate.

[Middle English *encensen*, from Old French *incenser*, from Late Latin *incēnsāre*, to sacrifice, burn, from Latin *incēnsus*, past participle of *incendere*, to set on fire; see **kand-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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in·cense ² (ĩn sěns')

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n.

1.

a. An aromatic substance, such as wood or a gum, that is burned to produce a pleasant odor.

b. The smoke or odor produced by the burning of such a substance.

2. A pleasant smell.

tr.v. **in·censed, in·cens·ing, in·cens·es**

1. To perfume with incense.

2. To burn incense to (a deity, for example) as a ritual offering.

[Middle English *encens*, from Old French, from Latin *incēnsum*, from neuter past participle of *incendere*, to set on fire; see **kand-** [in the Appendix of 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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