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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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en·ceinte¹  (ĕn-sānt , än-sānt)

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adj.

Carrying an unborn child; pregnant.

[French, from Old French, ultimately from Latin *inciēns*, pregnant; see **keuə-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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en·ceinte²  (ĕn-sānt , än-sant , än-sant)

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n.

1. An encircling fortification, as around a fort, castle, or town.
2. A structure or an area protected by an encircling fortification.

[French, from Late Latin *incincta*, from feminine past participle of *incingere*, to surround closely : Latin *in-*, in; see **in-**² + Latin *ingere*, to gird; see **kenk-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]



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enceinte2

aerial photograph of the 1212–1225 fortified church of Prejmer, Romania

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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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