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cheer  (chîr)

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- n.*
- a.** A shout of approval, encouragement, or congratulation: *a remark that drew cheers from the crowd.*
 - b.** A short, rehearsed jingle or phrase, shouted in unison by a squad of cheerleaders.
- 2.* Comfort or encouragement: *a message of cheer.*
- 3.* Lightness of spirits or mood; gaiety or joy: *a happy tune, full of cheer.*
- 4.* Festive food and drink; refreshment: *did not refrain from sampling their holiday cheer.*
- v. cheered, cheer-ing, cheers**
- v.intr.*
- a.** To shout cheers. See Synonyms at [applaud](#).
 - b.** To express praise or approval: *Bloggers cheered when the favorable decision was announced.*
- 2.* To become cheerful: *had lunch and soon cheered up.*
- v.tr.*
- a.** To encourage with cheers: *The fans cheered the runners on.* See Synonyms at [encourage](#).
 - b.** To salute or acclaim with cheers; applaud.
 - c.** To express praise or approval for; acclaim: *cheered the results of the election.*
- 2.* To make happier or more cheerful: *a warm fire that cheered us.*

[Middle English *chere*, expression, mood, from Old French *chiere*, face, from Late Latin *cara*, from Greek *kara*, head; see [ker-¹](#) [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

cheer *er n.*

cheer *ing-ly adv.*

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[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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