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rhi·noc·er·os  (rī-nŏs ə-r-əs)

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n. pl. **rhinoceros** or **rhi·noc·er·os·es**

Any of several large thick-skinned ungulate mammals of the family Rhinocerotidae, having one or two upright horns on the snout, and including the black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*) and white rhinoceros (*Ceratotherium simum*) of Africa, the Indian rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) of India and Nepal, and the Javan rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros sondaicus*) and Sumatran rhinoceros (*Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*) of Southeast Asia.

[Middle English *rinoceros*, from Latin *rhīnocerōs*, from Greek *rhīnokerōs* : *rhīno-*, rhino- + *keras*, horn; see **ker-**¹ in [the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]



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rhinoceros

white rhinoceros *Ceratotherium simum*

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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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