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car·di·a  (kär dē-ə)

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n. pl. **car·di·ae** (-dē-ē') or **car·di·as**

1. The opening of the esophagus into the stomach.
2. The upper portion of the stomach that adjoins this opening.

[Greek *kardiā*, heart, cardiac orifice of the stomach; see **kerd-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

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:

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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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