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cre·dence  (krēd ns)

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n.

1.

a. Acceptance as true or valid; belief: *I wouldn't put too much credence in that story.* See Synonyms at [belief](#).

b. Credibility; plausibility: *"A number of other details ... lend credence to her account" (Jane Mayer).*

2. Recommendation; credentials: *a letter of credence.*

3. A small table or shelf for holding the bread, wine, and vessels of the Eucharist when they are not in use at the altar.

[Middle English, from Old French, from Medieval Latin *crēdentia*, from Latin *crēdēns*, *crēdent*-, present participle of *crēdere*, to believe; see **kerd**- [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

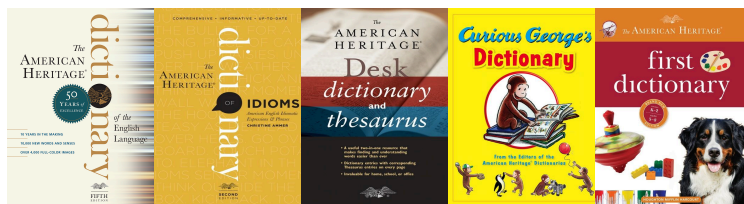
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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