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cav·ern  (kāv ərn)

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n.

1. A large cave.
2. A large underground chamber, as in a cave.

tr.v. cav·erned, cav·ern·ing, cav·erns

1. To enclose in or as if in a cavern.
2. To hollow out.

[Middle English *caverne*, from Old French, from Latin *caverna*, from *cavus*, hollow; see **κευα-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

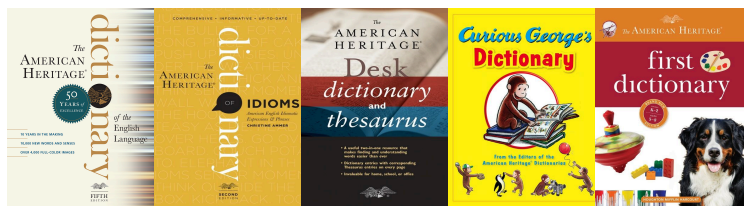
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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