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hind¹  (hīnd) also **hind·er** (hīn dər)

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adj.

Located at or forming the back or rear; posterior: *an animal's hind legs; the hinder part of a steer.*

[Middle English *hinde*, short for *bihinde*, behind, from Old English *bihindan*; see **ko-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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hin·der¹  (hīn dər)

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v. **hin·dered**, **hin·der·ing**, **hin·ders**

v.tr.

To obstruct or delay the progress of: *a snowfall hindered the mountain climbers; lack of funds that hindered research.*

v.intr.

To interfere with action or progress.

[Middle English *hindren*, from Old English *hindrian*; see **ko-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

hin der·er *n.*

Synonyms: **hinder**¹, **hamper**¹, **impede**, **obstruct**, **encumber**

These verbs mean to slow or prevent progress or movement. To *hinder* is to hold back or delay, as by barring the way forward: *The unfair performance review threatened to hinder her career.*

Hamper suggests the imposition of restrictions or limitations: *"He was a little hard of hearing; it hampered him in learning"* ([Oliver La Farge](#)).

To *impede* is to slow by making action or movement difficult: *"[The] wagon proceeded down the street at a slow walk, impeded by the crush of curiosity seekers"* (Stephen O'Connor).

Obstruct implies the presence of obstacles: *Passage of the bill was obstructed by a filibuster.*

To *encumber* is to weigh down, as with complications or difficulties: *"[King] Leopold particularly envied the Hapsburgs because, unlike him, they were little encumbered by parliaments and constitutions"* ([Adam Hochschild](#)).

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hind·er²  (hīn dər)

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adj.

Variant of [hind](#)¹.

Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

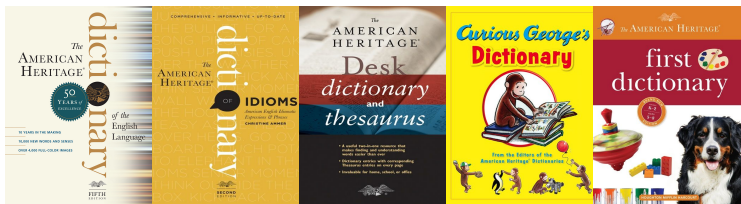
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

[Semitic Roots](#)

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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