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dictionary

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gar·ble  (gär bəl)

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tr.v. **gar·bled, gar·bling, gar·bles**

1. To mix up or distort to such an extent as to make misleading or incomprehensible: *The report garbled all the historical facts.*
2. To scramble (a signal or message), as by erroneous encoding or faulty transmission.
3. *Archaic* To sort out; cull.

n.

The act or an instance of garbling: *a garble of nonsense syllables.*

[Middle English *garbelen*, to inspect and remove refuse from spices, from Anglo-Norman *garbeler*, to sift, and from Medieval Latin *garbellāre*, both from Arabic *ġarbala*, to select, from *ġirbāl*, sieve, from Late Latin *crībellum*, diminutive of Latin *crībrum*; see **krei-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

gar bler (-blər) *n.*

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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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