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en·crust  (ĕn·krŭst) also **in·crust** (ĭn·)

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tr.v. **en·crust·ed**, **en·crust·ing**, **en·crusts** also **in·crust·ed** or **in·crust·ing** or **in·crusts**

1. To cover or coat with or as if with a crust: *tires encrusted with dried mud; legalities that were encrusted with tradition.*
2. To decorate by inlaying or overlaying with a contrasting material: *encrust wood paneling with ivory.*

[Possibly from French *incruster*, from Latin *incrustāre* : *in-*, on; see [EN-](#)¹ + *crusta*, crust; see **kreus-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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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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