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quar·rel¹  (kwôr əl, kwŏr -)

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n.

1. An interaction in which the parties involved express angry disagreement with one another: *I changed the subject to avoid being drawn into a quarrel.*

2. A reason for a dispute or argument: *We have no quarrel with the findings of the committee.*

intr.v. **quar·reled**, **quar·rel·ing**, **quar·rels** or **quar·relled** or **quar·rel·ling**

1. To express angry disagreement; engage in a quarrel: *The children quarreled over the last piece of cake.* See Synonyms at [argue](#).

2. To find fault or disagree: *I quarrel with your conclusions.*

[Middle English *querele*, from Old French, complaint, from Latin *querella*, *querēla*, from *querī*, to complain; see **kwes-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

quar rel·er (quar rel·ler) *n.*

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quar·rel²  (kwôr əl, kwŏr -)

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n.

1. A bolt for a crossbow.

2. A tool, such as a stonemason's chisel, that has a squared head.

3. A small diamond-shaped or square pane of glass in a latticed window.

[Middle English *quarel*, from Old French, from Vulgar Latin **quadrellus*, diminutive of Late Latin *quadrus*, square, from Latin *quadrum*; see **k^wetwer-** [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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[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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