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per·cuss  (pər-kŭs)

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tr.v. **per·cussed**, **per·cuss·ing**, **per·cuss·es**

To strike or tap firmly, as in medical percussion: *The doctor percussed the patient's chest.*

[Latin *percutere*, *percuss-*, to strike hard : *per-*, *per-* + *quater*, to strike; see **kwēt-** [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:

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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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