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mid·riff  (mĭd rĭf)

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n.

1. See [diaphragm](#).

2. The middle outer portion of the front of the human body, extending roughly from just below the breast to the waistline.

[Middle English *midrif*, from Old English *midhrif*: *midd*, mid; see [MID](#)¹ + *hrif*, belly; see **k^wrep-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

mid riff *adj.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

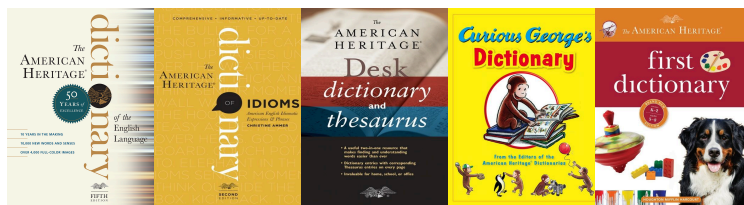
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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