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AMERICAN  
HERITAGE®

dictionary

of the  
English  
Language

  


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**cor·set**  (kôr sĭt)

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*n.*

1. A close-fitting undergarment, often reinforced by stays, worn to support and shape the waistline, hips, and breasts.
2. A medieval outer garment, especially a laced jacket or bodice.

*tr.v.* **cor·set·ed**, **cor·set·ing**, **cor·sets**

To enclose in or as if in a corset.

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[Middle English, bodice, from Old French, diminutive of *cors*, body, from Latin *corpus*; see **k<sup>w</sup>rep-** [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:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

[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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