

***ab**¹ Runic: 𐌰 𐌴 Pronunciation: /'aβ/
adverb

Meanings

away, off

Etymology

From Proto-Indo-European **apó*, alternatively reconstructed as **h₂epó*. The **b* reflects Verner's Law in the pre-Germanic development of **p* in a weakly stressed/pretonic particle, though the accentual prehistory of this particle class is not entirely straightforward (Fulk 2018: 102; Ringe 2017: 125, 141). Cognate with Sanskrit अप (ápa), Ancient Greek ἀπό (apó), Latin *ab*, and probably with Hittite 𐎠𐎡𐎣𐎤 (*a-ap-pa* /*āppa*/); the Anatolian form without a reflex of the laryngeal is one reason to prefer **apó* (Byrd 2015: 8; Dunkel 2014: 66–83).

Descendants

***ab, *af** (Proto-West Germanic)

av, af (Old Dutch)

av, af (Middle Dutch)

aaf, aof (Limburgish)

of (West Flemish)

***ab, *af** (Proto-West Germanic)

av, af (Old Dutch)

av, af (Middle Dutch)

af (Dutch)

af (Afrikaans)

***ab, *af** (Proto-West Germanic)

ob, æf, af, of (Old English)

of, off (Middle English)
of, off (English)
of, off, af, aff (Scots)

***ab, *af** (Proto-West Germanic)

af, of (Old Frisian)
oaw, ou (Saterland Frisian)
af, ôf (West Frisian)

***ab, *af** (Proto-West Germanic)

ab, av, af (Old High German)
ab, av, af (Middle High German)
of (Luxembourgish)
אָפּ (op) (Yiddish)

***ab, *af** (Proto-West Germanic)

ab, av, af (Old High German)
ab, av, af (Middle High German)
ab (German)
ab (Norwegian Bokmål)

***ab, *af** (Proto-West Germanic)

af (Old Saxon)
af (Middle Low German)
af, of (Low German)
auf (Plautdietsch)

***ǀǂ (*ab)** (Proto-Norse)

af (Old Norse)
af (Danish)
av (Faroese)
af (Icelandic)
av (Norwegian Bokmål)
av (Norwegian Nynorsk)

***ǀǂ (*ab)** (Proto-Norse)

af (Old Norse)
af, āf, aff (Old Swedish)
av, af (Swedish)

𐌱𐌴 (af) (Gothic)

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