

***aba-**

Runic: ᚠ ᚢ ᚠ -

Pronunciation: /α.βα/

prefix

Function

combining form of *ab ('away, off')

Etymology

From Proto-Indo-European **apó*, alternatively reconstructed as **h₂epó*. The **b* reflects Verner's Law: in the inherited preverb **apó-*, **p* followed the unaccented initial syllable **a-*, since the accent fell on the second syllable, and the resulting voiced fricative was retained when the element became a bound Proto-Germanic prefix; the accentual history of Indo-European preverbs is, however, 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 𐎧𐎶𐎵𐎫𐎠𐎼𐎪𐎣 (*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(a), *af(a)** (Proto-West Germanic)

ava, af- (Old Dutch)

ave, af (Middle Dutch)

aaf, aof (Limburgish)

of (West Flemish)

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

ava, af- (Old Dutch)

ave, af (Middle Dutch)

af (Dutch)

af (Afrikaans)

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

ob, æf, af, of (Old English)
of, off (Middle English)
of, off (English)
of, off, af, aff (Scots)

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

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

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

aba, ab, ava, af (Old High German)
abe, ab, ave, af (Middle High German)
of (Luxembourgish)
אָפּ (op) (Yiddish)

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

aba, ab, ava, af (Old High German)
abe, ab, ave, af (Middle High German)
ab (German)
ab (Norwegian Bokmål)

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

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

***𐌰 𐌱 (*ab)** (Proto-Norse)

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

***𐌰 𐌱 (*ab)** (Proto-Norse)

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

𐌱𐌴 (af) (Gothic)

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