

***abnija** Runic: ᚠ ᚢ ᚋ ᚢ ᚢ ᚦ Pronunciation: /'aβ.ni.jǎ/

noun · neuter · ja-stem

Meanings

material, substance, stuff; the matter or means out of which something is made or by which something is carried out

Etymology

From pre-Germanic **h₃ep-n-yo-m*, a neuter **-yo-* derivative (forms neuter collective nouns from nouns) of the *n*-stem/oblique member of the Proto-Indo-European heteroclitic **h₃óp-r̥ ~ *h₃ép-n-* or similar *n*-stem formation. The original sense was probably ‘that which pertains to property/resources’ > ‘resources, means’ > ‘stuff, material’. This also makes **abnijanq* a secondary denominative from **abnija*, rather than the source of the noun (Johnsen 2005b: 258 n. 38; Orel 2003: 1). Compare Vedic Sanskrit अप्नस् (*ápnas-*), Hittite 𐎶𐎵𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶 (*ḫa-ap-pí-na- /ḫappina-/*), and Latin *opulentus*, all belonging to the same PIE **h₃ep-/*h₃op-* complex (Kloekhorst 2008: 295–97; Johnsen 2005b: 258; Watkins 2011: s.v. *op-*). Within Proto-Germanic, it is probably related to **abô* and **abraz*, respectively from animate *n*-stem and *r*-member derivatives of the same heteroclitic base (Johnsen 2005b: 258–60).

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	abnija	abnijō
Acc.	abnija	abnijō
Gen.	abnijas, abnīs	abnijō
Dat.	abnijai	abnijamaz
Inst.	abnijō	abnijamiz
Voc.	abnija	abnijō

Descendants

***abni** (Proto-West Germanic)

 ***efne** (Old English)

andefne (Old English)

efni (Old Norse)

evni (Faroese)

ämne (Gutnish)

efni (Icelandic)

even (Norn)

efni (Old Norse)

evne (Danish)

evne (Norwegian Bokmål)

evne (Norwegian Nynorsk)

efni (Old Norse)

efne, efene, evene, even (Middle English)

evyne, evyn, evin (Scots)

efni (Old Norse)

emne, evne, ebne (Norwegian)

emne (Danish)

emne (Norwegian Bokmål)

efni (Old Norse)

æfni (Old Swedish)

ämne (Swedish)

***ainëh** (Proto-Finnic)

aine (Finnish)

aineh (Karelian)

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Related Words

Words mentioned in this entry

***abnijaṇa** verb ***abô** noun ***abraz** adjective

Entries that mention this word

***abnijaṇa** verb