

***akwiśī** Runic: ᚦᚢᚱᚱᚱᚱᚱᚱ Pronunciation: /'a.kʷi.si:/

noun · feminine · ī/jō-stem

Meanings

ax; a cutting tool consisting of a sharpened head attached to a handle

Etymology

From Early Germanic **akwiśī* ~ **akuzjō-*, probably from pre-Germanic **h₂egʷés-ih₂* ~ **h₂egus-yéh₂-*, forming a proterokinetic *ī/jō*-stem paradigm, subsequently leveled differently in Gothic and Northwest Germanic (Mottausch 2011: 97; Ringe 2017: 301–302). Compare Ancient Greek ἀξίνη (*axínē*) < Proto-Indo-European **h₂egʷs-i-* and Latin *ascia* < PIE **h₂esk-ieh₂-*, with both exhibiting differences in the root consonants and suffixation compared to Proto-Germanic. The word is therefore likely a prehistoric *Wanderwort* or loan from an unidentified non-Indo-European language rather than an inherited PIE lexeme. Possibly related are Akkadian 𒂗𒂍𒂗𒂍𒂗𒂍𒂗𒂍𒂗𒂍 (*ḥaṣṣinnum*) and its loan descendant Talmudic Aramaic ܚܫܫܝܢܐ (*ḥāṣṣīnā*), although the historical relationship between the Semitic and European forms remains uncertain (Beekes 2010: 111; de Vaan 2008: 57; Kroonen 2013: s.v. **akwesī-*).

Declension

Due to Ablaut, the direct cases have full-grade -wi- while the oblique cases showed zero-grade -u-.

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	akwiṣī	akuzijôz
Acc.	akuzijō	akuzijōz
Gen.	akuzijōz	akuzijô
Dat.	akuzijōi	akuzijōmaz
Inst.	akuzijō	akuzijōmiz
Voc.	akwiṣī	akuzijōz

Descendants

***akusi** (Proto-West Germanic)

- acus** (Old Dutch)
 - ākes, āex** (Middle Dutch)
 - aaks** (Limburgish)

***akusi** (Proto-West Germanic)

- acus** (Old Dutch)
 - ākes, āex** (Middle Dutch)
 - aks, aaks, akst** (Dutch)

***akusi** (Proto-West Germanic)

- æx, æces, acas, eax** (Old English)
 - ax, axe, ex, exe** (Middle English)
 - axe, ax** (English)
 - aix** (Scots)

***akusi** (Proto-West Germanic)

- axa** (Old Frisian)
 - Äkse** (Saterland Frisian)

***akusi** (Proto-West Germanic)

- ackis, ackus** (Old High German)
 - ackes, aks, ax, axt** (Middle High German)
 - Axt** (German)
 - Aaxt** (Luxembourgish)

***akusi** (Proto-West Germanic)

| **akus** (Old Saxon)

| | **axe, ēxe, akes** (Middle Low German)

| | | **Akjs** (Plautdietsch)

***akusi** (Proto-West Germanic)

| **akus** (Old Saxon)

| | **axe, ēxe, akes** (Middle Low German)

| | | **Ax, Äx, Ex** (Low German)

øx, qx (Old Norse)

| **øks** (Faroese)

| **öxi, exi, öx** (Icelandic)

| **øks** (Norwegian Bokmål)

| **øks** (Norwegian Nynorsk)

øx, qx (Old Norse)

| **øx, øxæ** (Old Danish)

| | **økse** (Danish)

øx, qx (Old Norse)

| **øx, øxa** (Old Swedish)

| | **yxa** (Swedish)

𐌱𐌿𐌿𐌰 (aqizi) (Gothic)

***ākšōjō** (Proto-Samic)

***okъša, *okъšy** (Proto-Slavic)

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