

***alkō** Runic: 𐌱 𐌿 𐌹 𐌺 Pronunciation: /'al.kõ:/

noun · feminine · ōn-stem

Meanings

a kind of sea bird, auk

Etymology

Probably from a western Indo-European water-bird stem **h₁el-/***h₁ol-*, with a velar animal-name formant; compare Welsh *alarch*, Old Irish *elu*, and Latin *olor*. Proto-Germanic **-k-* belongs to a formant particularly frequent in Germanic bird names, as also **habukaz* and **falkô* (de Vries 1977: 6, s.v. *alka*; Kluge 1899: 31 §61b; Kroonen 2013: s.v. **alkōn-*; Pokorny 1959: 303–304, s.v. *el-*). The deeper Indo-European connection remains somewhat uncertain.

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	alkō	alkōniz
Acc.	alkōnų	alkōnunz
Gen.	alkōniz	alkōnô
Dat.	alkōni	alkōmaz
Inst.	alkōnē	alkōmiz
Voc.	alkō	alkōniz

Descendants

alka (Old Norse)

alke (Danish)

alke (Norwegian Bokmål)

alka (Old Norse)

álka (Faroese)

alke, alka, ålke (Norwegian Nynorsk)

alka (Old Norse)

álka (Icelandic)

auk (English)

alka (Old Norse)

alka (Swedish)

alk (Dutch)

Alk (German)

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Related Words

Words mentioned in this entry

*falkô noun *habukaz noun