

***amsaz** Runic: ᚱᚱᚱᚱᚱ Pronunciation: /'am.saz/

noun · masculine · a-stem

Meanings

1. shoulder
2. ridge; long, low hill

Etymology

From an inherited Proto-Indo-European thematic masculine meaning ‘shoulder’, conventionally reconstructible as *h₂óms*, though the identity of the laryngeal and the internal prehistory of the noun are disputed. Kroonen (2013: 25) reconstructs **h₃ém-so-*, while Höfler (2018: 129–146) proposes an ablauting paradigm with nominative singular **h₁ómh_xsos* > **h₁ómsos* beside weak **h₁emh_xso-*, the latter accounting for Latin *umerus* without otherwise unmotivated vowel epenthesis; Ancient Greek ὄμος (*ômos*) is likewise compatible with **h₁ómsos* under recent analyses of early Greek vowel nasalization (Höfler 2018: 129–146); (Kostopoulos 2025; Mallory & Adams 1997: 515–16). Cognates include Sanskrit अंस (*ámsa*), Armenian ռԼՍ (*us*), Tocharian A *es*, and Tocharian B *āntse*.

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	amsaz	amsōz, amsōs
Acc.	amsa	amsanz
Gen.	amsas, amsis	amsô
Dat.	amsai	amsamaz
Inst.	amsō	amsamiz
Voc.	ams	amsōz, amsōs

Descendants

- áss (Old Norse)
 - ǣs (Elfdalian)
 - ásur (Faroese)
 - as (Gutnish)
 - ás (Icelandic)
 - ås (Norwegian Nynorsk)

- áss (Old Norse)
 - ås (Danish)
 - ås (Norwegian Bokmål)

- áss (Old Norse)
 - ās (Old Swedish)
 - ås (Swedish)

𐌰𐌿𐍃 (ams) (Gothic)

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