

***anguz** Runic: 𐌺𐌿𐌽𐌶 Pronunciation: /'aŋ.guz/

adjective · u-stem

Meanings

narrow, tight

Etymology

From the Proto-Indo-European Caland-system *u*-stem adjective **h₂énǵʰ-u-s* ~ **h₂nǵʰ-éw-s*, from the root **h₂enǵʰ-*, probably reflecting earlier **h₂emǵʰ-*; Hittite 𒀭𒄠𒂍𒀭 (𒀭𒄠𒂍𒀭) (*ḫa-ma-an-ki* /*ḫamank-/*) preserves the original **-m-* before the dorsal (Bernard 2025: 93–95; Kroonen 2013: s.v. **angwu-*; Ringe 2017: 111; Rix et al. 2001: 264–65; Wodtko et al. 2008: 301–303). The old proterokinetic inflection **h₂énǵʰ-u-s* ~ **h₂nǵʰ-éw-s* also accounts for the alternating Proto-Germanic stem **angu-* ~ **angw-*, seen in **anguz* vs. **angwānq*. Gothic 𐌰𐌿𐌿𐌿𐌸 (*aggwus*) generalized the labiovelarized stem into the masculine (Ringe 2017: 111). Direct or closely corresponding Indo-European formations include Vedic Sanskrit अङ्गु (*aṃhú*), Proto-Celtic *angus*, reflected in Old Irish *ing*, *iung*, and Proto-Slavic *qzъkъ*; Latin *angustus* is instead a related derivative in **-os-to-* from the same root (de Vaan 2008: 42, s.v. *angō*, *-ere*; Wodtko et al. 2008: 301). The verbal meaning remains particularly transparent in Ancient Greek ἄγκω (*ánkhō*) and Latin *angō*, while the widespread development ‘constriction’ → ‘distress, anxiety’ explains related formations such as **angustiz* (Bernard 2025: 94–95; Watkins 2011: s.v. *angh-*).

Declension

Strong declension

Case	Sg. Masc.	Sg. Fem.	Sg. Neut.	Pl. Masc.	Pl. Fem.	Pl. Neut.
Nom.	anguz	angwī	angu, -jatō	angwijai	angwijōz	angwijō
Acc.	angwijanō	angwijō	angu, -jatō	angwijanz	angwijōz	angwijō
Gen.	angwijas, angwīs	angwijaizōz	angwijas, angwīs	angwijaizô	angwijaizô	angwijaizô
Dat.	angwijammai	angwijaizōi	angwijammai	angwijaimaz	angwijaimaz	angwijaimaz
Inst.	angwijanō	angwijaizō	angwijanō	angwijaimiz	angwijaimiz	angwijaimiz

Weak declension

Case	Sg. Masc.	Sg. Fem.	Sg. Neut.	Pl. Masc.	Pl. Fem.	Pl. Neut.
Nom.	angwijō	angwijō	angwijō	angwijaniz	angwijōniz	angwijōnō
Acc.	angwijanų	angwijōnų	angwijō	angwijanunz	angwijōnunz	angwijōnō
Gen.	angwīniz	angwijōniz	angwīniz	angwijanô	angwijōnô	angwijanô
Dat.	angwīni	angwijōni	angwīni	angwijammaz	angwijōmaz	angwijammaz
Inst.	angwīnē	angwijōnē	angwīnē	angwijammiz	angwijōmiz	angwijammiz

Descendants

***angi** (Proto-West Germanic)

 ***engi** (Old Dutch)

enge (Middle Dutch)

ing (Limburgish)

***angi** (Proto-West Germanic)

 ***engi** (Old Dutch)

enge (Middle Dutch)

eng (Dutch)

eng (Afrikaans)

***angi** (Proto-West Germanic)

ange, onge, ænge, enge (Old English)

ange (Middle English)

***angi** (Proto-West Germanic)

ange, onge, ænge, enge (Old English)

angnægl (Old English)

agnail (Middle English)

angernail, wrangnail, ragnail (Scots)

***angi** (Proto-West Germanic)

ange, onge, ænge, enge (Old English)

angnægl (Old English)

agnail (Middle English)

agnail (English)

hangnail (English)

***angi** (Proto-West Germanic)

***enge** (Old Frisian)

angneil, ongneil (Old Frisian)

ääng (Saterland Frisian)

ing (West Frisian)

***angi** (Proto-West Germanic)

engi, enge (Old High German)

enge (Middle High German)

eng (German)

enk (Luxembourgish)

eng (Rhine Franconian)

ענג (eng) (Yiddish)

***angi** (Proto-West Germanic)

engi (Old Saxon)

enge (Middle Low German)

eng (Low German)

oŋgr (Old Norse)

öngur (Icelandic)

𐌰𐌿𐌶𐌹𐌸 (aggwus) (Gothic)

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Related Words

Words mentioned in this entry

*angustiz noun *angwānā verb

Entries that mention this word

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