

***arbaz** Runic: 𐌱𐌹𐌵𐌰𐌺𐌰 Pronunciation: /'ar.βaz/

noun · masculine · a-stem

Meanings

1. worker, laborer
2. working animal, draft animal; ox
3. inheritance, patrimony

Etymology

Probably from Proto-Indo-European **h₃órbʰos*, from **h₃erbʰ-*. Cognate with Old Armenian որբ (*orb*), Ancient Greek ὀρφανός (*orphanós*), Latin *orbus*, and Proto-Slavic **orbъ*. The inherited meaning ‘orphan’ is relatively secure, while ‘servant, worker’ represents a secondary semantic development associated with change of social status (Holopainen 2025: 89–94; Martzloff & Machajdíková 2023: 95–97; Olsen 2020: 153–56). Compare **arbaidiz*, whose precise formation remains disputed.

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	arbaz	arbōz, arbōs
Acc.	arbaꝥ	arbanz
Gen.	arbas, arbis	arbô
Dat.	arbai	arbamaz
Inst.	arbō	arbamiz
Voc.	arb	arbōz, arbōs

Descendants

arfr (Old Norse)
| **arfur** (Icelandic)

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Related Words

Words mentioned in this entry

*arbaidiz noun