

***armaz²**

Runic: ᚠ ᚲ ᚴ ᚦ ᚷ

Pronunciation: /'ar.maz/

adjective · a-stem

Meanings

1. poor, miserable
2. pitiful, pitiable

Etymology

From pre-Germanic **h₃orb^h-mó-s*, an **-mo-* adjective from Proto-Indo-European root **h₃erb^h-*, with loss of **b* before **m*: **arbma-* > **arma-* (Kroonen 2013: 35, s.v. **arma-* 2). Related to **h₃ór**b**^hos*, reflected in Old Armenian ռրբ (*orb*), Ancient Greek ὀρφανός (*orphanós*), and Latin *orbis*; the semantic development was probably through ‘bereft, deprived’ > ‘poor, pitiable’ (Holopainen 2025: 90–94; Martzloff & Machajdíkova 2023: 95–98). Kroonen also derives Old Norse *aumr* from a Proto-Norse variant produced by dissimilation of a form retaining the labial, parallel to Old Norse *haustr* < **harbistaz*. Alternatively, comparison with Hittite 𐎶𐎵𐎠𐎺𐎫 (*e-er-ma-an /erman-/*) and Sanskrit अर्मन् (*arman*) permits a reconstruction of **h₁or-mo-*, but Kroonen regards the **h₃orb^h-mo-s* analysis as preferable.

Declension

Strong declension

Case	Sg. Masc.	Sg. Fem.	Sg. Neut.	Pl. Masc.	Pl. Fem.	Pl. Neut.
Nom.	armaz	armō	armaꝥ, -atō	armai	armōz	armō
Acc.	armanꝥ	armꝥ	armaꝥ, -atō	armanz	armōz	armō
Gen.	armas, -is	armaizōz	armas, -is	armaizꝥ	armaizꝥ	armaizꝥ
Dat.	armammai	armaizōi	armammai	armaimaz	armaimaz	armaimaz
Inst.	armanō	armaizō	armanō	armaimiz	armaimiz	armaimiz

Weak declension

Case	Sg. Masc.	Sg. Fem.	Sg. Neut.	Pl. Masc.	Pl. Fem.	Pl. Neut.
Nom.	armō	armꝥ	armō	armaniz	armōniz	armōnō
Acc.	armanꝥ	armōnꝥ	armō	armanunz	armōnunz	armōnō
Gen.	arminiz	armōniz	arminiz	armanꝥ	armōnꝥ	armanꝥ
Dat.	armini	armōni	armini	armammaz	armōmaz	armammaz
Inst.	arminē	armōnē	arminē	armammiz	armōmiz	armammiz

Descendants

***arm** (Proto-West Germanic)

arm (Old Dutch)

arm (Middle Dutch)

erm (Limburgish)

***arm** (Proto-West Germanic)

arm (Old Dutch)

arm (Middle Dutch)

arm (Dutch)

arm (Afrikaans)

***arm** (Proto-West Germanic)

earm (Old English)

arm (Middle English)

arm (English)

arm (Scots)

***arm** (Proto-West Germanic)

erm (Old Frisian)

äärm (Saterland Frisian)

earm (West Frisian)

***arm** (Proto-West Germanic)

arm (Old High German)

arm (Middle High German)

arm (Cimbrian)

arm (German)

aarm (Luxembourgish)

aarem (Plautdietsch)

אַרעם (orem) (Yiddish)

***arm** (Proto-West Germanic)

 ***arm** (Old Saxon)

arm (Middle Low German)

arm (Low German)

oam, oarm (Plautdietsch)

armr (Old Norse)

arm (Danish)

armur (Faroese)

armur (Icelandic)

arm (Norwegian Bokmål)

arm (Norwegian Nynorsk)

arm (Swedish)

𐌶𐌵𐌿𐍂𐍱𐍰 (arms) (Gothic)

***armas**, ***armo** (Proto-Finnic)

[View on Wiktionary](#)

Related Words

Words mentioned in this entry

*harbistaz noun

Entries that mention this word

*armānā verb *armijana verb