

***aurijaz** Runic: ᚱᚲᚱᚱᚱᚱᚱᚱ Pronunciation: /'aʊ.ri.jaz/

noun · masculine · ja-stem

Meanings

1. an ounce, especially a unit of weight for precious metal
2. a unit of value or currency; money

Etymology

Traditionally regarded as borrowed from Latin *aureus*, whence Old Norse *eyrir*, plural *aurar* (de Vries 1977: 108). *Aureus* is derived from *aurum*, from Proto-Italic **auso-* < Proto-Indo-European **h₂e-h₂us-o-* (de Vaan 2008: 63). This derivation is disputed: the singular and plural reflect different stem formations (*ija*-stem *eyrir* beside apparently *a*-stem *aurar*), and the Scandinavian ounce of 26.8 g corresponds closely to the Roman *uncia*, not to the much lighter *aureus* (Ruthström 1993: 93–98). Ruthström instead derives *aurar* from an old Germanic *r*-extension related to **audaz*, with *eyrir* formed secondarily from it, but acknowledges that the proposed semantic development remains hypothetical (Ruthström 1993: 100–101, 117–18).

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	aurijaz	aurijōz, aurijōs
Acc.	aurija	aurijan
Gen.	aurijas, aurīs	aurijō
Dat.	aurijai	aurijamaz
Inst.	aurijō	aurijamiz
Voc.	aurī	aurijōz, aurijōs

Descendants

eyrir (Old Norse)

- oyra** (Faroese)
- äyri** (Finnish)
- öre** (Gutnish)
- eyrir** (Icelandic)
- øyre** (Norwegian Nynorsk)

eyrir (Old Norse)

- øræ** (Old Danish)
 - øre** (Danish)
 - øre** (Norwegian Bokmål)
 - øre** (Norwegian Nynorsk)

eyrir (Old Norse)

- ōri, ōre** (Old Swedish)
 - öre** (Swedish)

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Related Words

Words mentioned in this entry

*audaz noun