

Runic: 𐐆 𐐇 𐐈 𐐉 𐐊 𐐋 𐐌 𐐍 𐐎 𐐏 𐐐 𐐑 𐐒 𐐓 𐐔 𐐕 𐐖 𐐗 𐐘 𐐙 𐐚 𐐛 𐐜 𐐝 𐐞 𐐟 𐐠 𐐡 𐐢 𐐣 𐐤 𐐥 𐐦 𐐧 𐐨 𐐩 𐐪 𐐫 𐐬 𐐭 𐐮 𐐯 𐐰 𐐱 𐐲 𐐳 𐐴 𐐵 𐐶 𐐷 𐐸 𐐹 𐐺 𐐻 𐐼 𐐽 𐐾 𐐿

Pronunciation: /'aʊs.trɔː.mɛː.nɔːθs/

noun · masculine · consonant stem

Meanings

Easter month; the month corresponding approximately to April in the early Germanic calendar

Etymology

From **Austrō* + **mēnōþs*. The compound is directly reflected in Old English *Ēosturmōnaþ*/*Ēastermōnaþ* and Old High German *ōstarmānōd*; Bede explicitly equates Old English *Eosturmonath* with April and states that it had formerly been named after the goddess *Ēostre*, whose festival was celebrated in that month (Bede 1999: 54). Old English lexicographical evidence likewise identifies *eastermōnaþ* as Latin *Aprilis mensis*. The Easter name itself is a specifically West Germanic formation: Lehmann (1986a: 271) notes Old English *easter*, *eastron* beside Old High German *astra*, *ast(a)run* and Bede's association with *Ēostre*. The historicity and nature of *Ēostre* remain disputed, and recent scholarship cautions against assuming a demonstrably pan-Germanic goddess (Sermon 2022: 141).

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	austrōmēnōps	austrōmēnōpiz
Acc.	austrōmēnōpų	austrōmēnōpūnz
Gen.	austrōmēnōpiz	austrōmēnōpġ
Dat.	austrōmēnōpi	austrōmēnōpumaz
Inst.	austrōmēnōpē	austrōmēnōpumiz
Voc.	austrōmēnōp	austrōmēnōpiz

Descendants

Austrāmānōþ (Proto-West Germanic)

ōstermānōth (Old Dutch)

Austrāmānōþ (Proto-West Germanic)

eastermōnaþ (Old English)

Austrāmānōþ (Proto-West Germanic)

ōstarmānōd (Old High German)

Ostermonat (German)

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Related Words

Words mentioned in this entry

*Austrō proper noun *mēnōps noun