

***aþalaz** Runic: ᚱᚱᚱᚱᚱᚱ Pronunciation: /'a.θa.laz/

adjective · a-stem

Meanings

noble; of noble birth or lineage.

Etymology

A denominal adjective from **aþalq*. The Germanic evidence points to an older sense ‘ancestral, inherited’, whence ‘of noble birth, noble’ (Heidermanns 1993: 107–109; Orel 2003: 27). The Proto-Indo-European origin belongs with the base noun and remains uncertain. The traditional extra-Germanic comparisons are problematic (Lloyd & Springer 1988: s.v. *adal*¹), and recent work still treats **aþal-* as lacking a secure Indo-European etymology: Seebold (2017: 980) includes German reflex *Adel* (< **aþalq*) among Common Germanic words lacking a plausible extra-Germanic etymology.

Declension

Strong declension

Case	Sg. Masc.	Sg. Fem.	Sg. Neut.	Pl. Masc.	Pl. Fem.	Pl. Neut.
Nom.	aþalaz	aþalō	aþala, -atō	aþalai	aþalōz	aþalō
Acc.	aþalanō	aþalō	aþala, -atō	aþalanz	aþalōz	aþalō
Gen.	aþalas, -is	aþalaizōz	aþalas, -is	aþalaizô	aþalaizô	aþalaizô
Dat.	aþalammai	aþalaizôi	aþalammai	aþalaimaz	aþalaimaz	aþalaimaz
Inst.	aþalanō	aþalaizō	aþalanō	aþalaimiz	aþalaimiz	aþalaimiz

Weak declension

Case	Sg. Masc.	Sg. Fem.	Sg. Neut.	Pl. Masc.	Pl. Fem.	Pl. Neut.
Nom.	aþalô	aþalǫ	aþalô	aþalaniz	aþalōniz	aþalōnō
Acc.	aþalanu	aþalōnu	aþalô	aþalanunz	aþalōnunz	aþalōnō
Gen.	aþaliniz	aþalōniz	aþaliniz	aþalanġ	aþalōnġ	aþalanġ
Dat.	aþalini	aþalōni	aþalini	aþalammaz	aþalōmaz	aþalammaz
Inst.	aþalinē	aþalōnē	aþalinē	aþalammiz	aþalōmiz	aþalammiz

Descendants

*aþal (Proto-West Germanic)

 *athal (Old Dutch)

 adel (Middle Dutch)

 adel (Dutch)

 adel (Afrikaans)

*aþal (Proto-West Germanic)

 *athel, *ethel (Old Frisian)

 Oadel (Saterland Frisian)

 adel (West Frisian)

*aþal (Proto-West Germanic)

 adal (Old High German)

 adel (Middle High German)

 Adel (German)

 אַדל (adl) (Yiddish)

*aþal (Proto-West Germanic)

 *athal (Old Saxon)

 adel, adele, addel (Middle Low German)

 Adel (Low German)

 adel (Norwegian)

 adel (Swedish)

aðall (Old Norse)

 aðal (Faroese)

aðall	(Old Norse)
aþal, aþul, aþol, aþel, aþil	(Old Swedish)
aþalrūna, aþulrūna	(Old Swedish)
adalruna	(Swedish)

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Related Words

Words mentioned in this entry

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