

***ballô** Runic: 𐌰𐌿𐌻𐌴 Pronunciation: /'bal.lo:z/

noun · masculine · an-stem

Meanings

ball

Etymology

The ‘ball, round object’ complex likely arose from a Proto-Indo-European **b^hel-* (‘to swell up’). The original nominal form that entered Proto-Germanic seems to have been an old n-stem, pre-Germanic **balo* ~ **ballaz* from PIE **b^hól-ōn* ~ *b^hl̥-n-ós*. The related forms **balluz* (‘round object, ball; (anatomy) ball of the hand, foot’), **bullô* (‘round object, ball; round vessel, bowl’), and **bullō* (‘round object, ball; round vessel, bowl’) likely split off from this original form. For example, North Proto-Germanic **balluz* was likely derived from the plural accusative of this form, i.e. pre-Germanic **balluns* from PIE **b^hol-n-ŋs* and then reanalyzed as a u-stem. The others were likely also derived from oblique forms in zero-grade ([Kroonen 2013](#)).

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	ballô	ballaniz
Acc.	ballanȳ	ballanunz
Gen.	balliniz	ballanô
Dat.	ballini	ballammaz
Inst.	ballinē	ballammiz
Voc.	ballô	ballaniz

Descendants

ballō (Proto-West Germanic)

- bolla** (Old English)
 - balle** (Middle English)
 - ball** (English)
 - boll, bow, bowie** (Scots)

***ballō** (Proto-West Germanic)

- *ball, *bal** (Frankish)
 - balla, palla, bala** (Medieval Latin)
 - bale** (Old French)
 - bale** (Middle Dutch)
 - baal** (Dutch)

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***ballō** (Proto-West Germanic)

- *ball, *bal** (Frankish)
 - balla, palla, bala** (Medieval Latin)
 - balle** (Old French)
 - balla** (Italian)
 - pallone, balone, ballone** (Italian)
 - ballon** (Middle French)
 - balloon** (English)
 - ballon** (French)

***ballō** (Proto-West Germanic)

- *ball, *bal** (Frankish)
 - *bal** (Old Dutch)
 - bal** (Middle Dutch)
 - bal** (Limburgish)
 - bol** (West Flemish)

***ballō** (Proto-West Germanic)

- *beall** (Old English)

bal, ball, balle (Middle English)

ball (English)

baw, ba, baa, ball (Scots)

***ballō** (Proto-West Germanic)

***bal** (Old Frisian)

Baal (Saterland Frisian)

bal (West Frisian)

***ballō** (Proto-West Germanic)

bal (Old High German)

bal, ball (Middle High German)

Bal, Ball (Central Franconian)

Ball (German)

Ball (Luxembourgish)

***ballō** (Proto-West Germanic)

ball, bal (Old Saxon)

bal (Middle Low German)

Ball (Low German)

Baul (Plautdietsch)

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