

***berô** Runic:  Pronunciation: /'be.rɔː/

noun · masculine · an-stem

Meanings

bear

Etymology

Conventionally from Proto-Indo-European **b^hérH-ō* ~ **b^hr̥H-n-és*, from the root **b^herH-* ('brown'), as a tabooistic reference to the bear as "the brown one". ([Ringe 2017](#)) suggests instead **ǵ^hwer-* ('wild animal'); however, as ([Kroonen 2013](#)) notes, this derivation depends on the sound change from Proto-Indo-European **ǵ^hw-* > Proto-Germanic **b-*, the validity of which is disputed. ([Blažek 2017](#)) alternatively suggests a derivation from **b^herH-* ('to pierce, strike'), from which several IE terms for 'beehive' are derived, e.g. Proto-Slavic **bьrtь* ('hive of wild bees').

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	berô	birniz
Acc.	bernų	bernunz
Gen.	birniz	bernô
Dat.	birni	bernumaz
Inst.	bernē	bernumiz
Voc.	berô	birniz

Descendants

***berō** (Proto-West Germanic)

 ***bero** (Old Dutch)

bēre (Middle Dutch)

baer, Béër (Limburgish)

beir (West Flemish)

***berō** (Proto-West Germanic)

 ***bero** (Old Dutch)

bēre (Middle Dutch)

beer (Dutch)

beer (Afrikaans)

***berō** (Proto-West Germanic)

bera (Old English)

bere (Middle English)

bear (English)

***berō** (Proto-West Germanic)

bera (Old English)

bere (Middle English)

beir (Middle Scots)

bear, beir (Scots)

***berō** (Proto-West Germanic)

 ***bera, *bara** (Old Frisian)

Boar, Boare (Saterland Frisian)

bear (West Frisian)

***berō** (Proto-West Germanic)

bero, pero (Old High German)

bēr, bere, per (Middle High German)

Bärr (Alemannic German)

Bär (German)

 בער (**ber**) (Yiddish)

***berō** (Proto-West Germanic)

bero, pero (Old High German)

bēr, bere, per (Middle High German)

Bier (Luxembourgish)

***berō** (Proto-West Germanic)

bero (Old Saxon)

bar, bāre (Middle Low German)

Baar, Boor (Low German)

Boa (Plautdietsch)

***beri** (Old Norse)

*𐍃𐍂𐍲𐍳 (***baira**) (Gothic)

***bera** (Vandalic)

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