

***braguz** Runic:  Pronunciation: /'bra.yuz/

noun · masculine · u-stem

Meanings

one who is first or foremost, a premier, chief, leader, prince

Etymology

De ([Vaán 2002](#)) does an extensive analysis of the reflexes of this term. Likely from ablauting pre-Germanic **bregus* / **brogus*, a Verner alternate of Proto-Germanic **brehaną* ('to flicker, glitter; light up; blink'), from Proto-Indo-European **bʰrēǵ-* ('to shine'). Reconstructed as a u-stem based on the Old English, where u-stems formed a small, unproductive, and receding class, of typically high-frequency archaisms. It is unlikely that Old English would have shifted it into this class from another larger class such as the a-stems or i-stems, whereas these nouns were often shifted to the latter in Old Norse. There are possible alternate forms of **bragiz*, **bragô*, **bragz* based on the Old Norse reflexes. Related to **bregdaną* ('to flicker, flutter, jerk, tug (on), twitch, flinch, move, swing').

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	braguz	bragiwiz
Acc.	bragu	bragunz
Gen.	bragauz	bragiwô
Dat.	bragiwi	bragumaz
Inst.	bragū	bragumiz
Voc.	bragu	bragiwiz

Descendants

***bragu** (Proto-West Germanic)
| **bregu, brego, breogo** (Old English)

bragnar, bragi, bragr (Old Norse)
| **bragur** (Icelandic)
| **brag** (Norwegian)

bragnar, bragi, bragr (Old Norse)
| **bragg** (Faroese)
| | **bragga** (Faroese)

bragnar, bragi, bragr (Old Norse)
| **brag** (Middle English)
| | **braggen** (Middle English)
| | | **brag** (English)
| | | **bragge, braig** (Scots)

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