

***bēla** Runic: 𐌲𐌿𐌻𐌰 Pronunciation: /'bɛ:.lǎ/

noun · neuter · a-stem

Meanings

1. fire
2. pyre

Etymology

Probably from Proto-Indo-European *b^heh₁-tló-m from root b^heh₁- ('to foment; warm; bathe') with an instrument suffix ([Kroonen 2017](#)), thus 'an instrument of warming'. This etymology does not suffer the issue of the unexplained lengthened grade of an etymology from *b^hel- ('? to blaze, burn; to glow, shine, be bright or brightly colored; ? bright flame, fire; shiny white').

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	bēla	bēlō
Acc.	bēla	bēlō
Gen.	bēlas, bēlis	bēlô
Dat.	bēlai	bēlamaz
Inst.	bēlō	bēlamiz
Voc.	bēla	bēlō

Descendants

- ***bāl** (Proto-West Germanic)
 - bāel, bāelfȳr** (Old English)
 - bale, balefire** (Middle English)
 - bale, balefire** (English)
 - bale, baill** (Scots)

- bál** (Old Norse)
 - bål** (Danish)
 - bál** (Faroese)
 - bál, bálit** (Icelandic)
 - bål** (Norwegian Bokmål)
 - bål** (Norwegian Nynorsk)

- bál** (Old Norse)
 - bāl** (Old Swedish)
 - bål** (Swedish)

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