

***dagaz** Runic:  Pronunciation: /'da.ɣaz/

noun · masculine · a-stem

Meanings

1. day (the period between sunrise and sunset)
2. name of the rune  (d)

Etymology

Likely from Proto-Indo-European *root* **d^heǵʰ-* ('recur, repeat, cycle'). The noun meaning 'day' was likely older than the PIE o-stem and may have involved an s-stem, **d^hóǵʰ-s* ~ **d^hǵʰ-és-s*, and perhaps a heteroclitic r/n-stem, **d^hóǵʰ-r̥* ~ **d^hǵʰ-ér-s*, later remodeled ([Klump 2013](#)). That analysis best explains the overlap with 'yesterday' morphology (see **gesteraz*) and the long-vocalism side forms (e.g., Old Norse *dógr*, Old English *dōgor*). The older **d^heg^{wh}-* 'burn' derivation remains possible, but only if one accepts a special explanation for the Proto-Germanic labiovelar reflex and a looser bridge from 'heat' to 'day'. It could be that the two were eventually conflated. Related to **gesteraz* ('yesterday').

As an aside, note Proto-Kartvelian root **dey-* ('day') with daughter Georgian  (*dye*, 'day, daytime'), which could indicate a substrate or early borrowing between the two proto-languages (if not a common origin).

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	dagaz	dagōz, dagōs
Acc.	daga𐌱	daganz
Gen.	dagas, dagis	dagô
Dat.	dagai	dagamaz
Inst.	dagō	dagamiz
Voc.	dag	dagōz, dagōs

Descendants

***dag** (Proto-West Germanic)

dag (Old Dutch)

dach (Middle Dutch)

daag (Limburgish)

dag (West Flemish)

***dag** (Proto-West Germanic)

dag (Old Dutch)

dach (Middle Dutch)

dag, dagge, dagh (Dutch)

dag (Afrikaans)

***dag** (Proto-West Germanic)

dæg, deġ, deag, dæig, daig, dag, daġ (Old English)

day, dai, daye, dey, daȝȝ, daiȝ, dæi, dæȝ, dei (Middle English)

day (English)

day, dey, dei, dy (Scots)

***dag** (Proto-West Germanic)

dei, dī (Old Frisian)

Dai (Saterland Frisian)

dei (West Frisian)

***dag** (Proto-West Germanic)

tag, tac, tak, dac, *dag (Old High German)

tac, tag, dach (Middle High German)

Tag (Alemannic German)

Da, Dåg, Doch (Bavarian)

Daach (Central Franconian)

Tag (German)

Dag, Do (Luxembourgish)

Tach (Rhine Franconian)

טאָג (tog) (Yiddish)

***dag** (Proto-West Germanic)

dag (Old Saxon)

dach (Middle Low German)

Dach (Plautdietsch)

***dag** (Proto-West Germanic)

dag (Old Saxon)

dach (Middle Low German)

Dag (Low German)

dag (Dutch Low Saxon)

Dag (Low German)

***𐌳𐌰𐌶𐌰𐌹 (*dagar)** (Proto-Norse)

dagr (Old Norse)

dagur (Faroese)

dagur (Icelandic)

dag, dag'e (Norwegian Nynorsk)

***𐌳𐌰𐌶𐌰𐌹 (*dagar)** (Proto-Norse)

dagr (Old Norse)

dagh (Old Danish)

dag (Danish)

dag (Norwegian Bokmål)

***𐌳𐌰𐌶𐌰𐌹 (*dagar)** (Proto-Norse)

dagr (Old Norse)

dagher, 𐌳𐌰𐌶𐌰𐌹 (Old Swedish)

dag (Swedish)

tag (Crimean Gothic)

𐌲𐌰𐌿𐌸 (dags) (Gothic)

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