

***erbaz** Runic: ᚱᚱᚳᚢᚩ Pronunciation: /'er.βaz/

noun · masculine · a-stem

Meanings

wolverine

Etymology

Possibly from an Indo-European animal-name derivative *er-b^h-o-s / *eri-b^h-o-s, from the root/base *er- perhaps denoting ‘agitation, fierceness’ with the animal-name formant *-b^ho-also seen or proposed in formations such as Proto-Germanic *lambaz (‘lamb’) and Ancient Greek ἔριφος (*érīphos*) (érīphos, ‘kid, young goat’), which could be a direct cognate ([Brugmann 1970](#)). This would allow a loose comparison with Lithuanian eṛnis ‘wolverine’, an n-derivative of the same root ([Young 2001](#)). Sometimes reconstructed as **erbô, but an a-stem is clearly attested in the Hogganvik runestone.

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	erbô	erbaniz
Acc.	erbanų	erbanunz
Gen.	irbiniz	erbanô
Dat.	irbini	erbammaz
Inst.	irbinē	erbammiz
Voc.	erbô	erbaniz

Descendants

𐌺𐌳𐌹𐌹𐌹𐌹 (erafar) (Proto-Norse)

jarfr, jerfr (Old Norse)

jarvur (Faroese)

jarfi, jerfur (Icelandic)

𐌺𐌳𐌹𐌹𐌹𐌹 (erafar) (Proto-Norse)

jarfr, jerfr (Old Norse)

jerv, jarv, erv (Norwegian)

jærv (Danish)

𐌺𐌳𐌹𐌹𐌹𐌹 (erafar) (Proto-Norse)

jarfr, jerfr (Old Norse)

iärver (Old Swedish)

järv (Swedish)

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