

***fifaldō** Runic: 𐌺𐌳𐌹𐌳𐌰𐌿 Pronunciation: /'fi.ɸal.dõ:/

noun · feminine · ōn-stem

Meanings

butterfly

Etymology

Possibly from pre-Germanic *pí-polh1-t(r)-eh₂, an expressive/iterative reduplication of Proto-Indo-European *root* **pelh1-* (‘to get going, set in motion’) (Rix et al. 2001), possibly of onomatopoeic origin. The dental extension could be the remnant of an original **-to*-extension or, especially in West Proto-Germanic, a possible instrument suffix, **-tro*. The term underwent various expressive and folk-etymological changes in the Proto-Germanic daughter languages, as well as in the IE cognates, so a precise etymology is difficult. Cognate with Latin *pāpiliō* (‘butterfly, moth’), Proto-Slavic **perpelb* (‘quail’), and Old Mazanderani پاپلی (pāpili, ‘butterfly’)

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	fifaldō	fifaldōniz
Acc.	fifaldōnų	fifaldōnunz
Gen.	fifaldōniz	fifaldōnġ
Dat.	fifaldōni	fifaldōmaz
Inst.	fifaldōnē	fifaldōmiz
Voc.	fifaldō	fifaldōniz

Descendants

***fifaldrā** (Proto-West Germanic)
 ***fifaltra**, ***fīfaltra** (Old Dutch)
 vivaltere, **vivalter**, **viveltere**, **vyvalter** (Middle Dutch)
 vijfwouter, **wiewouter** (Dutch)

***fifaldā** (Proto-West Germanic)
 fifalde, **fifealde** (Old English)
 fifoldara, **fivildra**, **vivildra** (Old Saxon)

* **fifaldrā** (Proto-West Germanic)
 fifaltra, **pifoltra**, **fīfaltra**, **zwifaltra** (Old High German)
 vīvalter, **vīveltre**, ***zwīvalter** (Middle High German)
 Zwiefalter, **Falter** (German)
 פֿלאַטערל (**flaterl**) (Yiddish)

fiðrildi (Old Norse)
 fiðrildi, **firvaldur** (Faroese)
 fiðrildi (Icelandic)
 fivreld (Norwegian Bokmål)
 fivreld, **fivrelde**, **fivel** (Norwegian Nynorsk)
 fjäril (Swedish)

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