

***hēra** Runic:  Pronunciation: /'xɛ:.rǣ/

noun · neuter · a-stem

Meanings

hair

Etymology

Perhaps derived from Proto-Indo-European *kēs-ró-m, a lengthened-grade formation from *kes- ('to scrape, comb'), and compared in particular to Old Irish *cír* ('comb'). Alternatively, Gasiorowski derives the Germanic from an earlier *hezra-, with loss of -z- before -r- and compensatory lengthening of the vowel, from Pre-Germanic *kes-ró-m ('that which is combed'), substantivization of an adjective *kes-ro-s, ultimately from the same root *kes- as above.

Older theories traced the word to a Proto-Indo-European *ker-, *keres- ('rough hair, bristle'), though this leaves the lengthened grade unaccounted for.

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	hēra	hērō
Acc.	hēra	hērō
Gen.	hēras, hēris	hērō
Dat.	hērai	hēramaz
Inst.	hērō	hēramiz
Voc.	hēra	hērō

Descendants

***hār** (Proto-West Germanic)

hār (Old Dutch)

hâer (Middle Dutch)

haar (Dutch)

***hār** (Proto-West Germanic)

hær, hēr (Old English)

her (Middle English)

hair, hayr, hare (Scots)

haar (Yola)

***hār** (Proto-West Germanic)

hær, hēr (Old English)

her (Middle English)

hair (English)

хаер (xajer), хайр (xajr), хайратник (xajratnik) (Russian)

***hār** (Proto-West Germanic)

hēr (Old Frisian)

? (North Frisian)

Híer (Saterland Frisian)

hier (West Frisian)

***hār** (Proto-West Germanic)

hār (Old High German)

hār (Middle High German)

Härre (Alemannic German)

hoor (Bavarian)

Hoor (Central Franconian)

Haar (German)

Hoer (Luxembourgish)

? (Rhine Franconian)

האר (hor) (Yiddish)

***hār** (Proto-West Germanic)

hār (Old Saxon)

hâr (Middle Low German)

Hoor, Haar (German Low German)

Hoa (Plautdietsch)

hár (Old Norse)

hår (Danish)

år (Elfdalian)

hár (Faroese)

har, hår (Gutnish)

hár (Icelandic)

hår (Norwegian Bokmål)

hår (Norwegian Nynorsk)

hár (Old Norse)

hār (Old Swedish)

hår (Swedish)

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