

***-ōna** Runic: 𐌿𐌽𐌰 Pronunciation: /ɔ:.nã/

suffix · forms verbs · Weak class 2

Function

1. infinitive form of the weak class 2 verbal suffix; forms chiefly denominative verbs, with meanings such as ‘be X’, ‘act as X’, ‘use X’, ‘provide X’, or ‘perform X’
2. forms deadjectival and factitive verbs meaning ‘make X’, ‘render X’, or ‘treat as X’

Etymology

From Early Germanic **-ōjana*, from Proto-Indo-European **-eh₂-yé/ó-*, a denominative present suffix built from **-eh₂-*, the suffix of *eh₂*-stem nouns, plus the verbalizing present suffix **-yé/ó-*. Ringe reconstructs the Proto-Germanic vowel as trimoric, **-ôna*, reflecting contraction after loss of **j* between unstressed vowels (Ringe 2017: 199–200, 284–86; Fulk 2018: §§12.40–12.43). The suffix was originally denominative, especially from inherited *eh₂*-stem nouns, but was reanalyzed in Germanic as an independent class-forming suffix and then extended to other nominal bases and, secondarily, to some verbal bases (Ringe 2017: 200). The deadjectival and factitive use is not equally secure. Ringe notes that there may have been a few old factitives in **-eh₂-yé/ó-*, such as Proto-Germanic **hulōna* beside **hulaz*, but the inherited source of Weak class 2 as a whole is denominative (Ringe 2017: 200).

Relevant Indo-European comparanda include Latin *-āre*, especially much of the first conjugation, from Proto-Italic **-ā-ye/o-* (Weiss 2009: 400); Ancient Greek *-άω (-áo)*, especially in denominal and factitive *ā*-contract verbs (Weiss 2009: 400); Proto-Celtic *ā*-presents, with 3rd sg. **-āti* < PIE **-eh₂-yé-ti* in the denominal type (Le Mair 2011: 53–54); and Proto-Slavic **-ati* (Villanueva Svensson 2023: 168–70).

Paradigm

Present active

Person	Indicative	Subjunctive	Imperative
1st singular	-ō	-ō̇	—
2nd singular	-ōsi	-ōs	-ō
3rd singular	-ōpi	-ō	-ōpau
1st dual	-ōs	-ōw	—
2nd dual	-ōpiz	-ōpiz	-ōpiz
1st plural	-ōmaz	-ōm	—
2nd plural	-ōp	-ōp	-ōp
3rd plural	-ōnpi	-ōn	-ōnpau

Present passive

Person	Indicative	Subjunctive
1st singular	-ōi	—
2nd singular	-ōsai	-ōsau
3rd singular	-ōpai	-ōpau
1st dual	—	—
2nd dual	—	—
1st plural	-ōnpai	-ōnpau
2nd plural	-ōnpai	-ōnpau
3rd plural	-ōnpai	-ōnpau

Past

Person	Indicative	Subjunctive
1st singular	-ōdō	-ōdēdī
2nd singular	-ōdēz	-ōdēdīz
3rd singular	-ōdē	-ōdēdī
1st dual	-ōdēdū	-ōdēdīw
2nd dual	-ōdēdudiz	-ōdēdīdiz
1st plural	-ōdēdum	-ōdēdīm
2nd plural	-ōdēdud	-ōdēdīd
3rd plural	-ōdēdun	-ōdēdīn

Non-finite Forms

Infinitive	Present Participle	Past Participle
-ōnā	-ōndz	-ōdaz

Descendants

*-ōn (Proto-West Germanic)

- ōn (Old Dutch)
 - en (Middle Dutch)
 - en (Dutch)

*-ōn (Proto-West Germanic)

- ian (Old English)
 - en (Middle English)
 - en (English)
 - en, -in (Middle Scots)

*-ōn (Proto-West Germanic)

- ian (Old English)
 - ien (Middle English)
 - y, -ee (English)

*-ōn (Proto-West Germanic)

-ia (Old Frisian)

-je (North Frisian)

-je (Saterland Frisian)

-je (West Frisian)

*-ōn (Proto-West Germanic)

-ōn (Old High German)

-en (Middle High German)

-en (German)

*-ōn (Proto-West Germanic)

-ōn, -oian (Old Saxon)

-en (Middle Low German)

-en (Low German)

-a (Old Norse)

-a (Faroese)

-a (Icelandic)

-a, -e, -ǫ (Norwegian Nynorsk)

-a (Old Norse)

-e (Danish)

-e (Norwegian Bokmål)

-a (Old Norse)

-a (Old Swedish)

-a (Swedish)

-𐌵𐌹 (-ōn) (Gothic)

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Related Words

Words mentioned in this entry

*hulaz adjective *hulōṇa verb

Entries that mention this word

*-inōṇa suffix *-isōṇa suffix *-ukōṇa suffix *aflōṇa verb *agjōṇa verb *aiginōṇa verb
*ainōṇa verb *aitrōṇa verb *aliskōṇa verb *aljanōṇa verb *anadōṇa verb *andijōṇa verb
*arbaidōṇa verb *audagōṇa verb *aukōṇa verb *aunōṇa verb *azanōṇa verb