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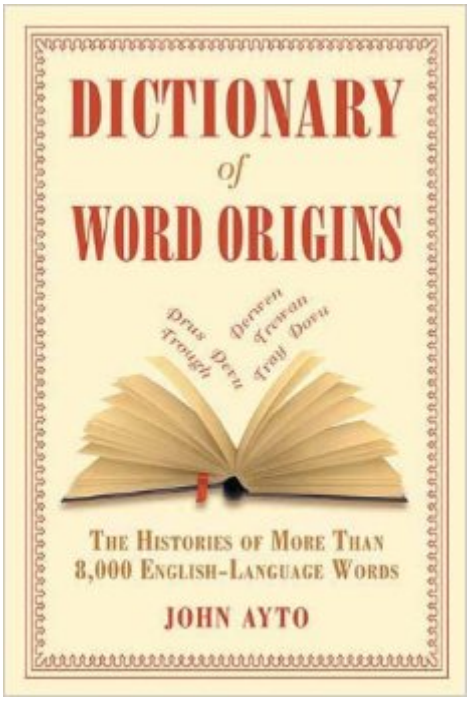
# Dictionary Of Word Origins: The Histories Of More Than 8,000 English-Language Words

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## Synopsis

What is the link between map and apron, acrobat and oxygen, zeal and jealousy, flour and pollen, secret and crime? Did you know that crimson originally comes from the name of tiny scale insects, the kermes, from whose dried bodies a red dyestuff is made? That Yankee began as a nickname for Dutchmen? That omelette evolved from amulette, “a thin sheet of metal,â • and is a not-too-distant cousin of the word laminate? That jeans find their antecedent in jean fustian, meaning “a cotton fabric from Genoaâ •? The Dictionary of Word Origins uncovers the hidden and often surprising connection between words. Written in a clear and informative style, the more than 8,000 articles reveal the origins of and links between some of the most common English-language words. They also contain an extensive selection of words whose life histories are intrinsically fascinating or instructive. This dictionary shows how modern English has developed from its Indo-European roots and how the various influences on the language—from migration and invasion to exploration, trade, technology, and scholarship—have intermingled. It is an invaluable addition to any English or linguistics library.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Great information - much more in depth than traditional etymologies and easy to understand. I recommend it completely if you want to truly understand words.

I am intrigued about the word origins and my kids have inherited that trait. We all sit and pick a word and trace its origin. it is a lot of fun and even a 8 year old can enjoy its simple explanation. Excellent

presentation. Worth owing.

Terrific resource and a great addition to any library. Lots of fun as well as interesting insights. Our language is pretty complex and this is a super tool for understanding why.

8 year old loves this and reads all the time. Good Book.

I love this book. Very interesting. I have given dozens of these books away as gifts.

Amazingly descriptive, with multiple entries, and many historical viewpoints.

I’m an etymology junkie. This gives me a good fix every time.

Very intertaining never lets you stop thinking about what you are reading.like everything about this book.I recommend this book to anyone who likes to read.

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