

# grok

Intuitive understanding. To [know](#).

"to understand empathically," 1961, arbitrary formation by U.S. science fiction writer Robert A. Heinlein (1907-1988) in his book "Stranger in a Strange Land." In popular use 1960s; perhaps obsolete now except in internet technology circles. <http://www.etymonline.com/index.php?term=grok> ↗

Coined by Robert A. Heinlein in his novel Stranger in a Strange Land (1961) in which the word is described as being from the word for "to drink" and, figuratively, "to drink in all available aspects of reality", "to become one with the observed" in Heinlein's fictitious Martian language. <http://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/grok?rdfrom=Grok> ↗

See Also

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**comprehension**

**Knowing**

**Knowingness**

**Understanding**