Scholarship recommendation letter from friend Workbook

Understanding the Importance of a Scholarship Recommendation Letter from a Friend

A scholarship recommendation letter from a friend can be a powerful tool in helping students secure financial aid for their education. Unlike traditional recommendation letters from teachers or employers, a letter from a close friend offers a unique perspective on the applicant's character, personal qualities, and dedication. These letters can add a heartfelt and genuine touch that resonates with scholarship committees, especially when the friend has witnessed the applicant's growth, resilience, and passion firsthand. However, crafting an effective recommendation from a friend requires careful thought, honesty, and a clear understanding of what scholarship providers seek.

Why Choose a Friend for a Scholarship Recommendation?

Personal Insight and Genuine Perspective

A friend who has known the applicant over an extended period can provide an authentic account of their personality, values, and life experiences. Unlike formal references, a friend's perspective can highlight qualities such as perseverance, kindness, leadership, or community involvement that might otherwise go unnoticed.

Highlighting Soft Skills and Character Traits

Scholarship committees often look for well-rounded candidates with strong character. A friend's letter can showcase traits like empathy, resilience, teamwork, and integrity?attributes crucial for success beyond academics.

Complementing Academic Recommendations

While teachers and mentors focus on academic achievements, a friend?s recommendation complements this by emphasizing personal development and social skills, providing a holistic view of the applicant.

How to Write an Effective Scholarship Recommendation Letter from a Friend

Writing a compelling recommendation letter from a friend involves honesty, specificity, and a focus on the applicant?s strengths. Here are essential steps and tips to craft a persuasive letter.

Gather Specific Information About the Applicant

Before writing, speak with the applicant to understand:

- The scholarship?s criteria and values
- Key qualities and experiences to highlight
- Particular achievements or stories that exemplify their character

Structure of the Recommendation Letter

A well-structured letter typically includes:

- **Introduction:** State your relationship with the applicant and your purpose for writing.
- **Body Paragraphs:** Share specific anecdotes and qualities that demonstrate the applicant?s suitability for the scholarship.
- **Conclusion:** Summarize your recommendation and express confidence in the applicant?s potential.

Focus on Personal Qualities and Examples

Instead of generic praise, include detailed stories that showcase:

- Leadership in community projects or school events
- Perseverance during challenging times
- Commitment to personal growth and learning
- Supportiveness and kindness towards others

Maintain Honesty and Authenticity

Always be truthful in your portrayal. Overly exaggerated or false claims can undermine credibility and damage the applicant?s chances.

Keep the Tone Formal Yet Personal

While it?s a recommendation from a friend, the letter should maintain professionalism, balancing

warmth with formality.

Sample Outline for a Scholarship Recommendation Letter from a Friend

To better understand how to structure your letter, here is a simple outline:

Introduction

- State your name, relationship to the applicant, and how long you?ve known them.
- Mention the purpose of the letter and the scholarship applying for.

Body

- Highlight specific qualities relevant to the scholarship.
- Share personal stories that illustrate these qualities.
- Discuss the applicant?s academic passions, extracurricular activities, or community service.
- Comment on their character, work ethic, and aspirations.

Conclusion

- Reiterate your strong recommendation.
- Express confidence in their ability to succeed.
- Offer to provide additional information if needed.

Best Practices for a Scholarship Recommendation Letter from a Friend

Personalize the Letter

Tailor your content to reflect the applicant?s unique qualities and the specific scholarship?s objectives.

Be Sincere and Specific

Avoid vague statements; instead, provide concrete examples and detailed observations.

Proofread and Edit

Ensure the letter is free from grammatical errors and typos, maintaining professionalism.

Follow Submission Guidelines

Check the scholarship?s requirements regarding format, length, and submission method.

Additional Tips to Strengthen Your Recommendation

- Include quantifiable achievements if possible, such as ?led a team of 10 students? or ?raised $500 for charity.?
- Mention any unique qualities or challenges the applicant has overcome.
- Express your genuine belief in their potential to benefit from the scholarship.
- Keep the letter concise yet comprehensive, ideally one to two pages.

Legal and Ethical Considerations

While recommending a friend, it?s essential to:

- Be honest and avoid embellishing facts.
- Disclose any conflicts of interest or biases.
- Respect the privacy of the applicant by not sharing sensitive information without consent.

Conclusion: Leveraging a Friend?s Support for Scholarship Success

A scholarship recommendation letter from a friend can significantly bolster a student?s application by providing a heartfelt endorsement that emphasizes personal qualities and character. When written thoughtfully, with honesty and specificity, such a letter can resonate deeply with scholarship committees, setting the applicant apart from other candidates. If you are a friend asked to write this type of recommendation, remember to focus on genuine stories, align your content with the scholarship?s values, and present your insights professionally. With the right approach, your recommendation can be a decisive factor in helping a deserving student achieve their educational goals and open doors to new opportunities.

Scholarship recommendation letter from friend is a unique and often overlooked type of endorsement that can play a pivotal role in a student's scholarship application. Unlike traditional recommendation letters written by teachers, professors, or employers, a letter from a friend offers a personal perspective that emphasizes character, perseverance, and real-life qualities that might not be as easily captured through academic records alone. While this approach has its distinct advantages, it also presents certain challenges that applicants and recommenders should carefully

consider. In this comprehensive review, we will explore the nuances of crafting and utilizing a scholarship recommendation letter from a friend, examining its features, benefits, limitations, and best practices to ensure it strengthens an application effectively.

Understanding the Role of a Friend?s Recommendation Letter in Scholarship Applications

What is a Scholarship Recommendation Letter from a Friend?

A scholarship recommendation letter from a friend is a personal endorsement written by someone who has a close relationship with the applicant, such as a friend, peer, or confidant. Unlike academic or professional references, this letter centers on the applicant?s personal qualities, integrity, resilience, leadership, and other traits that demonstrate their potential beyond academic achievements. It aims to provide the scholarship committee with a holistic view of the applicant as a person.

Why Consider a Friend?s Recommendation?

- Personal Insight: Friends often observe facets of an applicant's character and perseverance that are not evident in school records or professional settings.
- Authenticity: Such letters can convey genuine admiration and detailed anecdotes that lend credibility.
- Complementary Perspective: When combined with academic recommendations, a friend's letter can offer a well-rounded picture.

Features and Components of a Strong Scholarship Recommendation Letter from a Friend

Key Features

- Personal anecdotes: Specific stories that highlight the applicant's qualities.
- Authentic tone: Genuine language that reflects their true relationship.
- Focus on character: Traits like resilience, kindness, leadership, and integrity.
- Contextual relevance: Demonstrating how the applicant has demonstrated these qualities in real-life situations.

Typical Structure

- Introduction: Explains the relationship with the applicant and the purpose of the letter.
- Body Paragraphs:

- Personal qualities and examples.
- Specific instances of achievements or challenges overcome.
- Demonstration of characteristics aligned with scholarship criteria.

- Conclusion: Reaffirmation of support and endorsement, offering to provide further information if needed.

Pros and Cons of a Scholarship Recommendation Letter from a Friend

Pros

- Provides a Personal Touch: Adds depth about the applicant's personality and character.
- Showcases Soft Skills: Highlights qualities like empathy, perseverance, and leadership.
- Unique Perspective: Offers insights that academic or professional references may not capture.
- Supports Holistic Review: Contributes to a well-rounded evaluation process.

Cons

- Potential Bias: Friends may have a subjective view, risking perceptions of favoritism.
- Less Formality: May lack the professionalism expected in academic or employer recommendations.
- Perception Challenges: Scholarship committees might question the credibility or impact of a friend?s endorsement.
- Limited Scope: Focused on personal qualities, possibly neglecting academic or technical skills.

Best Practices for Writing a Scholarship Recommendation Letter as a Friend

For the Recommender (Friend)

- Maintain Authenticity: Be honest about your relationship and observations.
- Highlight Specific Examples: Use concrete stories to illustrate traits.

- Align with Scholarship Goals: Emphasize qualities valued by the scholarship criteria.
- Balance Personal and Formal Tone: Keep the letter professional yet personal.
- Avoid Over-Exaggeration: Present genuine assessments without embellishment.
- Respect Privacy: Do not disclose sensitive or inappropriate information.

For the Applicant

- Choose the Right Friend: Someone who knows you well and can speak authentically about your character.
- Provide Context: Share details about the scholarship, its values, and what qualities to highlight.
- Share Relevant Achievements: Remind the friend of particular instances where you demonstrated key qualities.
- Express Appreciation: Acknowledge their effort and support.

Example Scenarios When a Friend?s Recommendation Letter Is Most Effective

- Leadership and Community Engagement: When the scholarship emphasizes service, community involvement, or leadership qualities.
- Overcoming Personal Challenges: Highlighting resilience and determination in adverse circumstances.
- Unique Personal Traits: Demonstrating creativity, empathy, or other soft skills.
- Supplementary Support: When academic recommendations are lacking or less compelling, a friend?s letter can add depth.

Limitations and Ethical Considerations

- Authenticity Concerns: The credibility of a friend?s letter depends on honesty and specific examples.
- Potential Perception of Bias: Committees may view such letters skeptically if not well-crafted.
- Avoiding Conflicts of Interest: The relationship should be transparent, and the letter should avoid undue favoritism.
- Complementary Use: It?s best used alongside other recommendation types rather than as a sole endorsement.

Enhancing the Effectiveness of a Friend?s Recommendation Letter

- Include Quantifiable Examples: For example, ?During our project, John led a team of 10 students to develop a community service initiative that benefited over 200 residents.?
- Use Clear, Engaging Language: Avoid clichés; be genuine and specific.
- Proofread and Edit: Ensure clarity, correctness, and professionalism.
- Complement with Other Materials: Pair with academic transcripts, personal statements, and other recommendations.

Conclusion: Striking the Right Balance

A scholarship recommendation letter from a friend can be a powerful supplement that enriches an application, provided it is crafted thoughtfully and ethically. Its primary strength lies in offering an authentic, personal perspective that emphasizes qualities like perseverance, kindness, and leadership?traits essential for scholarship committees seeking well-rounded candidates. However, it must be balanced with formal academic or professional recommendations to demonstrate a comprehensive profile. When done correctly, such a letter can tip the scales in favor of an applicant, showcasing them as not just a capable student but also as a resilient, compassionate individual ready to contribute meaningfully to their community and field.

Final Advice

If you are an applicant considering asking a friend for a recommendation letter, choose someone who knows you well and can speak to your character with honesty. Provide them with context and specific examples to make their endorsement compelling. For friends writing such letters, prioritize sincerity, specificity, and professionalism. When used thoughtfully, a recommendation from a friend can become an invaluable part of your scholarship application, helping you stand out as a candidate who embodies both academic promise and admirable personal qualities.

QuestionAnswer Can a friend write a strong scholarship recommendation letter for me? Yes, a friend can write a compelling recommendation letter if they know you well and can highlight your strengths, character, and achievements relevant to the scholarship criteria. What should I provide my friend to help them write a effective scholarship recommendation? Provide your friend with your resume, academic achievements, extracurricular activities, details about the scholarship, and specific points you'd like them to emphasize to make their letter more personalized and impactful. Is it appropriate to ask a friend for a scholarship recommendation letter? Yes, it is appropriate as long as your friend is familiar with your qualifications and can honestly endorse your candidacy. Be sure to ask politely and give them ample time to write the letter. What qualities should a friend highlight in a scholarship recommendation letter? They should emphasize your academic abilities, leadership skills, character, dedication, and any unique qualities or experiences that align with the scholarship's goals. Are there any risks in using a friend?s recommendation letter for a scholarship application? The main risk is if the letter lacks professionalism or appears biased, which could weaken your application. To mitigate this, ensure your friend writes a sincere, well-structured, and honest letter,

and consider supplementing it with other recommendations if possible.

Related keywords: scholarship letter, recommendation from friend, reference letter, academic endorsement, personal recommendation, support letter, peer recommendation, scholarship application, letter of support, friend endorsement

Character reference letter template for friend

Character Reference Letter Template for Friend

A character reference letter for a friend is a powerful document that can support someone?s application for a job, housing, or other opportunities by attesting to their personality, reliability, and integrity. Crafting an effective and sincere letter requires understanding the purpose of the reference, knowing your friend well, and presenting your observations convincingly. This article provides a comprehensive guide to creating a compelling character reference letter template for a friend, complete with sample structures, key elements, and tips to ensure your letter makes a positive impact.

Understanding the Purpose of a Character Reference Letter for a Friend

Before diving into the template, it?s important to understand why such a letter is written and how it can influence the recipient.

What is a Character Reference Letter?

A character reference letter, also known as a personal or friend?s reference, is a document written by someone who knows the individual well and can vouch for their character, personality, and qualities. Unlike professional references that focus on work skills, this type emphasizes personal traits such as honesty, responsibility, kindness, and dependability.

Common Uses of a Friend?s Character Reference Letter

- Supporting a friend?s job application
- Assisting with rental or housing applications
- Providing a character assessment for legal or court proceedings
- Enhancing college or scholarship applications

- Supporting visa or immigration processes

Key Elements of an Effective Character Reference Letter

A well-structured character reference letter should include specific components to ensure clarity and impact.

1. Proper Salutation

- Address the recipient appropriately (e.g., ?To Whom It May Concern,? or specific name if known).

2. Introduction of the Writer

- State your name, your relationship with the friend, and how long you?ve known them.
- Briefly mention your credibility as a reference.

3. Purpose of the Letter

- Clearly specify what the letter is supporting (e.g., job application, housing, etc.).

4. Personal Qualities and Traits

- Highlight specific positive traits relevant to the purpose.
- Provide examples or anecdotes that demonstrate these qualities.

5. Character Assessment

- Discuss your friend?s reliability, integrity, and behavior.
- Mention their strengths and how they relate to the purpose.

6. Closing Endorsement

- Offer a strong, supportive closing statement.
- Indicate openness to further contact if needed.

7. Signature and Contact Information

- Sign the letter and include your contact details for verification.

Sample Character Reference Letter Template for a Friend

Below is a detailed template that can be customized to suit specific situations:

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[Your Name]

[Your Address]

[City, State, ZIP Code]

[Email Address]

[Phone Number]

[Date]

[Recipient's Name]

[Recipient's Title or Position]

[Company/Organization Name]

[Address]

[City, State, ZIP Code]

Dear [Recipient's Name / To Whom It May Concern],

I am writing to provide a character reference for my dear friend, [Friend?s Name], whom I have known for [number] years. As a close friend and confidant, I have had ample opportunity to observe [his/her/their] personality, integrity, and character in various situations.

I am pleased to recommend [Friend?s Name] for [purpose, e.g., a position, housing, etc.]. Throughout the years, I have witnessed [him/her/them] demonstrate qualities such as honesty,
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responsibility, kindness, and dedication. [He/She/They] consistently display exceptional reliability and an earnest desire to contribute positively to any environment.

One example that highlights [his/her/their] character is when [share a specific anecdote demonstrating honesty, dependability, or kindness]. This incident exemplifies [Friend?s Name]?s integrity and commitment to doing what is right.

In addition to being trustworthy and dependable, [Friend?s Name] is a compassionate individual who genuinely cares about others. [He/She/They] often volunteer [mention any volunteer work or community involvement], showing a proactive attitude toward helping those around them.

Based on my experience, I have no hesitation in endorsing [Friend?s Name] for [purpose]. I am confident that [he/she/they] will be a responsible and positive addition to [company, community, organization].

Please feel free to contact me at [your phone number] or [your email address] if you require any further information or clarification.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Signature if submitting a hard copy]

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## Tips for Writing an Effective Character Reference Letter for a Friend

To ensure your letter is impactful, consider the following tips:

### 1. Be Honest and Genuine

- Avoid exaggerations; speak from personal experience.
- Highlight genuine qualities that you truly observe.

### 2. Be Specific
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- Use concrete examples to illustrate traits.
- Avoid vague statements; specificity makes your endorsement stronger.

3. Keep the Tone Positive and Professional

- Maintain a respectful and optimistic tone.
- Even if you have minor criticisms, focus on positive attributes.

4. Tailor the Letter to Its Purpose

- Emphasize traits relevant to the context (e.g., responsibility for a job, trustworthiness for housing).

5. Proofread Carefully

- Check for grammatical errors or typos.
- Ensure clarity and professionalism in your writing.

Additional Considerations

Legal and Ethical Aspects

- Always seek your friend?s consent before writing the letter.
- Be truthful; false information can have legal repercussions.
- Respect privacy; avoid sharing sensitive or irrelevant details.

Formatting Tips

- Use a professional format with a clear structure.
- Keep the letter to one page unless detailed elaboration is necessary.
- Use a formal font and appropriate size (e.g., Times New Roman, 12 pt).

Conclusion

A well-crafted character reference letter for a friend can significantly influence decisions in various contexts by providing an honest and positive portrayal of their personal qualities. Using the provided

template and tips, you can create a compelling endorsement that highlights your friend?s strengths and demonstrates your confidence in their character. Remember, sincerity and specificity are key to making your letter impactful and credible. Whether for employment, housing, or other opportunities, a thoughtful character reference can open doors and support your friend?s endeavors effectively.

Character Reference Letter Template for Friend: A Comprehensive Guide

When someone you care about is in need of a character reference?whether for a job application, legal matter, or personal situation?crafting a well-structured and sincere character reference letter for friend can make a significant difference. Such letters serve as powerful testimonials to an individual's character, personality, and integrity, providing insight beyond what a resume or formal documentation can offer. This guide will walk you through the nuances of creating an impactful character reference letter for your friend, including essential templates and tips to make your letter compelling and credible.

Understanding the Importance of a Character Reference Letter for Friend

A character reference letter for friend is a personal endorsement that highlights your friend's qualities, values, and behaviors. Unlike professional references, which focus on work-related skills, a character reference emphasizes personal traits, such as honesty, kindness, responsibility, and reliability. These letters are often used in:

- Court proceedings (e.g., sentencing, bail hearings)
- Job applications or promotions
- Academic admissions
- Rental or housing applications
- Personal matters requiring a testament of good character

The key to a successful character reference is honesty paired with specific examples that illustrate your friend's positive attributes.

Essential Elements of a Character Reference Letter for Friend

Before diving into the template, it's important to understand the core components that make a compelling letter:

- Your Contact Information

- Name
- Address
- Phone number
- Email address

- Date of Writing

- The date when the letter is drafted

- Recipient?s Details

- Name (if known)
- Title or position
- Address of the recipient or organization

- Salutation

- Formal greetings such as "Dear [Recipient's Name]" or "To Whom It May Concern" (if the recipient is unknown)

- Opening Paragraph

- Introduce yourself and specify your relationship with the friend
- State the purpose of the letter

- Body Paragraphs

- Describe your friend's character traits
- Provide specific anecdotes or examples that demonstrate these traits
- Highlight qualities such as honesty, responsibility, compassion, etc.

- Closing Paragraph

- Summarize your endorsement
- Reiterate your confidence in your friend's character
- Offer to provide additional information if needed

- Formal Closing

- Sign off with "Sincerely," "Best regards," or similar
- Your signature (if submitting a hard copy)
- Your printed name

Step-by-Step Guide to Writing a Character Reference Letter for Friend

Step 1: Start with a Strong Introduction

Begin by clearly stating who you are, your relationship with the friend, and the purpose of the letter. For example:

"My name is Jane Doe, and I have had the pleasure of knowing John Smith for over five years as a close friend and neighbor. I am writing to provide a character reference on his behalf, as he applies for the position of Community Volunteer with your organization."

Step 2: Highlight Personal Qualities

Identify key traits that are relevant to the purpose of the letter. Common qualities include:

- Honesty and integrity
- Dependability
- Compassion and kindness
- Responsibility
- Respectfulness
- Work ethic
- Leadership skills

Step 3: Support with Specific Examples

General praise is less impactful than stories that demonstrate your friend's positive qualities. For example:

"John has consistently demonstrated honesty and integrity. I recall when he found a wallet full of cash on the street and took the initiative to locate the owner, refusing any reward."

Step 4: Emphasize Relevant Traits for the Situation

Tailor your letter to match the context. For a legal matter, focus on honesty and respectfulness; for a job, highlight responsibility and work ethic; for housing, underscore reliability and neighborliness.

Step 5: Conclude with a Strong Endorsement

Summarize your confidence in your friend's character and your willingness to vouch for them:

"In my opinion, John is one of the most trustworthy and responsible individuals I know. I am confident he would be an asset to your organization."

Step 6: Offer Additional Support

Close by offering to provide further information if needed:

"Please feel free to contact me at the information provided above if you require any additional insights."

Sample Character Reference Letter Template for Friend

Below is a professional yet personal template that you can customize based on your situation:

Your Name

Your Address

City, State ZIP Code

Phone Number

Email Address

Date

Recipient?s Name

Recipient?s Title or Organization

Recipient?s Address

City, State ZIP Code

Dear [Recipient's Name or "To Whom It May Concern"],

I am pleased to write this character reference for my dear friend, [Friend?s Name]. I have known [him/her/them] for over [number] years, during which time I have come to know [him/her/them] as a person of exceptional integrity, kindness, and responsibility.

Throughout our friendship, I have observed [Friend?s Name] demonstrating unwavering honesty and dependability. For instance, [share a specific anecdote that illustrates these qualities]. This incident exemplifies [his/her/their] commitment to doing what is right, even when no one is watching.

In addition to honesty, [Friend?s Name] consistently exhibits compassion and a genuine concern for others. [He/She/They] volunteer regularly at local shelters and are always willing to lend a helping hand to friends and neighbors alike. Their respectful and considerate nature makes them a trusted member of our community.

Moreover, [Friend?s Name] is remarkably responsible. [He/She/They] manages [his/her/their] commitments diligently and demonstrates a strong work ethic. Whether handling personal projects or contributing to community initiatives, [his/her/their] dedication is evident.

Based on my experience with [Friend?s Name], I am confident that [he/she/they] possess the qualities necessary to excel in [the specific context or role]. I wholeheartedly endorse [him/her/them] and believe [he/she/they] would be an asset to your organization.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at [your phone number] or [your email] if you require any further information.

Thank you for considering this recommendation.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

Tips for Writing an Effective Character Reference Letter for Friend

- Be Honest: Always provide truthful insights. Exaggeration can undermine credibility.
- Be Specific: Use concrete examples to back up your claims.
- Keep it Concise: While detailed, avoid lengthy narratives; aim for clarity and relevance.
- Maintain a Respectful Tone: Be professional yet warm; reflect genuine admiration.
- Proofread Carefully: Spelling and grammar mistakes can detract from your credibility.

Final Thoughts

A well-crafted character reference letter for friend can be a powerful endorsement that supports your friend's application or situation. By focusing on honesty, specific examples, and relevant traits, you create a persuasive narrative that highlights their strengths and integrity. Whether you're writing to support a legal case, employment opportunity, or personal matter, your sincere words can help shape a positive outcome for your friend.

Remember, your letter is a reflection of your own integrity as well as your friend's character. Take the time to personalize your message, be honest, and communicate your genuine support. With this guide, you're now equipped to write a compelling and effective character reference letter that makes a meaningful difference.

QuestionAnswer What is a character reference letter template for a friend? A character reference letter template for a friend is a pre-designed format that helps you write a letter highlighting your friend's positive traits, character, and qualities to support their applications or reputation. How do I start a character reference letter for a friend? Begin with a formal salutation, introduce yourself and your relationship to the friend, and state the purpose of the letter clearly to set the tone for the recommendation. What key qualities should I include in a character reference letter for a friend? Include qualities such as honesty, responsibility, kindness, reliability, and integrity, supported by specific examples that demonstrate these traits. Can you provide a simple template for a character reference letter for a friend? Yes, a basic template includes an introduction, a paragraph describing your relationship and the friend's qualities, specific examples, and a closing statement of recommendation. How long should a character reference letter for a friend be? Typically, it should be about one page long?concise yet detailed enough to effectively showcase your friend's character and suitability for the purpose. Is it appropriate to include personal anecdotes in a character reference letter for a friend? Yes, including relevant personal anecdotes can help illustrate your friend's positive qualities and make the letter more compelling and authentic. What should I avoid when writing a character reference letter for a friend? Avoid exaggerations, negative comments, irrelevant information, and overly generic statements. Focus on honesty and specific, positive examples of your friend's character.

Related keywords: character reference, friend letter template, testimonial letter, personal reference, recommendation letter, friend endorsement, character assessment, reference letter format, personal recommendation, friendship testimonial

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