

how to catch a leprechaun

how to catch a leprechaun is a question that sparks curiosity and imagination in both children and adults, especially around St. Patrick's Day. This article explores the enchanting world of leprechauns, the mischievous little fairies from Irish folklore, and provides a comprehensive guide to catching one. Here, you'll discover the folklore behind leprechauns, the best times and places to catch them, essential materials for building a leprechaun trap, creative trap designs, effective bait options, and tips for increasing your chances of success. Whether you're planning a fun family activity or looking to learn more about Irish traditions, this guide covers everything you need to know about how to catch a leprechaun. Read on to unlock the secrets of these elusive creatures and maybe, just maybe, get one step closer to finding their hidden pot of gold.

- Understanding Leprechauns: Folklore and Facts
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Understanding Leprechauns: Folklore and Facts

Leprechauns are iconic figures in Irish folklore, often described as small, bearded men dressed in green coats and buckled shoes. According to legend, leprechauns are solitary fairies known for their wit, mischief, and skill in shoemaking. They are famous for guarding pots of gold at the end of rainbows and for their ability to vanish instantly if caught. Stories suggest that if you manage to capture a leprechaun, he may grant you three wishes in exchange for his freedom. Understanding these traits is essential when planning how to catch a leprechaun, as their cunning nature and magical abilities make them challenging to trap.

When and Where to Catch a Leprechaun

Timing and location play a crucial role in increasing your chances of catching a leprechaun. Traditionally, leprechauns are most active during the early morning hours around St. Patrick's Day, as this is when the magic in the air is strongest. They are believed to dwell in secluded, natural areas such as forests, meadows, and near streams. Gardens and backyards with flowers and clover patches are also considered prime leprechaun hiding spots. When searching for how to catch a leprechaun, choose a quiet, green area and set your trap before dawn for the best results.

Materials Needed to Build a Leprechaun Trap

Building a leprechaun trap requires some simple but effective supplies. The key is to create a device that is both enticing and functional. Here is a list of commonly used materials for constructing a leprechaun trap:

- Small box or container (shoebox, cereal box, or plastic tub)
- Green construction paper or paint
- Scissors and glue
- Craft sticks or popsicle sticks
- String or yarn
- Gold coins (real or chocolate coins, gold-painted rocks, or plastic coins)
- Stickers, markers, and glitter for decoration
- Miniature ladders or ramps
- Small bells or noise makers (optional)

Having these materials ready enables you to design a creative and effective leprechaun trap that will appeal to even the craftiest of fairies.

Creative Leprechaun Trap Ideas

Imagination and creativity are at the heart of building a successful leprechaun trap. There are endless designs, each with its own unique appeal and method of capture. Here are some popular and inventive leprechaun trap ideas:

Classic Box Trap

Create a classic trap using a small box propped up with a stick or craft stick. Place enticing bait beneath the box, and connect the stick to a string so you can pull it when the leprechaun goes inside. Decorate the box with green paper, shamrocks, and glitter to attract attention.

Rainbow Slide Trap

Build a colorful ramp or slide leading up to the entrance of a container. Use rainbow-colored paper or paint, and line the path with gold coins. Once the leprechaun climbs up, he falls into the container below, which should be lined with something soft to cushion the fall.

Pot of Gold Trap

Use a small pot or bowl decorated to look like a pot of gold. Place bait inside and rig a lid or net above it that will drop down once the leprechaun reaches for the treasure. This design plays on the leprechaun's famous love of gold.

Hidden Door Trap

Design a "secret door" or flap on the side of a box. Use clever decorations to disguise the door and place bait just inside. When the leprechaun enters, the door swings shut behind him, trapping him inside.

The Best Bait to Attract a Leprechaun

Choosing the right bait is essential when learning how to catch a leprechaun. Leprechauns are famously attracted to shiny objects and sweet treats. The following items are especially effective:

- Chocolate gold coins
- Real or plastic gold coins
- Jewels or glittering beads
- Miniature shoes or shoemaking tools
- Clover leaves (especially four-leaf clovers)
- Rainbow candies or marshmallows
- Small cakes or cookies

Arrange the bait in an appealing way at the entrance of your trap. The more irresistible the bait, the more likely a leprechaun will be tempted to investigate.

Tips for Successfully Catching a Leprechaun

Catching a leprechaun is as much about strategy as it is about luck. Here are some practical tips to improve your odds:

1. Keep your trap well-hidden among plants or decorations, blending it with the surroundings.
2. Set your trap at night or very early in the morning, as leprechauns are most active when humans are sleeping.
3. Use lots of green and gold in your trap design to attract attention.

4. Add shiny elements like glitter, bells, or foil to lure leprechauns from a distance.
5. Check your trap regularly, as leprechauns are quick and can escape if left unattended.
6. Write a friendly note inviting the leprechaun to take the bait, as they are curious by nature.
7. Be patient and persistent—these magical creatures are famously elusive.

What to Do If You Catch a Leprechaun

According to Irish legend, if you manage to catch a leprechaun, you must act quickly and wisely. Leprechauns are master tricksters and will try to outwit you to gain their freedom. Make sure to keep eye contact and demand your reward, which is often three wishes or a clue to their hidden pot of gold. However, folklore warns that leprechauns will use clever riddles, distractions, or illusions to escape. If you want to claim your prize, remain calm, polite, and alert at all times. Remember, the true magic lies in the adventure and the stories you create along the way.

Q: What is the best time of year to catch a leprechaun?

A: The best time of year to catch a leprechaun is around St. Patrick's Day, as folklore suggests leprechauns are most active during this holiday, especially in the early morning hours.

Q: Where are the most likely places to find a leprechaun?

A: Leprechauns are believed to hide in natural, secluded areas such as forests, gardens, meadows, and near clover patches. Quiet backyards with lots of greenery also make great spots for setting traps.

Q: What materials do I need to make a leprechaun trap?

A: Common materials include a small box or container, green paper or paint, scissors, glue, craft sticks, string, gold coins (real or fake), glitter, and decorations like shamrocks or rainbows.

Q: What is the most effective bait for catching a leprechaun?

A: The most effective bait includes chocolate gold coins, shiny objects, jewels, rainbow candies, and miniature shoes, all of which are said to attract leprechauns.

Q: How do leprechaun traps work?

A: Leprechaun traps are typically designed to lure the leprechaun inside with enticing bait. Once inside, a mechanism such as a falling door, lid, or box traps the leprechaun, making escape difficult.

Q: Are there any special tricks to increase my chances of catching a leprechaun?

A: Yes, blending your trap into natural surroundings, using lots of green and gold, setting traps at night, and adding shiny decorations can all help increase your chances of success.

Q: What should I do if I actually catch a leprechaun?

A: If you catch a leprechaun, keep eye contact and politely request your three wishes or a clue to his pot of gold. Be alert, as leprechauns are known for clever tricks to escape.

Q: Can leprechauns really grant wishes?

A: According to Irish folklore, leprechauns may grant three wishes in exchange for their freedom, but they are clever and often use tricks or riddles to avoid fulfilling these promises.

Q: Is catching a leprechaun safe for children?

A: Building leprechaun traps is a safe, creative, and fun activity for children, especially when supervised by adults. It encourages imagination and celebrates Irish culture.

Q: Why are leprechauns associated with gold and rainbows?

A: Leprechauns are linked to gold and rainbows in folklore because they are said to hide their pots of gold at the end of rainbows, making them symbols of luck and fortune.

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How to Catch a Leprechaun: A Guide for the Bold and the Believing

Have you ever dreamt of finding a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow? The elusive leprechaun, guardian of this mythical treasure, has captivated imaginations for centuries. While the existence of leprechauns remains firmly in the realm of folklore, the quest to catch one is a fun and engaging

adventure in itself. This comprehensive guide will equip you with the knowledge and strategies to embark on your own leprechaun hunt, blending practical advice with a dash of whimsical charm. We'll explore everything from understanding leprechaun lore to devising effective trapping techniques – all with a healthy dose of humor and a respectful nod to the mischievous nature of our tiny, elusive friend.

Understanding the Nature of the Beast: Leprechaun 101

Before you even think about setting a trap, it's crucial to understand your quarry. Leprechauns, according to legend, are solitary creatures, skilled shoemakers with a penchant for trickery and an unwavering devotion to their gold. They are said to inhabit remote, naturally beautiful locations, often near forests, rivers, or ancient standing stones. This understanding informs our strategy. We need to be stealthy, patient, and aware that outsmarting a leprechaun requires more than just a shiny object.

Key Traits of Leprechauns to Keep in Mind:

Mischief-makers: They love to play tricks and lead you astray. Don't trust anything too easy!

Cunning: They're clever and resourceful, capable of escaping seemingly inescapable traps.

Solitary: They rarely travel in groups, increasing the challenge of finding one.

Protective of their gold: Their treasure is their life's work, and they will fiercely guard it.

Location, Location, Location: Finding Leprechaun Territory

The first step in your leprechaun-catching endeavor is identifying a likely habitat. Forget crowded cities; leprechauns prefer the tranquility of nature.

Explore secluded forests: Look for areas with ancient trees, mossy rocks, and hidden streams.

Investigate areas near rainbows: While rainbows are fleeting, their appearance often points to a potentially leprechaun-inhabited area.

Seek out forgotten places: Old ruins, abandoned farmsteads, and forgotten pathways are all prime locations.

Listen to local legends: Many regions boast tales of leprechaun sightings. These can be valuable clues.

The Art of the Trap: Methods and Materials

Now for the fun part: crafting your leprechaun trap. Forget the cliché of a cage; leprechauns are far too clever for that. We need something more inventive, something that appeals to their curiosity and potentially their weakness for shiny things.

Trap Ideas:

The Shiny Object Trap: Place a small, glittering object – a particularly shiny button or a tiny, sparkling gemstone – near a hidden camera. The hope is to capture a glimpse of the leprechaun investigating the treasure.

The Fairy Ring Diversion: Leprechauns are often associated with fairy rings. Creating a small, believable fairy ring with wildflowers and pebbles might lure one closer.

The Sound Trap: Some legends suggest leprechauns are drawn to certain musical sounds. A carefully placed, softly playing flute or other instrument could potentially attract their attention. This is a long-shot, but worth considering.

The "Borrowed" Object Trap: Place a small, unusual item near the edge of your target area—something unique and easily recognizable. If the object is moved, it could be a sign of leprechaun activity.

Important Note: Remember, respecting nature is paramount. Avoid disturbing the environment and ensure any traps you set are harmless and easily removed.

Patience, Persistence, and a Little Bit of Luck

Catching a leprechaun is a test of patience and persistence. It requires meticulous planning, careful observation, and a healthy dose of luck. Don't get discouraged if your initial attempts are unsuccessful. The thrill of the hunt is as much a part of the experience as the potential reward.

Conclusion: Embrace the Myth, Enjoy the Journey

The quest to catch a leprechaun is less about actually capturing a tiny, mythical shoemaker and more about embracing the whimsical magic of folklore and enjoying the journey. By combining a bit of knowledge, a dash of creativity, and a whole lot of patience, you can experience the thrill of the hunt, immersing yourself in the captivating world of leprechaun lore. Whether you succeed in capturing a glimpse or not, the adventure itself is a rewarding experience.

FAQs:

1. Are leprechauns real? Leprechauns are creatures of myth and legend. Their existence is not scientifically proven.
2. What should I do if I actually catch a leprechaun? Well, that's a question for the ages! Legends vary, but generally, showing respect and offering a fair trade is advised, though what constitutes a fair trade with a leprechaun is anyone's guess.
3. What kind of camera should I use for a leprechaun trap? A trail camera with night vision capabilities would be ideal, as leprechauns are often said to be active at night.
4. Can I use bait to catch a leprechaun? While shiny objects might attract their attention, using actual bait might attract other, less desirable creatures!

5. What happens if I break my leprechaun trap? Don't worry, it's all part of the fun! Try again, perhaps with a new, improved design, and a renewed sense of determination.

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Includes instructions for building a leprechaun trap.

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faraway village lives a talented little shoemaker—who also happens to be a leprechaun. He keeps the gold that he earns from making shoes hidden away in his home, where he thinks it will be safe. But one day a greedy man named Tim spies the leprechaun's pot of gold and tries to steal it! How can the little leprechaun outsmart Tim and make sure his pot of gold will be safe forever? In this original tale, Katherine Tegen has captured the magic of the wily leprechaun, while Sally Anne Lambert's glowing illustrations bring him to life.

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trip to the moon.

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speed! Start a new tradition with this bright and funny children's Easter book and get inspired to build STEAM traps of your own to pair with the readaloud! Educators, families, and children will love this wonderfully creative opportunity to have fun and celebrate the holiday together. I've been working long and hard with all my peeps and crew. We've made the eggs, and now I'm here to bring them all to you! Looking for easy Easter basket stuffers? Look no further than the complete How to Catch series! Also in the How to Catch Series: How to Catch a Unicorn How to Catch an Elf How to Catch a Turkey How to Catch a Leprechaun How to Catch a Monster and more!

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how to catch a leprechaun: *The Gingerbread Man Loose at The Zoo* Laura Murray, 2016-08-23 When the Gingerbread Man is loose at the zoo, he has to be careful not to end up as an animal's lunch! Is there anything more fun than a class trip to the zoo? The Gingerbread Man and his classmates don't think so, and they get to solve riddles on a WILD scavenger hunt. They meet giraffes, monkeys, and even a fox (especially scary for a Gingerbread Man!). But a zoo full of critters is a tricky place for a tasty cookie—even a very fast one—and the Gingerbread Man ends up separated from his friends. He needs to solve all of the riddles to catch up with his class and help someone else who is lost. I'll be a detective. I know that I can! I'll solve all these clues. I'm the Gingerbread Man! Animals galore and a trail of clues make the Gingerbread Man's latest adventure his wildest one yet. Look for all of this hilarious Gingerbread Man's adventures: The Gingerbread Man Loose at School, The Gingerbread Man Loose on the Fire Truck, The Gingerbread Man Loose at Christmas, The Gingerbread Man Loose at the Zoo, and The Gingerbread Man and the Leprechaun Loose at School!

how to catch a leprechaun: The Luckiest St. Patrick's Day Ever Teddy Slater, 2016-12-27 Share in this leprechaun family's charming St. Patrick's Day celebration, complete with a fun parade and Irish feast you'll never forget. The St. Patrick's Day parade is off to a very fine start. The Leprechaun family is marching with lots of heart! Share in their dancing, share in their fun. You'll have the luck of the Irish when this day is done! Top o' the morning! It's March 17th, and the Leprechauns are gathered for their favorite day of the year. Join them as they celebrate St. Patrick's Day with music, dancing, and a parade!

how to catch a leprechaun: The Berenstain Bears' St. Patrick's Day Mike Berenstain, 2021-01-05 Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with the Berenstain Bears! This 8x8 storybook is the latest holiday adventure for the bestselling Bear family. Join Papa, Mama, and the cubs as Gramps introduces them to some of the traditions most associated with the holiday, from gathering to enjoy a parade down Main Street to leprechauns and pots of gold. The silly fun starts with Gramps leading the family to dress all in green, with green cloverleaves to wear. After he introduces the legend of the leprechaun, the cubs dream of traveling to a green and pleasant land... When they wake, they're sitting in their folding chairs on Main Street in Bear Town. and there's a parade to cheer! The parade includes marching bands and dancers; pipers piping and harpers harping; and the whole Bear Town police and fire departments.. The parade winds up with a troupe of bears dressed as leprechauns, each carrying a pot of gold. Young Berenstain Bears fans will enjoy giggling along as the cubs learn about St. Patrick's Day.

how to catch a leprechaun: How to Catch the Tooth Fairy Adam Wallace, 2016-07-05 From the New York Times and USA Today bestselling How To Catch series comes an all-new tooth fairy book,

the perfect back to school gift! From losing your first tooth to waiting for the arrival of the mysterious tooth fairy, *How to Catch the Tooth Fairy* celebrates this special event in your child's life with a lively story of the tooth fairy's escape from some very determined kids! Get ready to laugh along with this zany story as the tooth fairy dodges traps, drool, dental floss webs, and more in this fun bedtime book for children ages 4-10 that combines silly rhymes and bright illustrations with STEAM concepts! Can you catch her? How to catch the Tooth Fairy? It's not an easy task. You can try to catch her, but she is just too fast! Also in the *How to Catch Series*: *How to Catch a Unicorn* *How to Catch a Mermaid* *How to Catch a Dinosaur* *How to Catch a Leprechaun* *How to Catch a Monster* and more!

how to catch a leprechaun: How to Catch a Turkey Adam Wallace, 2018-09-04 A New York Times Bestseller! From the bestselling *How to Catch* series comes a festive turkey tale and Thanksgiving book for kids! A turkey is running loose in a school right before a Thanksgiving play. Can YOU help catch it so the show can go on? Follow along as students turn their school upside down trying to catch the turkey, ending with a twist that ensures no turkeys are harmed (or eaten!). This hilariously zany children's picture book combines STEAM concepts and traps with a silly story and fun illustrations, perfect for starting a new fall family tradition this autumn or giving as a Thanksgiving gift for kids ages 4 and up! Thanksgiving time is here again, but there's a turkey on the run! Can you catch this tricky bird before the school play has begun? Also in the *How to Catch Series*: *How to Catch a Unicorn* *How to Catch the Easter Bunny* *How to Catch an Elf* *How to Catch a Monster* *How to Catch a Leprechaun* and more!

how to catch a leprechaun: Here and Now Julia Denos, 2019 A stunning celebration of mindfulness and a meditation on slowing down and enjoying each moment, from the team behind the award-winning *Windows Explore* identity and connection, inspire curiosity, and prompt engaging discussions about the here and now.

how to catch a leprechaun: There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Bat! Lucille Colandro, 2012-09-01 This spooky twist on the wildly popular *There Was an Old Lady who Swallowed a Fly* is perfect for fun Halloween reading! What won't this old lady swallow? This time around, a bat, an owl, a cat, a ghost, a goblin, some bones, and a wizard are all on the menu! This Halloween-themed twist on the classic little old lady books will delight and entertain all brave readers who dare to read it!

how to catch a leprechaun: How to Hide a Turkey Sue Fliess, 2022-09-13 Thanksgiving is all about showing kindness and gratitude to everyone you love—and if you're careful and clever, you can help a turkey friend find his own family, too! Will you meet a turkey this Thanksgiving? If you do, will you be ready to help hide him as a special pet until he can find his flock again? By being helpful, friendly, and smart, you can help your new turkey friend get back to his family in the wild by disguising him as you search! So, grab some supplies—scissors, colored paper, glue, and string—and get ready to make a mask to keep your turkey friend safe. Then maybe you can work together to hide him until he can find his family flock! Sue Fliess's poetic read-aloud text and Simona Sanfilippo's vibrant, whimsical illustrations will provide joy for young readers eager to make a turkey friend (and disguise)! Also included are guides for teachers and parents about how to engage children in making turkey masks, learning about the history of Thanksgiving and facts about turkeys, and the value of friendship and family on this special day of gratitude.

how to catch a leprechaun: Liam the Leprechaun Loves to Fart Humor Heals Us, 2021-02-03 Liam the Leprechaun loves to fart! Sometimes, it makes him unpopular with the other leprechauns, and other times, it saves the day! Leprechauns are like small elves. They always dress in green. They're mischievous and magical, And rarely ever seen. Adults are permitted to laugh too. The children's book series, *Farting Adventures*, celebrates the value of laughter. The *Farting Adventures* book series is geared to kids and adults ages 0-100. Check out all the *Farting adventures* books: *Taylor the Tooting Turkey* *Frank the Farting Flamingo* *Artsy Fartsy the Farting Penguin* *Fairy the Farting Unicorn* *Farting Without You is Like Roses are Red*, *And I'm Farting* *Fred Lucky the Farting Leprechaun* *Pete the Pooting Pufferfish* and *Fritz the Farting Reindeer* Makes a perfect gift for St.

Patrick's day for boys and girls.

how to catch a leprechaun: Frank Was a Monster Who Wanted to Dance Keith Graves, 2011-10-21 Frank was a monster who wanted to dance. So he put on his hat, and his shoes made in France... and opened a jar and put ants in his pants! So begins this monstrously funny, deliciously disgusting, horrifyingly hilarious story of a monster who follows his dream. Keith Graves' wacky illustrations and laugh-out-loud text will tickle the funny bone and leave readers clamoring for an encore.

how to catch a leprechaun: St. Patrick's Day (New & Updated) Gail Gibbons, 2023-02-14 New and updated edition of a classic holiday book from beloved nonfiction writer for kids Gail Gibbons. Who was St. Patrick? Why do we wear green on March 17th? Vetted by an expert, this new edition brings readers the most accurate and recent historical understanding of St. Patrick and the holiday celebrating him. Learn the story of Patrick's life, legends about the saint, and the history of the holiday. From shamrocks to shillelaghs, Gail Gibbons' signature combination of accessible text and clear, colorful illustrations creates a perfect introduction to the customs surrounding St. Patrick's Day—parades, special meals, and of course wearing lots of green. Filled with facts, legends, and traditions, this book is ideal for kids learning about the holiday, Irish culture, and history. Author of over 120 nonfiction books for kids, including *Groundhog Day*, and with hundreds of thousands of books sold, Gail Gibbons continues to bring accurate histories and facts about favorite holidays to kids in this new and updated edition of *St. Patrick's Day*.

how to catch a leprechaun: How to Catch an Elf Adam Wallace, 2016 A New York Times and USA Today Bestseller With delightful rhymes, *How to Catch an Elf* slots itself into place along such classics as *The Night Before Christmas*.--Foreword Reviews You've been waiting all year long, and now it's finally Christmas Eve Is this the year you'll finally catch an elf? Start a new Christmas tradition with this hilarious children's book from the creators of the New York Times best-seller *How to Catch a Leprechaun* It's Christmas Eve Hip hip, hooray Yes, Santa's coming 'round. He's bringing toys to girls and boys in every house in town. Some kids have tried to catch him, but Santa's fast, you see So they've set their eyes on a smaller prize, and now they're after me

how to catch a leprechaun: The Organized Homeschooler Vicki Caruana, 2001 A collection of tried-and-true homeschooling ideas to help achieve a balance between the home and classroom.

how to catch a leprechaun: Fantastic Beasts and where to Find Them J. K. Rowling, 2009-01-01 An entertaining companion to the Harry Potter books, written by J.K. Rowling. *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* is an extensive introduction to magical beasts familiar from the Harry Potter books and others we haven't yet met. Includes information about beasts which can be found in Australia and New Zealand and what they eat.

how to catch a leprechaun: Dear Mr. Leprechaun Martin Nelson Burton, 2003 The author reflects on his childhood correspondence with a leprechaun who--in the handwriting style of the child's father--taught him the true meaning of a steadfast friendship.

how to catch a leprechaun: Leprechaun's Rainbow (Board Book with Handle) Christy Tortland, 2020-12-22 Little ones who love color are in luck this St. Patrick's Day!

how to catch a leprechaun: Deja You Bianca Schwarz, Jaimie McLachlan, 2017-01-26 In   You, five authors share stories of second chances, as varied in telling as the writers themselves. Kelly Cain's *We'll Always Have Oahu* takes us on a whirlwind New Adult romance set in the 80s between a young woman on a high school graduation trip and a handsome Navy sailor. Bianca M. Schwarz transports us to 1760 in *The Pearl* with the story of Marcus Landover, who attends a card party and ends up with more than he bargained for in the beautiful Sophia Chelmsford. Amanda Linsmeier's *Joy and Sorrow* reunites lovers separated by death in a Women's Fiction tinged with the unusual. *The Eyes of the Heart* by Jamie McLachlan gives us Rosalina, who is forced to confront her attraction and the truth about her blindness when a new gardener is hired at the Greystone house. Finally, C.H. Armstrong brings us *Mr. Midnight*, where tragedy reunites two star-crossed lovers, but misunderstandings soon rip them apart. Now, six years later, the stars are realigning with the help of the smooth voice of a late night radio DJ. Some of the stories are sweet, some sad, some steamy,

but all carry the same theme. D♠j♠ You is a collection of stories for those who believe in love, but most of all, second chances.

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