## e aerogenes colony morphology

e aerogenes colony morphology is a crucial aspect of microbiology, shedding light on the physical characteristics and growth patterns of Enterobacter aerogenes on various culture media. This article explores the defining traits of E. aerogenes colonies, key factors influencing their morphology, and the techniques used to identify and differentiate them in laboratory settings. Readers will discover how colony morphology aids in bacterial identification, the impact of environmental conditions, and the significance of these observations in clinical and industrial microbiology. Whether you are a student, researcher, or laboratory technician, understanding e aerogenes colony morphology is essential for accurate detection and analysis. Dive into this comprehensive guide to uncover the nuances of E. aerogenes colony characteristics, supporting your search for precise and reliable microbiological methods.

- Overview of Enterobacter aerogenes
- Defining Colony Morphology
- Key Characteristics of e aerogenes Colony Morphology
- Influencing Factors on Colony Appearance
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- Importance in Microbiology and Clinical Diagnosis
- Comparing e aerogenes Colony Morphology to Other Bacteria
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### Overview of Enterobacter aerogenes

Enterobacter aerogenes is a Gram-negative, facultatively anaerobic bacterium that belongs to the family Enterobacteriaceae. It is commonly found in soil, water, and the gastrointestinal tract of humans and animals. Known for its role in nosocomial infections, E. aerogenes is frequently encountered in clinical laboratories and is notable for its ability to develop resistance to multiple antibiotics. Understanding the colony morphology of E. aerogenes is vital for accurate identification, differentiation from similar organisms, and effective infection control.

### **Defining Colony Morphology**

Colony morphology refers to the observable physical characteristics of bacterial colonies grown on solid media. These characteristics typically include size, shape, color, texture, elevation, and edge

appearance. Colony morphology provides valuable clues for microbiologists to distinguish between bacterial species during initial examination and routine identification processes. For E. aerogenes, recognizing its unique colony traits is especially important for rapid screening and subsequent biochemical testing.

### **Key Characteristics of e aerogenes Colony Morphology**

### **Size and Shape of Colonies**

E. aerogenes colonies generally present as medium to large on standard agar plates such as nutrient agar or blood agar. The shape is usually round or slightly irregular, depending on incubation conditions and the age of the colony.

### **Color and Pigmentation**

Most E. aerogenes colonies appear off-white, cream, or pale gray. They do not typically produce pigment, but slight variations in coloration can occur based on the culture medium composition. On MacConkey agar, colonies are often pink due to lactose fermentation, which is a distinguishing feature among enteric bacteria.

#### **Texture and Elevation**

The texture of E. aerogenes colonies is smooth and moist, sometimes described as glistening. Colonies are usually raised or slightly convex in elevation, contributing to their plump appearance.

### **Edge and Surface Characteristics**

Colony edges are typically entire (smooth and regular), although some may appear slightly undulate or wavy. The surface remains glossy and uniform, lacking any roughness or wrinkling seen in some other bacteria.

- Medium to large colony size
- Round or slightly irregular shape
- Off-white, cream, or pale gray color
- Pink colonies on MacConkey agar (lactose fermenting)
- Smooth, moist, and glistening texture
- Raised or convex elevation

### **Influencing Factors on Colony Appearance**

#### **Culture Media Selection**

The choice of agar medium strongly affects E. aerogenes colony morphology. Nutrient-rich media such as blood agar promote larger, more robust colonies, while selective and differential media can alter color and edge characteristics. MacConkey agar, for example, reveals lactose fermentation, leading to distinctive pink colonies.

### **Incubation Temperature and Time**

Temperature and duration of incubation impact the growth rate and appearance of E. aerogenes colonies. Optimal growth occurs at 35–37°C, with colonies becoming more pronounced after 18–24 hours. Prolonged incubation may result in increased size and slight changes in surface texture.

#### **Environmental Conditions**

Humidity, oxygen availability, and the presence of inhibitory compounds can modify E. aerogenes colony morphology. High humidity maintains moist textures, while oxygen-rich environments favor rapid growth. Exposure to antibiotics or other stressors may lead to atypical colony forms.

### **Methods for Observing and Identifying Colonies**

### **Standard Laboratory Techniques**

Routine observation of E. aerogenes colonies is performed using streak plate methods on solid agar. Colonies are examined visually and with magnification to assess size, color, elevation, and edge characteristics. Gram staining and biochemical tests follow the initial morphological assessment.

### **Advanced Imaging and Documentation**

Digital imaging systems and high-resolution cameras enable precise documentation of colony morphology. Images are used for reference, comparison, and publication in scientific literature. Morphological characteristics are recorded alongside growth conditions for reproducibility.

### **Differentiation from Similar Organisms**

Colony morphology is one of several criteria used to differentiate E. aerogenes from similar bacteria, such as Klebsiella pneumoniae and Enterobacter cloacae. Biochemical tests, antimicrobial susceptibility, and molecular techniques complement morphological observations for accurate identification.

- 1. Visual inspection under proper lighting
- 2. Use of stereomicroscope for detailed edge and surface analysis
- 3. Digital photography for record-keeping
- 4. Comparison with reference images and descriptions
- 5. Follow-up biochemical testing

### Importance in Microbiology and Clinical Diagnosis

#### **Role in Bacterial Identification**

E. aerogenes colony morphology plays a pivotal role in preliminary identification in clinical, industrial, and research laboratories. Recognizing characteristic colony features allows for rapid screening and selection of colonies for further testing. This efficiency is critical during outbreaks and routine surveillance.

### **Significance for Infection Control**

Timely and accurate identification of E. aerogenes using colony morphology supports infection prevention and control measures. Since E. aerogenes is associated with hospital-acquired infections, early detection can guide appropriate antimicrobial therapy and containment strategies.

### **Applications in Industrial Microbiology**

In food, water, and pharmaceutical industries, monitoring E. aerogenes colony morphology is essential for quality assurance, contamination assessment, and regulatory compliance. Colony analysis contributes to process validation and environmental monitoring programs.

### Comparing e aerogenes Colony Morphology to Other

#### **Bacteria**

### E. aerogenes vs Klebsiella pneumoniae

While both E. aerogenes and Klebsiella pneumoniae form similar moist, smooth colonies, K. pneumoniae colonies are often more mucoid due to increased capsule production. E. aerogenes colonies tend to be less sticky and easier to manipulate during laboratory procedures.

### E. aerogenes vs Enterobacter cloacae

Enterobacter cloacae colonies resemble those of E. aerogenes, but subtle differences exist. E. cloacae may produce yellow pigmentation on some media, and its colonies can be slightly smaller and less raised.

### **Distinguishing Features**

- Mucoid texture in K. pneumoniae vs moist, smooth in E. aerogenes
- Yellow pigmentation in E. cloacae (on certain media)
- Pink colonies due to lactose fermentation (E. aerogenes and K. pneumoniae both positive)

### **Applications and Relevance in Research**

#### **Use in Microbial Ecology Studies**

Studying E. aerogenes colony morphology provides insights into bacterial adaptation, survival strategies, and population dynamics. Colony appearance can reflect genetic variation and environmental stress responses, offering valuable data for ecological research.

### **Contribution to Antibiotic Resistance Research**

Monitoring changes in colony morphology under varying antibiotic pressures can indicate the emergence of resistant strains. This observation supports studies focused on the evolution of resistance mechanisms and the development of new antimicrobial agents.

### **Utility in Genetic and Biochemical Investigations**

Colony morphology is used as a phenotypic marker in experiments investigating gene regulation, metabolic pathways, and mutagenesis. It provides a practical and visible indicator for screening

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

# Q: What is the typical colony morphology of Enterobacter aerogenes?

A: The typical colony morphology of Enterobacter aerogenes is medium to large, round or slightly irregular, off-white to cream colored, smooth, moist, and raised. On MacConkey agar, colonies are pink due to lactose fermentation.

# Q: How can you differentiate E. aerogenes colonies from Klebsiella pneumoniae?

A: E. aerogenes colonies are smooth and moist, while Klebsiella pneumoniae colonies are more mucoid and sticky because of higher capsule production. Both ferment lactose and appear pink on MacConkey agar, but texture and handling properties help differentiate them.

### Q: What factors influence E. aerogenes colony morphology?

A: Factors such as the choice of culture medium, incubation temperature, humidity, oxygen availability, and exposure to antibiotics can influence the size, color, texture, and overall appearance of E. aerogenes colonies.

# Q: Why is colony morphology important for identifying E. aerogenes?

A: Colony morphology provides rapid, preliminary identification of E. aerogenes, guiding further biochemical, molecular, or susceptibility testing. It is essential for effective infection control and timely clinical diagnosis.

# Q: What does lactose fermentation indicate in E. aerogenes colony morphology?

A: Lactose fermentation by E. aerogenes results in pink-colored colonies on MacConkey agar, distinguishing it from non-lactose fermenting bacteria and aiding in the identification of enteric pathogens.

### Q: How does E. aerogenes colony morphology assist in

#### research?

A: Colony morphology serves as a phenotypic marker in studies of genetic variation, adaptation, antibiotic resistance, and microbial ecology. It is used to screen mutants and assess bacterial responses to environmental changes.

# Q: Are there any variations in E. aerogenes colony morphology on different agar media?

A: Yes, E. aerogenes colony morphology can vary depending on the agar medium. On nutrient-rich media, colonies are larger and more robust, while selective and differential media like MacConkey agar may alter color and edge characteristics.

# Q: What are the main characteristics to observe when identifying E. aerogenes colonies?

A: Key characteristics include colony size, shape, color, texture, elevation, edge appearance, and lactose fermentation status. These features help distinguish E. aerogenes from other similar bacteria.

# Q: Can environmental conditions cause atypical colony morphology in E. aerogenes?

A: Yes, environmental stressors such as antibiotics, changes in temperature, humidity, or oxygen levels can cause atypical colony morphology, making identification more challenging and necessitating further testing.

# Q: How is E. aerogenes colony morphology documented in the laboratory?

A: Colony morphology is documented through visual inspection, stereomicroscopy, digital photography, and comparison with reference descriptions. Accurate documentation is essential for reproducibility and scientific reporting.

### **E Aerogenes Colony Morphology**

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# E. aerogenes Colony Morphology: A Comprehensive Guide

Understanding the characteristics of bacterial colonies is crucial for accurate identification in microbiology. This comprehensive guide delves into the fascinating world of Enterobacter aerogenes colony morphology, providing you with the detailed visual and textural descriptions needed for confident identification. We'll explore the typical appearance of E. aerogenes colonies on various media, highlighting key distinguishing features and addressing potential variations. By the end, you'll be equipped to confidently identify E. aerogenes based on its colony morphology, a critical skill in microbiology labs and clinical settings.

### What is Enterobacter aerogenes?

Enterobacter aerogenes is a Gram-negative, facultatively anaerobic, rod-shaped bacterium commonly found in the environment, particularly in soil, water, and the intestines of humans and animals. While often considered part of the normal gut flora, it can also be an opportunistic pathogen, causing infections such as urinary tract infections (UTIs), pneumonia, and wound infections, especially in immunocompromised individuals. Accurate identification is essential for effective treatment. Colony morphology provides a first, crucial step in this process.

### Typical Colony Morphology of E. aerogenes

When grown on standard microbiological media, such as nutrient agar or MacConkey agar, E. aerogenes typically exhibits the following characteristics:

### **Size and Shape:**

Colonies are usually moderate to large in size (2-4 mm in diameter after 24 hours incubation at 37°C), round, and convex. They often have a smooth, glistening surface. While generally round, some variations in shape can occur depending on the growth conditions.

### **Color and Pigmentation:**

On nutrient agar, E. aerogenes colonies typically appear creamy white to slightly yellowish. The color can vary slightly depending on the age of the culture and the specific media used. They generally lack intense pigmentation.

### **Texture and Consistency:**

The colonies are usually moist, butyrous (buttery), and mucoid in texture. This mucoid characteristic is a significant identifying feature, often described as having a slightly slimy or sticky consistency. This is due to the production of capsular polysaccharides.

#### **Odor:**

E. aerogenes often produces a characteristic slightly sweet, fruity, or even slightly pungent odor. While not always intensely noticeable, this odor can be helpful in conjunction with other visual characteristics for identification.

### E. aerogenes Colony Morphology on Different Media

The appearance of E. aerogenes colonies can vary slightly depending on the growth medium.

### **MacConkey Agar:**

On MacConkey agar, a selective and differential medium, E. aerogenes typically forms large, pink-red colonies. This is because it ferments lactose, producing acid, which changes the pH of the medium, resulting in the pink-red coloration. This differentiates it from E. coli, which is often more intensely pink. The pink coloration is usually not uniform, showing some variations across the colony.

### **Blood Agar:**

On blood agar, E. aerogenes often exhibits beta-hemolysis (complete hemolysis), although this can be variable. The extent of hemolysis may depend on the strain and incubation conditions.

### **Nutrient Agar:**

Nutrient agar provides a rich growth medium, allowing E. aerogenes to produce the characteristic creamy, mucoid colonies described above.

### Differentiating E. aerogenes from Similar Organisms

Several other bacteria share similar colony morphology characteristics to E. aerogenes. Careful observation and additional tests are crucial for definitive identification. Key differentiations often rely on biochemical tests, such as the Voges-Proskauer test (positive for E. aerogenes) and the methyl red test (negative for E. aerogenes). These tests provide further confirmation beyond visual observation.

### **Importance of Colony Morphology in Identification**

Colony morphology serves as a preliminary but essential step in bacterial identification. While not definitive on its own, it provides valuable clues that guide further testing. Observing size, shape, color, texture, and odor offers a critical first impression, narrowing down the possibilities and guiding subsequent investigations. Accurate observation of colony morphology helps save time and resources in the identification process.

### **Conclusion**

The colony morphology of E. aerogenes provides distinctive visual and textural characteristics useful for preliminary identification. Although additional biochemical tests are necessary for definitive identification, careful observation of colony features on different media is a vital first step. By understanding the typical appearance and potential variations described in this guide, microbiologists can confidently utilize colony morphology as a crucial tool in bacterial identification and pathogen characterization.

### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Is the mucoid nature of E. aerogenes colonies always consistent? While typically mucoid, the degree of mucosity can vary depending on factors such as the age of the culture, the specific media used, and the particular strain of E. aerogenes.

- 2. Can E. aerogenes exhibit different colony morphologies on different media? Yes, the appearance of colonies can vary somewhat depending on the nutritional composition and selective properties of the growth media.
- 3. What other tests are needed to confirm the identification of E. aerogenes? Biochemical tests such as the Voges-Proskauer test and the methyl red test are essential for definitive identification, alongside other molecular techniques like 16S rRNA sequencing.
- 4. How important is the odor in identifying E. aerogenes? While not a primary identifier, the characteristic slightly sweet or fruity odor can be a helpful supplementary observation when combined with other morphological features.
- 5. What happens if I observe a colony with characteristics that differ from what's described here? Variations can occur, and further investigation with biochemical and/or molecular tests is necessary to determine the bacterial species correctly. Consult a microbiology expert if unsure.
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Describing the concept and application of SDD, and presenting case studies and microbiological flow charts, this practical guide will appeal to intensivists, critical care practitioners, junior doctors, microbiologists and ICU-nurses as well as infection control specialists and pharmacists.

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The Prokaryotes is the most complete resource on the biology of prokaryotes. The following volumes are published consecutively within the 4th Edition: Prokaryotic Biology and Symbiotic Associations Prokaryotic Communities and Ecophysiology Prokaryotic Physiology and Biochemistry Applied Bacteriology and Biotechnology Human Microbiology Actinobacteria Firmicutes Alphaproteobacteria and Betaproteobacteria Gammaproteobacteria Deltaproteobacteria and Epsilonproteobacteria Other Major Lineages of Bacteria and the Archaea

e aerogenes colony morphology: Clinical Aromatherapy - E-Book Jane Buckle, 2014-11-14 Enhance patient care with the help of aromatherapy! Clinical Aromatherapy: Essential Oils in Healthcare is the first and only peer-reviewed clinical aromatherapy book in the world and features a foreword by Dr. Oz. Each chapter is written by a PhD nurse with post-doctoral training in research and then peer reviewed by named experts in their field. This clinical text is the must-have resource for learning how to effectively incorporate aromatherapy into clinical practice. This new third edition takes a holistic approach as it examines key facts and topical issues in aromatherapy practice and applies them within a variety of contexts and conditions. This edition also features updated information on aromatherapy treatments, aromatherapy organizations, essential oil providers, and more to ensure you are fully equipped to provide patients with the best complementary therapy available. Expert peer-reviewed information spans the entire book. All chapters have been written by a PhD nurse with post-doctoral training in research and then peer reviewed by named experts in their field. Introduction to the principles and practice of aromatherapy covers contraindications, toxicity, safe applications, and more. Descriptions of real-world applications illustrate how aromatherapy works in various clinical specialties. Coverage of aromatherapy in psychiatric nursing provides important information on depression, psychosis, bipolar, compulsive addictive, addiction and withdrawal. In-depth clinical section deals with the management of common problems, such as infection and pain, that may frequently be encountered on the job. Examples of specific oils in specific treatments helps readers directly apply book content to everyday practice. Evidence-based content draws from thousands of references. NEW! First and only totally peer-reviewed, evidence-based, clinical aromatherapy book in the world. NEW Chapter on integrative Healthcare documenting how clinical aromatherapy has been integrated into hospitals and healthcare in USA, UK and elsewhere. NEW Chapter on the M Technique: the highly successful method of gentle structured touch pioneered by Jane Buckle that is used in hospitals worldwide. All chapters updated with substantial additional references and tables.

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metabolism.

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elements and the roles of stakeholders. The Encyclopedia provides a platform for experts from the field of food safety and related fields, such as nutrition, food science and technology and environment to share and learn from state-of-the art expertise with the rest of the food safety community. Assembled with the objective of facilitating the work of those working in the field of food safety and related fields, such as nutrition, food science and technology and environment - this work covers the entire spectrum of food safety topics into one comprehensive reference work The Editors have made every effort to ensure that this work meets strict quality and pedagogical thresholds such as: contributions by the foremost authorities in their fields; unbiased and concise overviews on a multitude of food safety subjects; references for further information, and specialized and general definitions for food safety terminology In maintaining confidence in the safety of the food supply, sound scientific information is key to effectively and efficiently assessing, managing and communicating on food safety risks. Yet, professionals and other specialists working in this multidisciplinary field are finding it increasingly difficult to keep up with developments outside their immediate areas of expertise. This single source of concise, reliable and authoritative information on food safety has, more than ever, become a necessity

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chapter. Points to Remember sections at the end of each chapter identify key concepts in a quick-reference, bulleted format. Hands-on procedures describe exactly what takes place in the micro lab, making content more interesting and relevant. Learning assessment questions at the conclusion of each chapter allow you to evaluate how well you have mastered material. Agents of bioterrorism chapter furnishes you with the most current information about this hot topic. Glossary of key terms at the end of the book supplies you with a quick reference for looking up definitions. NEW! Nanomedicine and HIV/AIDS and the immunocompromised patient content supplies you with the latest information on prevention, treatment modalities, and CDC guidelines. NEW! Updated photos familiarize you with the equipment you'll use in the lab. NEW! Case Checks throughout each chapter tie content to case studies for improved understanding. NEW! An editable and printable lab manual provides additional opportunities to learn course content using real-life scenarios with questions to reinforce concepts. Review questions for each learning objective help you learn to think critically about the information in each chapter, enhancing your comprehension and retention of material.

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introduction in a laboratory would appear to be a formidable task. The authors recognize that each laboratory manager will choose the most appropriate procedures, depending on the type and size of the laboratory in question. Accreditation bodies will not expect the introduction of all measures, only those that are appropriate for a particular laboratory. Features of this book: • Gives all quality assurance and control measures to be taken, from sampling to expression of results • Provides practical aspects of quality control to be applied both for the analyst and top management • Describes the use of reference materials for statistical control of methods and use of certified reference materials (including statistical tools).

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behavior, and ecology of the bat. It covers the animal's evolution, as well as karyology, bioeconomics, zoogeography, principles of classification, and procedures and issues involved in the care and management of bats as research subjects in the laboratory. Organized into 10 chapters, this volume begins with a historical overview of bat origins and evolution, karyotypic trends in bats, and the role of karyotypes in studying the biology of bats. It then discusses the bat skeletal and muscular systems; flight patterns and aerodynamics; prenatal and postnatal development; migration and homing; ecology and physiological ecology of bat hibernation; thermoregulation and metabolism; and the urinary system, including gross anatomy and embryology, histophysiology, and renal physiology. It also looks at morphological contrasts between the skulls and dentitions of different families and genera of bats. This book will benefit biologists, zoologists, teachers, and others concerned with the general biology of Chiroptera.

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nitrogen and sulphur are also examined. The pollution of water is explored in the context of self-purification of natural waters. Modern municipal water purification and disease transmission through water are discussed. Alternative methods for solid waste disposal are related to the economic capability of a society. Viruses are given special attention. By focusing on the basics, this primer will appeal across a wide range of disciplines.

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- e aerogenes colony morphology: Laboratory Procedures for Veterinary Technicians E-Book Elsevier, Kristin J. Holtgrew-Bohling, 2024-07-24 Ensure your skills are at their clinical best! Laboratory Procedures for Veterinary Technicians, 8th Edition covers the broad spectrum of laboratory procedures that veterinary technicians need to perform effectively in the practice setting. Comprehensive content presents the fundamentals of microbiology, hematology, urinalysis, immunology, and cytology, along with the laboratory procedures used to perform the most widely used tests, such as complete blood count, urinalysis, and immunologic assays. This thoroughly updated edition includes step-by-step procedure guidelines, along with the latest advances in veterinary clinical procedures to prepare you for real-life laboratory work. - NEW! Content addresses fear-free handling specimen collection methods. - UPDATED! Comprehensive coverage reflects the latest advances in veterinary clinical laboratory procedures for improved patient service and higher practice revenue. - UPDATED! Content outlines what is needed to successfully perform a broad spectrum of laboratory tests, including complete blood count, urinalysis, and immunologic assays. - Atlas style appendices contain hundreds of images to enhance laboratory exercises and provide an excellent resource as you move into clinical practice. - Vet Tech Threads pedagogical aids include introductions, suggested readings, boxed Technician Notes, learning objectives, chapter outlines, key terms, and a glossary to help you grasp key concepts and navigate through the chapters for more focused learning. - Comprehensive coverage provides you with a solid foundation in the fundamentals of microbiology, hematology, urinalysis, immunology, and cytology, along with the laboratory procedures used to perform related tests. - Step-by-step procedure boxes throughout the book present the skills that veterinary technician students must perform during their educational program, as well as procedures that are commonly performed by vet techs in the private practice, in an easy-to-access format.
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Bandyopadhyay, 2017-03-03 This book provides fundamental information on pet birds, menaces, and advances made in the diagnosis and treatment of menaces. It is the only book covering all species of pet birds, menaces and their individual management. The handful of related books available worldwide are largely outdated and focus on a single species or breed of pet bird. The book encompasses the history of bird keeping, common breeds of birds, their nutritional requirements, list of zoonotic diseases transmitted by birds and guideline for their prevention. It covers infectious, non-infectious clinical and metabolic diseases, and toxicity in detail with a special focus on the history of diseases, etiology, affected hosts, pathogenesis, clinical signs, diagnosis and treatment. Separate chapters detail relevant diagnostic techniques, management and care practices, including updated information. The book offers an invaluable guide for students and teachers in the field of (avian) veterinary medicine, scientists/research scholars working in related fields, and avian medicine practitioners, as well as all those progressive bird owners who want to know the basics of their care and management.

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