



Protect Your Family From Lead in Your Home



September 2013

Planning to Buy/Rent a Home Built Before 1978?

Did you know that many homes built before 1978 have **lead-based paint**? Lead from paint, chips, and dust can pose serious health hazards.

Read this entire brochure to learn:

t)PXMFBEBHUTJOUPIFCPEZ
t"CPVUIFBMUIFòFDUTPGMFBE
t8IBUZPVDBOEPUPQSPUFDUZPVSGBNJMZ
t8IFSUFHPGPSNPSFJOGPSNBUJPO

Before renting or buying a pre-1978 home or apartment, federal law requires:

t4FMMFSTNVTUEJTDMPFLOPXOJOGPSNBUJPOPOMFBECBTFEQBJOUP
SMFBE based paint hazards before selling a house.
t3FBMFTUBUFTBMFTDPOUSBDUTNVTUJODMVEFBTQFDJöDXBSOJOHTU
BUFNFOU
BCPVUMFBECBTFEQBJOU#VZFSTIBWVQUPEBZTUPDIFDLGSPMFBE t-
BOEMPSETNVTUEJTDMPFLOPXOJOGPSNBUJPOPOMFBECBTFEQBJOUB
BOEMFBECBTFEQBJOUIB[BSETCFGPSFMFBFTFTUBLFFòFDU-FBTFTNVTU
JODMVEFBTQFDJöDXBSOJOHTUBUFNFOUBCPVUMFBECBTFEQBJOUB

If undertaking renovations, repairs, or painting (RRP) projects in your pre-1978 home or apartment:

t3FBE&1"QBNQIMFU *The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right*,
UPMFBSOBCPVUUIFMFBETBGFXPSLQSBUDJFTUIBUDPOUSBDUPST
BSF required to follow when working in your home (see page 12).

Simple Steps to Protect Your Family from Lead Hazards

If you think your home has lead-based paint:

1. Test for lead-based paint. You can hire a lead-based paint inspector or risk assessor at epa.gov/lead.

2. If you find lead-based paint, you should not disturb it. If you need to do any work that could disturb lead-based paint, you should hire a lead-based paint abatement contractor. You can find a lead-based paint abatement contractor at epa.gov/lead.

3. If you have lead-based paint in your home, you should take steps to prevent lead dust from getting into your home. This includes:

• Keeping floors and surfaces clean.

• Not eating, drinking, or using dishes in areas with lead-based paint.

• Not using leaded gasoline in your car.

• Not using leaded solder in your home.

4. If you have lead-based paint in your home, you should take steps to prevent lead dust from getting into your home.

• Keeping floors and surfaces clean.

• Not eating, drinking, or using dishes in areas with lead-based paint.

• Not using leaded gasoline in your car.

• Not using leaded solder in your home.

Lead Gets into the Body in Many Ways

Adults and children can get lead into their bodies if they:

• repair,

or painting that disturb painted surfaces).

• in lead-based paint (found in many homes built before 1978).

• in lead-based solder (found in some plumbing).

• in lead-based dust.

• in lead-based soil.

Lead is especially dangerous to children under the age of 6.

• because their bodies are

and nervous systems are more sensitive to the

• they absorb more lead.

• they often put their hands and

other objects in their mouths. Children under 6 years old often have lead dust on them.



Women of childbearing age should know that lead is dangerous to a developing fetus.

• because lead can cross the placenta and enter the fetus.

• because lead can be found in lead-based paint, lead-based solder, lead-based dust, lead-based soil, and lead-based water.

Health Effects of Lead

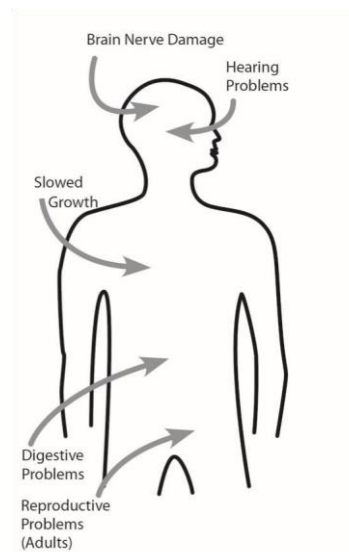
Lead affects the body in many ways. It is important to know that

In children, exposure to lead can cause:

disorder, and decreased intelligence

problems

seizures, unconsciousness, and, in some cases, death.



"MUIPVHIDIJMESFOBSFFTQFDJBMZTVTDFQUJCMFUPMFBEFYQPTVSF
MFBEDBO be dangerous for adults, too.

In adults, exposure to lead can cause:

Check Your Family for Lead

Get your children and home tested if you think your home has lead.

Children under 6 months of age, and tend to peak at 18 to 24 months of age. Consult your doctor for advice on testing your children. A simple blood test can determine if your child has lead in their system.

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Your doctor can explain what the test results mean and if more testing will be needed.

Where Lead-Based Paint Is Found

In general, the older your home or childcare facility, the more likely it
IBTMFBECBTFEQBJOU¹

Many homes, including private, federally-assisted, federally-owned housing, and childcare facilities built before 1978 have lead-based paint. In 1978, the federal government banned consumer
VTFTPGMFBEDPOUBJOJQHBJOU²

-FBSOIPXUPEFUFSNJOFJGQBJOUJTMFBECBTFEQBJOUPOQBHF

Lead can be found:

t*OIPNFTBOEDIJMEDBSFGBDJMJUJFTJOUIFDJUZ DPVOUSZ

PSTVCSCT

t*OQSJWBUFBQEQVCMJDTJOHMFGBNJMZIPNFTBOEBQBSUNFOUT

tOOTVSGBDFTJOTJEFBOEPVUTJEFPGUIFIPVTF BOE

t*OTPJMBSPVOEBIPNF

4PJMDBOQJDLVQMFBEQSPNFYUFSJPSQBJOUPS other

sources, such as past use of leaded gas in cars.)

Learn more about where lead is found at epa.gov/lead.

¹ i-FBECBTFEQBJOUwJTDVSSFOUMZEFöOFECZUIFGFEFSBMHPWFSONFOUBTQBJOUXJUI
lead levels greater than or equal to 1.0 milligram per square centimeter (mg/cm), or
more than 0.5% by weight.

² FBEDPOUBJOJQHBJOUwJTDVSSFOUMZEFöOFECZUIFGFEFSBMHPWFSONFOUBTMFBEOFX
ESJFEQBJOUJOFYDFTTPGQBSUTQFSNJMMJPO QQN CZXFJHIU

Identifying Lead-Based Paint and Lead-Based Paint Hazards

Deteriorating lead-based paint (peeling, chipping, chalking, cracking, or damaged paint) is a hazard and needs immediate attention. **Lead-based paint** may also be a hazard when found on surfaces that children can chew or that get a lot of wear and tear, such as

toys, windows, and doors.

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toys, windows, and doors.

Lead-based paint is usually not a hazard if it is in good condition and if it is not on an impact or friction surface like a window.

Lead dust is a hazard when it is in the air. Lead dust is formed when lead-based paint is heated, painted surfaces containing lead are rubbed together, or lead paint chips and dust get on surfaces and objects that people touch. Settled lead dust can reenter the air when the home is vacuumed or swept, or when people walk.

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Lead in soil can be a hazard when children play in bare soil or when lead-based paint is present in the soil. Lead-based paint can be found in soil when it is disturbed, such as when a window sill is painted.

Remember, lead from paint chips—which you can see—and lead dust—which you may not be able to see—both can be hazards.

Lead-based paint is also a hazard when found on surfaces that children can chew or that get a lot of wear and tear, such as toys, windows, and doors.

Checking Your Home for Lead

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OH QSPGFTTJPOBM
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conduct a paint inspection
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t" **risk assessment** tells you if your home currently has any lead hazards from lead in paint, dust, or soil. It also tells you what actions to take to address any hazards. A

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TUBJST and walls
t4BNQMF EVTUOFBSQB JOUFETVSGBDFTBOETBNQMFCBSFTPJM JOUIF
yard
t(FUMBCUFTUTPGQBJOU EVTU BOETPJMTBNQMFT

t"DPNCJOB UJPOJOTQFDUJPOBOESJTLBTTFTTNFOUUFMMTZPVJGZPVSI
NF IBTBOZMFBE CBTFEQBJOU BOEJGZPVSI PNFI BTBOZMFBEIB[BSET BOE
where both are located.

#FTVSFUPSFBEUIFSFQPSUQSPWJEFEUPZPVBGUFSZPVSJOTQFDUJPOPSSJTL
assessment is completed, and ask questions about anything you do not
understand.

Checking Your Home for Lead, continued

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IPNF -FBE4BGF\$FSUJöFESFOPWBUPST TFFQBHF NBZ
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present in the area planned for renovation and send them to an
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FSBM

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MFBEBCBTFEQBJOUJOTQFDUPSPSSJTLBTFTTTPS
t6TF&1"SFDPHOJ[FEUFTUTLJUTUPEFUFNSJOFJGMFBECBTFEQBJOUJT
absent (but not in housing receiving federal assistance)

t1SFTVNFUIBUMFBECBTFEQBJOUJTQSFTFOUBOEVTFMFBETBGFXPSL
practices

51FSFBSFTUBUFBOEGFEFSBMQSPHSBNTJOQMDFUPFOTVFSUIBUUFTUJ
OHJT EPOFTBGFMZ SFMJBCMZ
BOEFòFDUJWFMZ\$POUBDUZPVSTUBUFPSMPDBMBHFODZ for more
information, visit epa.gov/lead, or call **1-800-424-LEAD**
(5323) for a list of contacts in your area.³

³)FBSJOHPSTQFFDIDIBMMFOHFEJQJWJEVBMNTNBZBDDFTTUIJTOVNCFSUISPVHI55:CZ
DBMMJOHUIF'FEFSBM3FMBZ4FSWJDFBU

What You Can Do Now to Protect Your Family

If you suspect that your house has lead-based paint hazards, you can take some immediate steps to reduce your family's risk: t*GZPVSFUO
OPUJGZZPVSMBOEMPSEPGQFFMJOHPSDIJQQJOHQBJOU
t,FFQQBJOUFETVSGBDFTDMFBOBOEGSFFPGEVTU\$MFBOøPPST
XJOEPX frames, window sills, and other surfaces weekly. Use a mop or
sponge XJUIXBSNXBUFSBOEBHF0FSBMBMMQVSQPTDFMFBOFS
3FNFCFS
OFWFSNJYBNNPOJBBOECMFBDIQSPEVDUTUPHFUIFSCFDBVTFUIFZDBO
form a dangerous gas.)

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VTU

t5IPSPVHIMZSJOTFTQPOHFTBOENPQIFBETPGUFOEVSJOHDMFBOJOHPG
dirty or dusty areas, and again afterward.

t8BTIZPVSIBOETBOEZPVSDIJMESFOTIBOETPGUFO FTQFDJBMMZCFGPSF
they eat and before nap time and bed time.

t,FFQQMBZBSFBTDMFBO8BTICPUUMFT QBDJöFST UPZT BOETUVòFE
animals regularly.

t,FFQDIJMESFOGSPNDIFXJOHXJOEPXTJMMTPSPUIFSQBJOUFETVSGBDFT
PS

eating soil.

t8IFOSFOPWBUJOH SFQBSJOH PSQBJOUJOH IJSFPOMZ&1"PSTUBUF
BQQSPWFE-FBE4BGF\$FSUJöFESFOPWBUJPOösNT TFFQBHF
t\$MFBOBSSFNWFTIPFTCFGPSFFOUFSJOHZPVSIPNFUPBWPJEUSBDLJO
H in lead from soil. t.BLFTVSFDIJMESFOBWPJEGBUUZ PSIJHIGBU
GPPETBOEFBUOVUSJUPVT meals high in iron and calcium. Children
with good diets absorb less lead.

Reducing Lead Hazards

Disturbing lead-based paint or removing lead improperly can increase the hazard to your family by spreading even more lead dust around the house.



t*OBEEJUIPOUPEBZUPEBZDMFBOJOH
and good nutrition, you can
temporarilySFEVDFMFBECBTFEQBJOU
hazards by taking actions, such as
repairing damaged painted surfaces
BOEQMBOUJOHHSBTTUPDPWFMSMFE
DPOUBNJOBUFETPJM5IFTFBDUJPOTBSF
not permanent solutions and will need
ongoing attention.

t:PVDBONJOJNJ[FFYQPTVSFUPMFBE
XIFOSFOPWBUJOH SFQBSJOH PSQBJOUJOHCZIJSJOHBO&1"PSTUBUF
DFSUJöFESFOPWBUPSXIPJTUSBJOFEJOUIFVTFPGMFEBETBGFXPSL
QSBDUJDFt*GZPVBSFBEPJUZPVSTFMGFS MFBSOIPXUPVTFMFBEoTBGF
work practices in your home. t5PSFNPWFMFBEIB[BSETQFSNBOFOUMZ
ZPVTIPVMEIJSFBDJSUJöFEMFBE abatement contractor. Abatement (or
permanent hazard elimination) NFUIPETJODMVEFSFNPWJOH TFBMJOH
PSFODMPTJOHMFECBTFEQBJOU with special materials. Just painting
over the hazard with regular paint is not permanent control.

**Always use a certified contractor who is trained to address lead
hazards safely.**

t)JSFB-FBE4BGF\$FSUJöFEöSN TFFQBHF UPQFSGPSNSFOPWBUJPO
SFQBS PSQBJOUJOH 331 QSPKFDUTUIBUEJTUVSCQBJOUFETVSGBDFT

t5PDPSSFDUMFBEIB[BSETQFSNBOFOUMZ
IJSFBDJSUJöFEMFBEBCBUFNFOU
QSPGFTTJPOBM5IJTXJMMFOTVSFZPVSDPOUSBDUPSLOPXTIPXUPXS
L safely and has the proper equipment to clean up thoroughly.

\$FSUJöFEDPOUSBDUPSTXJMMFNQMPZRVBMJöFEXPSLFSTBOEGPMMPX
TUSJDU safety rules as set by their state or by the federal government.

Reducing Lead Hazards, continued

If your home has had lead abatement work done or if the housing is
receiving federal assistance, once the work is completed, dust cleanup
activities must be conducted until clearance testing indicates that lead
EVTUMFWFMTBSFCFMPXUIFGPMMPXJOHMFWFMT

tNJDSPHSBNTQFSTRVBSFGPPU AHGU² GPSøPPST
JODMVEJOHDBSQFUFE

øPPST

tΛHGU² for interior windows sills tΛHGU² for

window troughs

'PSIFMQJOMPDBUJOHDFSUJöFEMFBEBCBUFNFOUQSPGFTTJPOBMTJOZ
PVSBFB call your state or local agency (see pages 14 and 15), or visit
epa.gov/lead PSDBMM-&"%

Renovating, Remodeling, or Repairing (RRP) a Home with Lead-Based Paint

If you hire a contractor to conduct renovation, repair, or painting (RRP) projects in your pre-1978 home or childcare facility (such as pre-school and kindergarten), your contractor must:

1. Contain the work area. Use plastic sheeting, drop cloths, and other impermeable material to seal off the work area. Plastic sheeting must be taped to the floor and walls. Plastic sheeting must be used to cover floors, walls, and furniture in the work area. Plastic sheeting must be used to cover floors, walls, and furniture in the work area.

2. Avoid renovation methods that generate large amounts of lead-contaminated dust. Do not use power tools and equipment not equipped with a shroud and HEPA vacuum attachment and do not use methods that generate large amounts of lead-contaminated dust.

3. Clean up thoroughly. Use HEPA vacuum attachment and other methods to clean up dust and debris. Collect and seal waste in a heavy duty bag to prevent release of dust and debris.



RRP contractors working in pre-1978 homes and childcare facilities must follow lead-safe work practices that:

1. Contain the work area. Use plastic sheeting, drop cloths, and other impermeable material to seal off the work area. Plastic sheeting must be taped to the floor and walls. Plastic sheeting must be used to cover floors, walls, and furniture in the work area. Plastic sheeting must be used to cover floors, walls, and furniture in the work area.

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3. Clean up thoroughly. Use HEPA vacuum attachment and other methods to clean up dust and debris. Collect and seal waste in a heavy duty bag to prevent release of dust and debris.

4. Dispose of waste properly. Collect and seal waste in a heavy duty bag to prevent release of dust and debris.

5PMFBSONPSFBCPVU&1"TSFRVJSFNFOOUTGPS331QSPKFDUTWJTJU
epa.gov/getleadsafe, or read *The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to
Renovate Right*.

Other Sources of Lead

While paint, dust, and soil are the most common sources of lead, other lead sources also exist:

Drinking water. Your home might have plumbing with lead or lead solder. You cannot see, smell, or taste lead, and boiling your water will not remove lead. You can reduce lead in your drinking water by using a certified water filter, or by flushing your tap water for a few minutes before using it. You can also use bottled water for drinking water.

For more information about testing your water, or visit [epa.gov/lead](https://www.epa.gov/lead) for drinking water information.

Lead smelters or other industries that release lead into the air.

Your job. If you work with lead, you could bring it home on your body or clothes. Shower and change clothes before coming home. Launder your work clothes separately from your regular clothes. **Hobbies** that use lead, such as making pottery or stained glass, may contain lead. **Toys and furniture** may contain lead.⁴

Lead crystal or lead-glazed pottery or porcelain may contain lead.

⁴ *O UIFGFEFSBMHPWFSONFOUCBOOFEUPZT PUIFSDIJMESFOTQSPEVDUT
BOEGVSOJUVSF XJUIIMFBEDPOUBJOHQBJOU \$'3 *O
UIFGFEFSBMHPWFSONFOUCBOOFE
MFBEJONPTUDIJMESFOTQSPEVDUT5IFGFEFSBMHPWFSONFOUDVSSFOUMZCBOTMFB
EJO
FYDFTTPGQQNCZXFJHIUJONPTUDIJMESFOTQSPEVDUT '3

t'PMLSFNFEJFT TVDIBT **“greta”** and **“azarcon,”** used to treat an upset stomach.

For More Information

The National Lead Information Center

Learn how to protect children from lead poisoning and get other
JOGPSNBUJPOBCPVUMFBEIB[BSETPOUIF8FCBUepa.gov/lead and
hud.gov/lead, or call **1-800-424-LEAD (5323)**.

EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline

'PSJOGPSNBUJPOBCPVUMFBEJOESJOLJOHXBUFS DBMM**1-800-426-4791**, or visit epa.gov/lead for information about lead in drinking water.

Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Hotline

'PSJOGPSNBUJPOPOMFBEJOUPTZTBOEUIFSDPOTVNFSQSPEVDUT PSUP
SFQPSUBOVOTBGFD POTVNFSQSPEVDUPS BQSPEVDUSFMBUFEJOKV
SZ DBMM **1-800-638-2772**,PSWJTJU\$14\$TXFCTJUFBUcpsc.gov or
saferproducts.gov.

State and Local Health and Environmental Agencies

4PNFTUBUFT USJCTF
BOEDJUJFTIBWFUIFJSPXOSVMFTSFMBUFEUPMFBE based paint. Check
with your local agency to see which laws apply
UPZPV.PTUBHFODJFTDBOBMTQPSPWJEFJOGPSNBUJPOPOöOEJOHB
MFBE
BCBUFNFOUöSNJOZPVSBFB
BOEPOQPTTJCMFTPVSDFTPGöOBODJBMBJE
GPSSFEVDJOHMFBEIB[BSET3FDFJWFVQUPEBUFBESFTTBOEQIPOF
JOGPSNBUJPOGPSZPVSTUBUFPSMPDBMDPOUBDUTPOUIF8FCBUepa.go
v/lead, PSDPOUBDUUIF/BUJPOBM-FBE*OGPSNBUJPO\$FOUFSBU**1-800-424-LEAD**.

)FBSJOHPSTQFFDIDIBMMFOHFEJJEJWJEVBMNTNBZBDDFTTBOZPGUIF
QIPOFOVNCSTJOUIJTCSPDIVSFUISPVHI55:CZDBMMJOHUIFUPMM
GSFF'FEFSBM3FMBZ4FSWJDFBU**1-800-877-8339**.

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Regional Offices

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H regulations and lead protection programs.

Region 1 \$POOFDUJDVU .BTTBDIVTFUUT .BJOF
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Region 7 *PXB ,BOTBT .JTTPVSI /FCSBTLB

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Region 9 (Arizona, California, Hawaii, /FWBEB
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75 Hawthorne Street
4BO'SBODJTDP "\$

Region 10 "MBTLB *EBIP 0SFHPO

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Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)

5IF\$14\$QSPUFDUTUIFQVCMJDBHBJOTUVOSFBTPOBCMFSJTLPGJ
OKVSZ from consumer products through education, safety
standards activities, and enforcement. Contact CPSC for further
information regarding consumer product safety and regulations.

CPSC

&BTU8FTU)JHIXBZ

#FUIFTEB .% cpsc.gov or
saferproducts.gov

U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

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DPNNVOJUJFTBOERVBMJUZBòPSEBCMFI PNFTGPSBMM\$POUBDU
)6%T0óDFPG)FBMUIZ)PNFTBOE-FBE)B[BSE\$POUSPMGPS
GVSUIFSJOGPSNBUJPOSFHBSEJOHUIF-FBE4BGF)PVTJOH3VMF
XIIDI QSPUFDUTGBNJMJFTJOQSFBTJTUFEIPVTJOH
BOEGPSUIFMFBE hazard control and research grant programs.

HUD

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QFSNJTJPO*OGPSNBUJPOQSPWJEFEJOUJTCPLMFUJTCBTFEVQPODVSSFOUJFOUJóDBOEUFIOJDBM
VOEFSTUBOEJOHPGUIFJTTVFTQSFTOUFEBEJTSFøFDUJWFPUIFKVSJTEJDUJPOBMCPVOEBSJFTFTUBCMJ
TIFECZ
UIFTUBUVUFTHPWF\$OJHUIFDPBVUIPSJOHBFODJFT*PMPXJOHUIFBEWJDFHJWFOXJMMOPUOFDFTTBS
JMZ provide complete protection in all situations or against all health hazards that can be caused by lead
FYQPTVSF

64&1"8BTIJOHUPO%\$
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64)6%8BTIJOHUPO%\$

&1",
September 2013

IMPORTANT!

Lead From Paint, Dust, and Soil in and Around Your Home Can Be Dangerous if Not Managed Properly

Children and pregnant women should not be allowed to play in areas where lead-based paint has been removed. Children should not be allowed to play in areas where lead-based paint has been removed.

Lead-based paint is found in many homes built before 1960. Lead-based paint is found in many homes built before 1960. Lead-based paint is found in many homes built before 1960. Lead-based paint is found in many homes built before 1960.

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