United States Patent [19]

Gross

[11] **3,787,934**

[45] **Jan. 29, 1974**

[54] **DEVICE FOR JOINING CANVAS BOARDS**

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[22] Filed: **July 11, 1972**

[21] Appl. No.: **270,664**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **24/85 R,** 52/683, 248/216

[51] **Int. Cl.** **A44b 21/00**

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 24/85 R, 85 A, 85 B, 73 B, 24/73 P, 81 B; 248/494, 216; 16/86 R; 287/56, 189.35; 52/679, 681, 682, 683, 562–565

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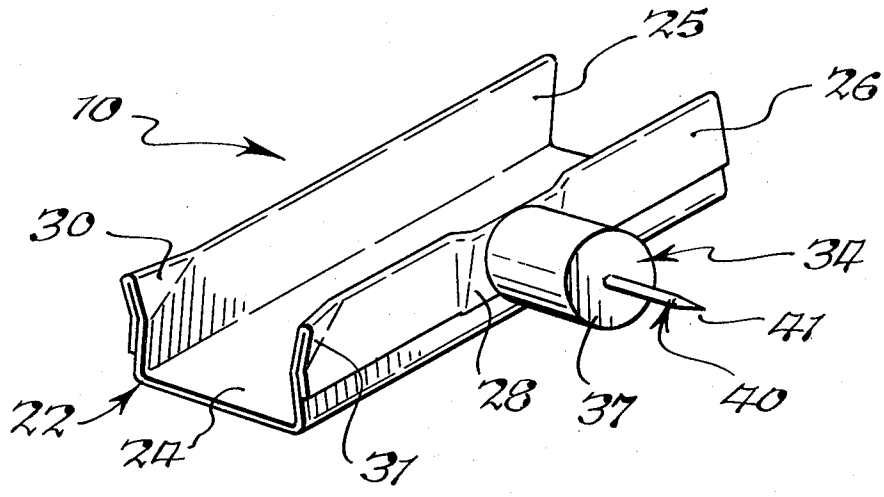
[57] **ABSTRACT**

A device for joining one canvas board having a freshly painted surface to another board in spaced, substantially parallel relation thereto and protecting the freshly painted surface. A clip member in the form of a channel member is adapted to be fitted over an edge of one of the boards and an elongated spacer member is mounted on the clip member, in particular being secured at one end to a flange of the channel member, and is disposed so as to extend in a direction away from and generally perpendicular to the plane of the one canvas board. A pin member is secured to and extends from the spacer member in a direction away from and generally perpendicular to the plane of the one board and is adapted to be driven into the other board. Several devices, for example four, are used to join two canvas boards.

10 Claims, 8 Drawing Figures



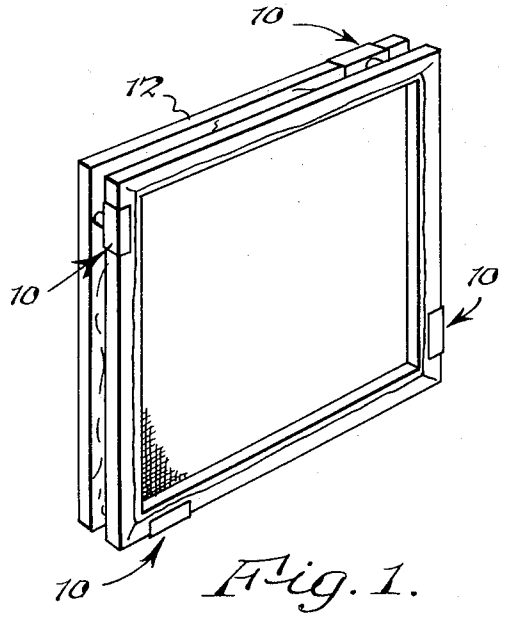


Fig. 1.

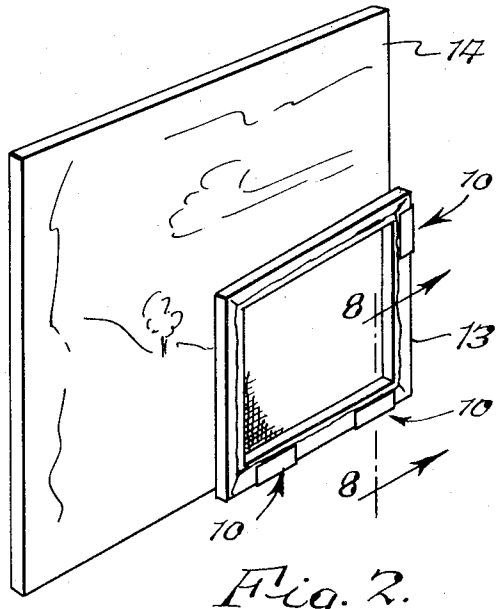
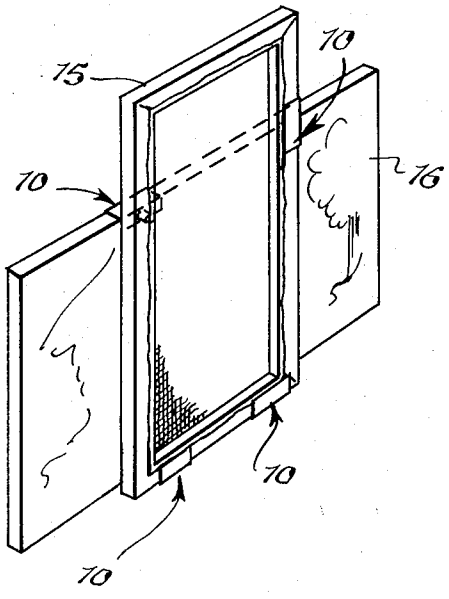


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.



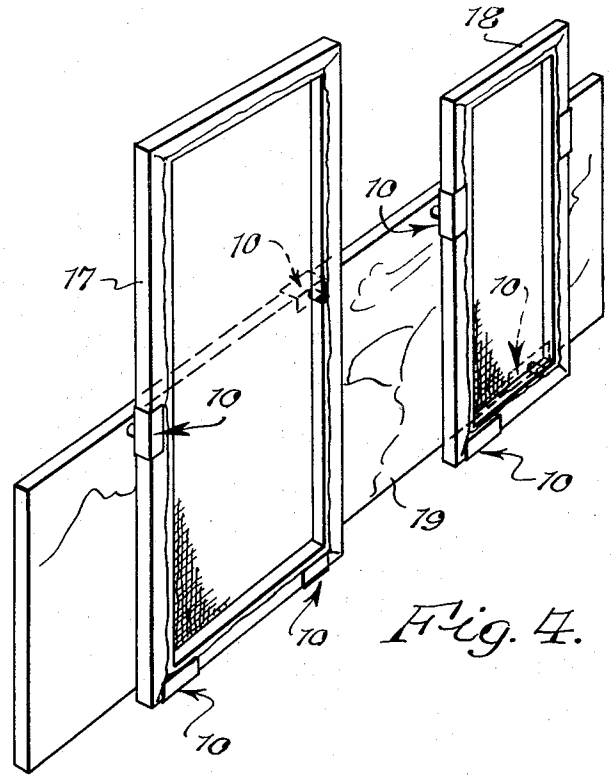
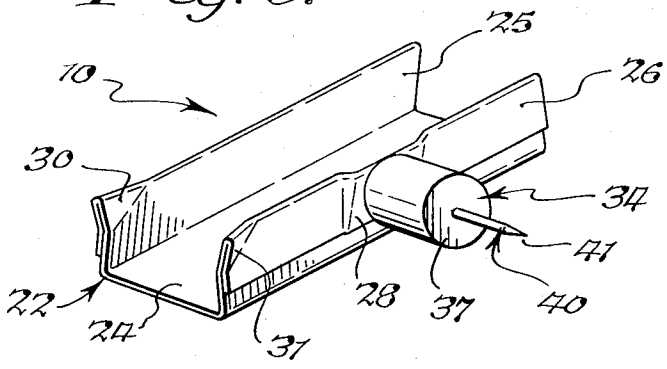


Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.



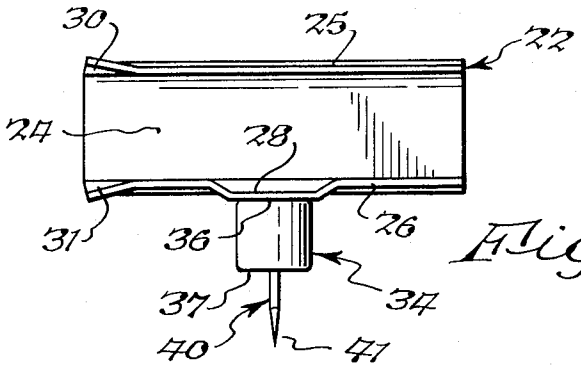
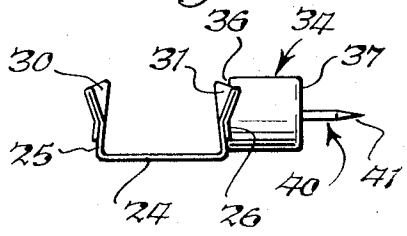


Fig. 6.

Fig. 7.



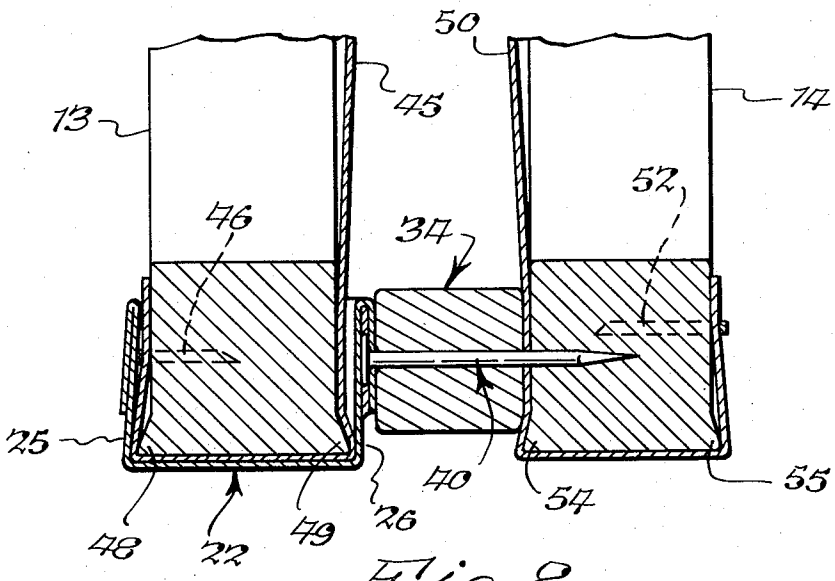


Fig. 8.

DEVICE FOR JOINING CANVAS BOARDS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to devices used by artistic painters, and more particularly to a new and improved device for joining one canvas board having a freshly painted surface to another board in spaced relation to protect the painted surface.

When an artist has finished painting on a canvas board, it is important to protect the freshly painted surface while it is drying as the canvas board is transported and stored. This can be done by devices for joining one canvas board having a freshly painted surface to another canvas board in spaced, substantially parallel relation thereto and protecting the freshly painted surface. It is important that such devices be effective in joining the two canvas boards and at the same time be easy to install. Furthermore, in many but not all instances the two canvas boards will have the same size and shape, so it is desirable that such devices be capable of joining canvas boards of the same as well as different sizes and shapes.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is, therefore, an object of the present invention to provide a new and improved device for joining one canvas board to another board in spaced, substantially parallel relation thereto and protecting the freshly painted surface.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide such a device which is effective in joining the two boards and at the same time is easy to install or apply.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide such a device which is capable of joining boards having the same as well as different sizes and shapes.

It is a further object of this invention to provide such a device which is simple in construction and easy and economical to manufacture.

The present invention provides a device for joining one canvas board having a freshly painted surface to another board in spaced, substantially parallel relation thereto and protecting the freshly painted surface. The device comprises a clip member adapted to be fitted over an edge of one of the boards, a spacer member secured to and extending out from the clip member, and a pin member secured to and extending out from the spacer member and adapted to be driven into the other board. Several devices are used at corresponding locations spaced around the boards.

The foregoing and additional advantages and characterizing features of the present invention will become clearly apparent upon a reading of the ensuing detailed description together with the included drawing wherein:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES

FIG. 1 is a perspective view showing a device according to the present invention as it would appear in use joining two boards of substantially the same size;

FIG. 2 is a perspective view showing the device of FIG. 1 joining a relatively small board to a relatively larger board;

FIG. 3 is a perspective view showing the device of FIG. 1 joining two rectangular boards disposed in different directions;

FIG. 4 is a perspective view showing the device of FIG. 1 joining two boards to a third board;

FIG. 5 is a perspective view of a device according to the present invention;

FIG. 6 is a top plan view thereof;

FIG. 7 is an end elevational view thereof; and

FIG. 8 is a sectional view taken about about on line 8—8 of FIG. 2.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE ILLUSTRATED EMBODIMENT

Referring now to the drawing a device **10** according to the present invention is shown in FIG. **1** as it would appear in use joining together two canvas boards **11, 12** of substantially the same size. Preferably four devices **10** are used, each being positioned adjacent one of the corners. Device **10** can be used with equal ease and effectiveness in joining one relatively small canvas board **13** to a relatively larger canvas board **14** as shown in FIG. **2,** or in joining two rectangular shaped canvas boards **15, 16** disposed in different directions as shown in FIG. **3.** FIG. **4** shows the manner in which device **10** is used to join two canvas boards **17, 18** to a third canvas board **19.**

Referring now to FIG. **5–8,** device **10** comprises a clip member **22** adapted to be fitted over an edge of one of the canvas boards. Clip member **22** is in the form of a channel member having a base **24** and a pair of flange members **25, 26** extending from base **24.** The distance between flange members **25, 26** measured adjacent base **24** is not less than the thickness of the canvas boards measured at the peripheral edge thereof, and according to a preferred mode of the present invention this distance between flanges **25, 26** is about seven eights of an inch. Each flange member **25** and **26** is disposed so as to define with base **24** an angle slightly less than ninety degrees for a purpose which will be described. In addition, one of the flange members, in the present illustration flange **26,** is formed with a portion **28** between the ends thereof disposed so as to define with base **24** an angle of ninety degrees. Flange members **25** and **26** preferably are bent outwardly at the corner of each at one end of clip member **22** to provide tabs **30** and **31,** respectively, to facilitate fitting clip member **22** onto an edge of a canvas board as will be described in detail presently. Each tab **30, 31** defines an acute angle with the plane of the flange member **25, 26** from which it is formed, and each tab extends in a direction away from both flanges **25, 26** and away from base **24.**

Device **10** further comprises a spacer member **34** mounted on clip member **22** and disposed so as to extend in a direction away from or out from clip member **22** and generally perpendicular to the plane of the canvas board on which clip member **22** is fitted. Spacer member **34** is elongated having planar, mutually parallel end surfaces **36** and **37** at opposite ends thereof, and in the present illustration spacer member **34** is solid cylindrical in shape. End surface **36** is secured to one of the flange members, in particular to portion **28** of flange **26,** and end surface **37** is disposed in a plane perpendicular to the plane of base **24.** According to a preferred mode of the present invention, spacer member **34** is a piece of wood dowel having a length of one-half inch and a diameter of one half inch.

Device **10** of the present invention finally comprises a pin member **40** secured to and extending from spacer

member **34** in a direction away from and generally perpendicular to the plane of the one board on which clip member **22** is fitted, and pin member **40** is adapted to be driven or pushed into the surface of the other board. Pin member **40** extends outwardly from end surface **37** of spacer member and at a right angle to end surface **37**, and pin member **40** terminates in a sharp, pointed tip **41**. According to a preferred form of the present invention, pin member **40** is a number seventeen nail, and the exposed portion of pin **40** extending out from surface **37** is five sixteenths inch in length.

Device **10** of the present invention is used in the following manner. Clip member **22** is grasped by hand with the thumb contacting one flange and one or more fingers contacting the other flange, and then clip member **22** is moved into place fitting on the edge of one of the canvas boards. In particular, clip member **22** is moved into place with the end having tabs **30, 31** receiving the edge of the canvas board first. Clip member **22** is moved or slid onto the edge of the board in a manner such that base **24** is moved or pushed along generally parallel to the edge of the board until the entire length of clip member **22** is fitted on the edge of the board. When this has been done, device **10** is in position on one of the boards as shown in FIGS. **1–4.** Then the board having device **10** is held or supported while the other board is brought in proximity thereto, with the corners of the one board aligned with the corners of the other board. The boards are pushed toward each other so that pin member **40** is driven into the surface of the other board close to the edge thereof. As a result, the two boards are joined together at or adjacent one corner of each and spaced apart a distance equal to the length of spacer member **34.** This procedure is repeated with additional devices at the remaining aligned corners, in particular a device **10** first is applied to one board by fitting clip member **22** onto the edge thereof and then pin **40** is driven into the surface of the other board near the edge. As shown in FIG. **1,** with two boards **11** and **12** of substantially the same size, this is done with four devices **10** one at each of the four aligned corners.

When boards of different sizes and shapes are joined, device **10** will not be installed at aligned corners in all instances as illustrated in FIGS. **2–4.** Device **10** works equally well with clip member **22** applied to either board, and when clip **22** is fitted on the board having the freshly painted surface, spacer **34** and pin **40** will be adjacent the painted surface and extending out therefrom. It may be desirable to alternate the orientation of devices **10** as illustrated in FIG. **1.** When the boards are to be separated, they simply are pulled apart to withdraw pin **40** from the one board and then clip member **22** is pushed along the edge of the other board until it is removed.

FIG. **8** shows in further detail a device **10** as it would appear in position joining two canvas boards, for example boards **13** and **14** as shown in FIG. **2.** Board **13** has a canvas **45** streched over one surface thereof, wrapped around the edge thereof, and fastened to the other surface of the board by a plurality of nails or tacks, one of which is designated **46.** In addition, board **13** like most canvas boards in current use is provided with a peripheral lip on each surface thereof, in particular lips **48, 49** shown in FIG. **8,** to space the canvas from the board so that a ridge does not appear when the board is framed. Similarly board **14** has a canvas **50** streched over one surface, wrapped around the edge and fastened by nails **52** to the other surface, and board **14** is provided with peripheral lips **54, 55.**

According to the present invention, flanges **25, 26** of clip member **22** are disposed so that each defines with base member **24** an angle less than ninety degrees. This enhances the firmness with which clip member **22** grips the edge of a board, in particular the inwardly extending flanges **25, 26** grip the board behind the peripheral lips, and this prevents clip member **22** from slipping off the board in a direction perpendicular to the board edge surface. Also according to the present invention, one of the flanges such as flange **26** is provided with a portion **28** disposed at a right angle to base **24** so that spacer **34** and pin member **40** extend perpendicular to the plane of the board. This is important to provide an effective joining of two boards.

Clip member **22** of device **10** can be formed of flexible or spring stock material, such as sheet steel or tin having a thickness of approximately 0.012–0.014 inch, which is bent over on itself to provide flanges **25, 26** with smooth edges. By way of example, clip member **22** is about two and five-eighths inches long, and each flange **25, 26** is about one-half inch wide. It is important that flanges **25, 26** have a relatively small width, such as about one-half inch, so that when device **10** is installed pin member **40** will piece the canvas of the one board near the edge portion which later may be covered by a frame. The head of the nail providing pin member **40** can be soldered in between the bends forming flange **26** and at portion **28.** When spacer member **34** is in the form of a wooden dowel, it simply may be driven onto pin **40** and up against flange portion **28.**

It is therefore apparent that the present invention accomplishes its intended objects. One canvas board having a freshly painted surface is joined by device **10** of the present invention, in particular a plurality of such devices, to another board in spaced, substantially parallel relation. The painted surface is protected as the two boards are carried or otherwise transported from place to place as well as while the boards are being stored when not in use. Device **10** is effective in joining two boards and at the same time is easy to install or apply. The effective and firm gripping action of channel member **22** on one board, which is easy to apply by virtue of tabs **30, 31,** combines with the easy joining of pin member **40** to the other board. Device **10** is relatively simple in construction, easy and economical to manufacture, and is capable of joining boards of both the same and different sizes and shapes.

While a single embodiment of the present invention has been described with specificity, this has been done by way of illustration, not limitation.

1. A device for joining one canvas board having a freshly painted surface to another board in spaced, substantially parallel relation thereto and protecting the freshly painted surface, said device comprising:

a a clip member adapted to be fitted over an edge of one of said boards so as to grip said one board adjacent the edge thereof, said clip member having a base portion disposed generally parallel to the edge of said one board and at least one flange extending from said base portion and along the surface of said one board when said clip member is fitted on the edge of said one board;

b a spacer member on said flange of said clip member and disposed so as to extend in a direction away

from and generally perpendicular to the plane of said one board when said clip member is fitted on the edge of said one board, said spacer member being elongated and having an outer end surface disposed in a plane substantially perpendicular to the plane of said base; and

c a pin member extending out from said end surface of said spacer member in a direction away from and generally perpendicular to the plane of said one board and adapted to be driven into said other board so that said boards are spaced apart a distance substantially equal to the length of said spacer member;

d whereby said canvas board having the freshly painted surface can be joined to said other board by a plurality of said devices at corresponding locations spaced around said boards.

2. A device according to claim **1,** wherein said clip member comprises a channel member having a base and a pair of flange members extending from said base, the distance between said flange members measured adjacent said base being not less than the thickness of said canvas boards measured at the peripheral edge thereof.

3. A device for joining one canvas board having a freshly painted surface to another board in spaced, substantially parallel relation thereto and protecting the freshly painted surface, said device comprising:

a a clip member adapted to be fitted over an edge of one of said boards, said clip member comprising a channel member having a base and a pair of flange members extending from said base, the distance between said flange members measured adjacent said base being not less than the thickness of said canvas board measured at the peripheral edge thereof;

b a spacer member mounted on said clip member and disposed so as to extend in a direction away from and generally perpendicular to the plane of said one board when said clip member is fitted on the edge of said one board, said spacer member being elongated and having planar, mutually parallel end surfaces at opposite ends thereof, one of said end surfaces being secured to one of said flange members and the other of said end surfaces being disposed in a plane perpendicular to the plane of said base; and

c a pin member secured to and extending from said spacer member in a direction away from and generally perpendicular to the plane of said one board and adapted to be driven into said other board;

d whereby said canvas board having the freshly painted surface can be joined to said other board by a plurality of said devices at corresponding locations spaced around said boards.

4. A device according to claim **3,** wherein said pin member extends outwardly from said other end surface of said spacer member and at a right angle to said other end surface.

5. A device according to claim **2,** wherein the corner of each flange at one end of said clip member is bent outwardly to facilitate fitting said clip member onto the edge of said board.

6. A device according to claim **2,** wherein each of said flange members is disposed so as to define with said base member an angle less than ninety degrees.

7. A device for joining one canvas board having a freshly painted surface to another board in spaced, substantially parallel relation thereto and protecting the freshly painted surface, said device comprising:

a a clip member adapted to be fitted over an edge of one of said boards, said clip member comprising a channel member having a base and a pair of flange members extending from said base, the distance between said flange members measured adjacent said base being not less than the thickness of said canvas board measured at the peripheral edge thereof, each of said flange members being disposed so as to define with said base member an angle less than ninety degrees;

b a spacer member mounted on said clip member and disposed so as to extend in a direction away from and generally perpendicular to the plane of said one board when said clip member is fitted on the edge of said one board;

c one of said flange members being formed with a portion between the ends thereof disposed so as to define with said base member an angle of ninety degrees and said spacer member being secured to said flange portion; and

d a pin member secured to and extending from said spacer member in a direction away from and generally perpendicular to the plane of said one board and adapted to be driven into said other board;

e whereby said canvas board having the freshly painted surface can be joined to said other board by a plurality of said devices at corresponding locations spaced around said boards.

8. A device according to claim **7,** wherein said spacer member is elongated and has planar, mutually parallel end surfaces at opposite ends thereof, one of said end surfaces being secured to said flange portion and the other of said end surfaces being disposed in a plane perpendicular to the plane of said base.

9. A device according to claim **8,** wherein said pin member extends outwardly from said other end surface of said spacer member and at a right angle to said other end surface.

10. A device according to claim **6,** wherein the corner of each flange at one end of said clip member is bent outwardly to facilitate fitting said clip member onto the edge of said board.

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