

Dec. 15, 1942.

I. L. JOHNSON

2,305,428

CIGARETTE PACKAGE

Filed June 12, 1939

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

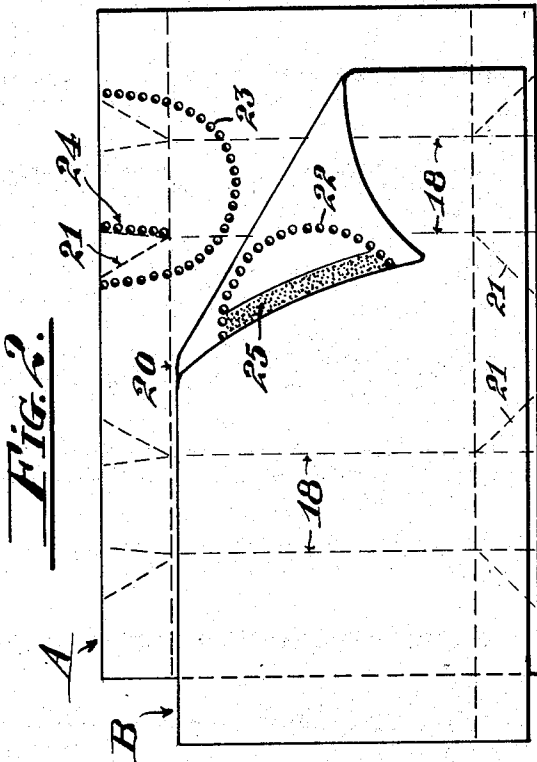


Fig. 1.

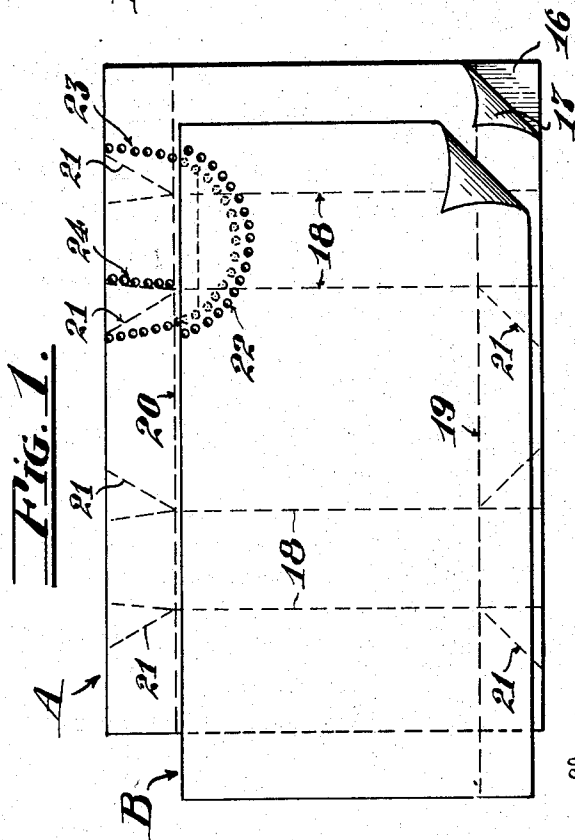


Fig. 2.

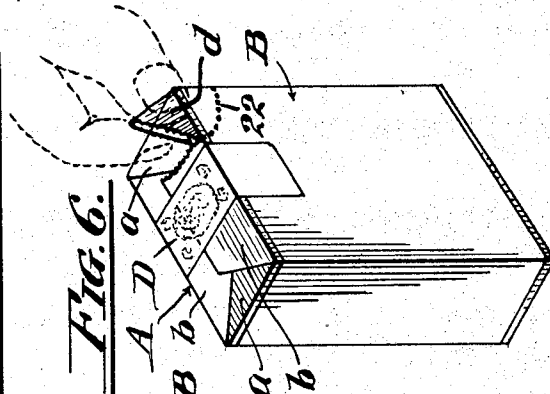


Fig. 3.

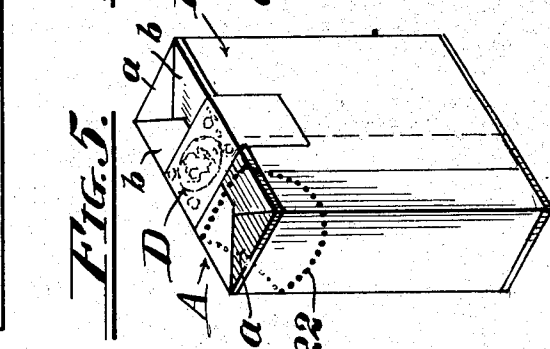


Fig. 4.

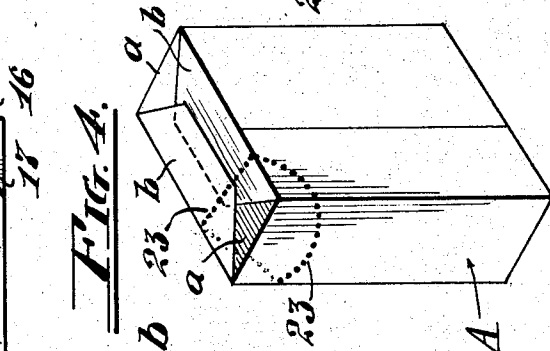


Fig. 5.

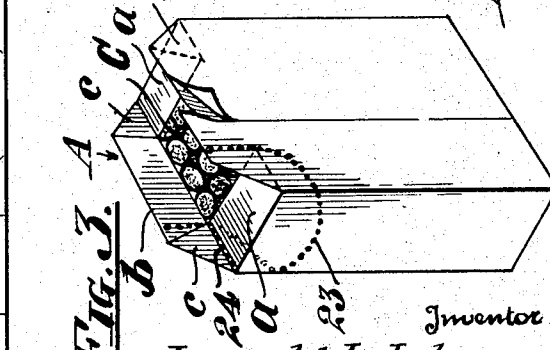


Fig. 6.

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FIG. 7.

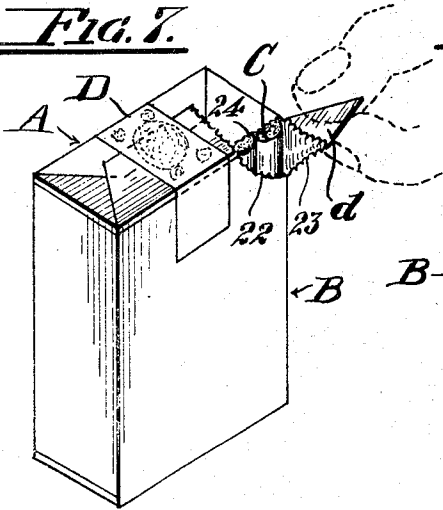


FIG. 8.

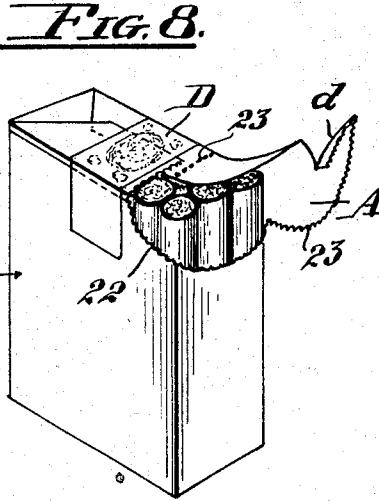


FIG. 9.

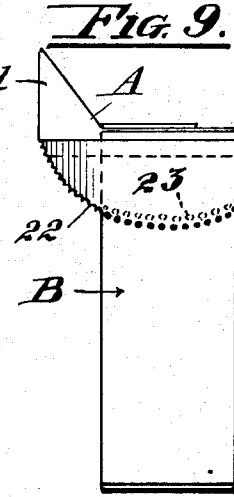


FIG. 10.

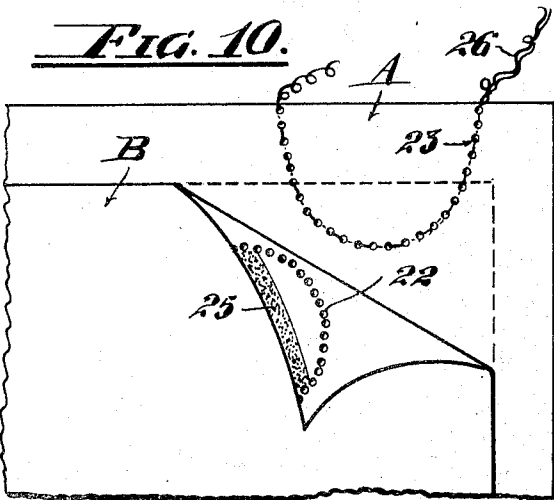


FIG. 11.

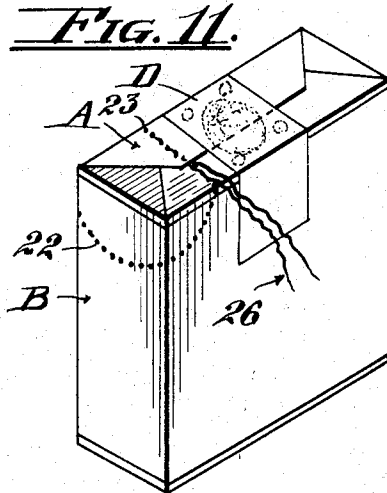


FIG. 12.

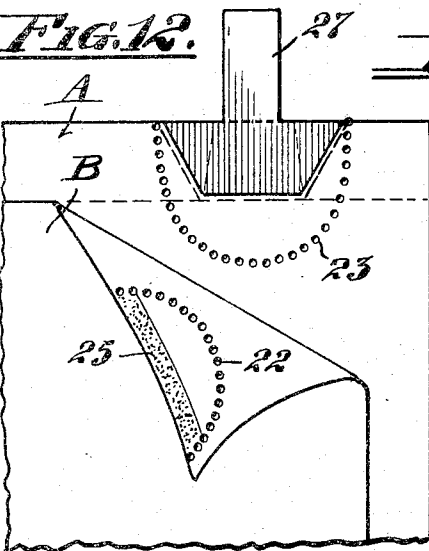
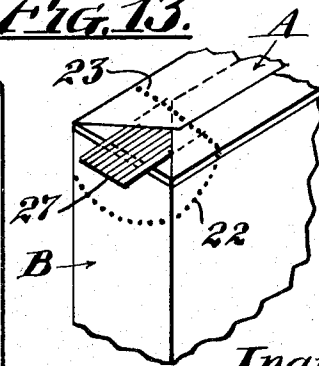


FIG. 13.



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CIGARETTE PACKAGE

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Application June 12, 1939, Serial No. 278,669

3 Claims. (Cl. 229—51)

This invention relates to a package for cigarettes and has as its primary object the provision of means for facilitating opening of the package in a manner to permit ready removal of cigarettes from the package at one corner thereof without excessive opening of the package.

Heretofore it has been proposed to equip cigarette packages with tear-off portions involving the employment of score lines, rip cords and like, but in a fashion either difficult of application or too costly to manufacture to result in a commercially practical package. Furthermore, proposed constructions of this character have generally disregarded the conventional mechanisms used in packaging cigarettes and have also contemplated the use of wrappers quite different from the form of wrappers now generally in use and for which packaging machines are ordinarily designed to handle, thus necessitating redesigning of the packaging mechanism which involves such expense and difficulties as to render it impractical to adopt the new package construction.

The present invention contemplates the provision of a construction and arrangement in a tear-off section of the package as will obviate the objectionable features above recited as well as to afford a more satisfactory and convenient mode of opening of the package; the preferred embodiment of the invention requiring no alteration in present modes of packaging cigarettes and but a minor operation on the conventional wrapper.

Another object of the invention is to provide a construction in a cigarette package involving an inner wrapper and an independently applied outer wrapper in which both wrappers are equipped with tear-off sections arranged in such cooperative relation as to enable coincident severance of both wrappers in effecting opening of the package by removal of a corner portion thereof.

Another object is to provide a cigarette package wrapper having an inner wrapper and an outer wrapper each formed with perforated tear-off lines so arranged that when the wrappers are formed into a package the perforated tear-off line of the outer wrapper will be disposed in such proximity to the tear-off line of the inner wrapper that both wrappers may be readily severed collectively along their respective tear-off lines.

Another object is to provide an arrangement in the perforated tear-off lines of the inner and outer wrappers which while affording requisite

juxto-positioning of the tear-off lines in the completed package the perforations of the tear-off line of the outer wrapper will be off-set relative to the perforations of the inner wrapper so that each wrapper will afford a seal for the perforations in the other wrapper and whereby the package will be maintained air tight irrespective of the perforations in the wrappers.

A further object is to provide a construction of the above character whereby the portion of the package removed by tearing the inner and outer wrappers along tear-off lines will effect opening of the package across one end portion of a butt end of the package, and also along adjacent sides of the package thereby providing an opening in the package through which a sufficient length of a cigarette is exposed to permit of its being readily grasped from the side thereof in effecting its removal from the package.

With the foregoing objects in view, together with such other objects and advantages as may subsequently appear, the invention is carried into effect as illustrated by way of example in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the cigarette wrapper showing the inner and outer wrappers unfolded and disposed in the superimposed relation occupied when folded to form a package, and showing the relative arrangement of perforated tear-off lines on the pair of wrappers;

Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 showing the outer wrapper as turned back to show the inner side of the portion thereof embodying the perforated tear-off line;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing the inner wrapper of the package as partially wrapped around the cigarettes contained thereby and with portions of the end flaps in an open position to clearly show the arrangement of the perforated tear-off line with which the inner wrapper is equipped;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the structure shown in Fig. 3 with the end flaps of the inner wrapper overlapped in their closed position;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the completed package showing the outer wrapper superimposed on the inner wrapper with the perforated tear-off line on the outer wrapper in juxtaposed relation with the perforated tear-off line of the inner wrapper;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view depicting the initial step in effecting opening of the package by removing the tear-off portion thereof; the view being of the side of the package opposite that shown in Fig. 5;

Fig. 7 is a perspective view similar to that of Fig. 6 showing a further advance in the operation of severing the tear-off portion of the package;

Fig. 8 is a perspective view showing the tear-off portion of the package in its nearly removed position;

Fig. 9 is a view in elevation of the package showing the parts as positioned in Fig. 7 and preliminary to effecting removal of a portion of the end wall of the package;

Fig. 10 is a plan view of a portion of the superimposed wrappers showing a modification of the invention in which the inner wrapper is equipped with a rip cord;

Fig. 11 is a perspective view of the package as formed from the wrappers shown in Fig. 10;

Fig. 12 is a plan view depicting a further modified form of the invention in which the inner wrapper is fitted with a finger-hold tab to facilitate removal of the tear-off portion of the package;

Fig. 13 is a perspective view of a fragmentary portion of the package showing the application of the construction shown in Fig. 12.

Referring to the drawings more specifically A indicates generally the rectangular inner wrapper of a cigarette package which in accordance with conventional practice is formed of an inner layer 16 of paper and an outer layer 17 of foil which layers are adhered together in the usual fashion.

The rectangular outer wrapper, indicated at B, is formed of paper and is dimensioned to have a length substantially corresponding to that of the inner wrapper A, but when applied in the package is off-set longitudinally of the outer wrapper to effect a space between the joints at the united ends of the inner wrapper and of the outer wrapper. The wrappers A and B are shown in Fig. 1 in their relative superimposed relation to each other when combined in the completed package, but it will be understood however, that in accordance with the present practice the inner wrapper A is first formed to encompass the cigarettes as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, and is thereafter equipped with the outer wrapper B. When the wrapper is unfolded as shown in Fig. 1 the outer wrapper B is disposed with its upper margin offset inwardly relative to the upper margin of the inner wrapper A and with the lower margin of the outer wrapper B contiguous to the lower margin of the inner wrapper A.

While the wrappers A and B as initially produced are not formed with fold lines, such lines are here indicated in Figs. 1 and 2 where the folds will occur after completion of the package, which showing is made for the purpose of clearly designating the location of tear-off lines with which the wrappers are equipped in accordance with my invention. A pair of fold lines 18 are indicated as extending transversely of the combined inner and outer wrappers A and B adjacent the ends thereof; the spaces or areas between the lines of each pair indicating the portions of the wrappers that will constitute the end walls of the sides of the package.

The inner and outer wrappers A and B are folded inwardly at their lower end portions along a line indicated at 19 and the inner wrapper is folded inwardly at its upper end along a fold line indicated at 20. Outwardly diverging fold lines 21 are indicated as leading from the intersection of the end fold lines 18 with the marginal fold lines 19 and 20 and which are produced in the

formation of top and bottom end flaps on the package.

In carrying out the invention the outer wrapper B is formed with an arcuate perforated tear-off line 22 which leads inwardly from the upper margin thereof at opposite sides of the fold lines 18 at either end of the wrapper and extends downwardly across the space bordered by the lines 18. The inner wrapper A is formed with an arcuate line 23 of tear-off perforations arranged to underlie the row 22 of perforations on the outer wrapper but out of register therewith; the end portions of the arcuate line 23 continuing across the end of the flap on the upper margin of the inner wrapper.

The outer end portions of the tear-off line 23 terminate at the edge of the inner wrapper adjacent the intersection with such edge of the diagonal fold lines 21 leading from the pair of fold lines 18 crossed by the tear-off line 23. A perforated line 24, or slit, leads inwardly from the upper edge of the inner wrapper along or adjacent to the outer end portion of at least one of the fold lines 18 crossed by the tear-off line 23; the perforated line 24 terminating at the marginal fold line 20 adjacent the base of the diagonal foldline 21 adjacent the outer end of which the tear-off line 23 terminates. This perforated line 24 constitutes a weakened line that may be opened for the purpose of facilitating initial tearing of the line 23 on opening the package, as will later appear.

In order to effect simultaneous tearing of the inner and outer wrappers along the perforated tear-off lines 22 and 23, the outer wrapper B is fastened to the inner wrapper at some point within the area bounded by the tear-off line 22 of the outer wrapper. To this end an adhesive may be used and is here shown as applied in a strip 25 extending along the margin of the inner face of the outer wrapper B between the ends of the arcuate row of perforations 22 as particularly shown in Fig. 2. Manifestly this strip of adhesive may comprise a gum applied to the outer wrapper either before application of the outer wrapper to the formed inner wrapper, or may be applied during assemblage of the outer wrapper in the package.

In applying the wrappers A and B, the inner wrapper A is initially positioned around a pack of cigarettes C with the ends of the wrapper A overlapped on one side of the pack and with the marginal folds of the wrapper A turned inwardly and overlapped as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, to form the butt ends of the package in the usual fashion; the end folds embodying flaps a turned inwardly from the opposite side-ends of the pack together with side flaps b turned inwardly from the opposite sides of the pack in overlapped relation to the flaps a and to each other. In thus forming the flaps a and b, triangular webs c are produced at the juncture of the flaps a with the ends of the flaps b, which webs c comprise the marginal portions of the inner wrapper A extending between the diagonal fold lines 21 and the end portions of the fold lines 18. On thus forming the flaps a and b and the webs c, the perforated line 24, or slit, will extend along a side margin of one of the flaps a as shown in Fig. 3 where it will be covered and concealed by the overlying flap b when the latter is in its finished position as shown in Fig. 4.

On completion of the folding of the inner wrapper around the cigarette pack, the end portions of the tear-off line 23 will extend toward

each other across the butt end of the package as shown in Fig. 4 with their ends overlapped while the arcuate intermediate portions of the tear-off line 23 will extend downwardly across an upper corner portion of the opposite side wall of the package and across the side-end wall thereof thus forming the package with a tear-off line that reaches downwardly from opposed points on the upper margin of a rectangular or cube-like package across opposed sides and an end wall thereof, and also leading across the butt end of the package.

After thus assembling the inner wrapper the outer wrapper B is applied in the usual manner with its ends off-set and united in relation to the joined ends of the inner wrapper; the lower marginal portion of the wrapper B being folded under the lower butt end of the package in the usual manner.

In applying the outer wrapper B the tear-off line 22 is positioned in substantially overlying relation to the portion of the tear-off line 23 of the inner wrapper extending along the sides and side-end wall of the wrapper as indicated in Fig. 5; at least a portion of the area of the wrapper B defined by the tear-off line 22 being adhered to the inner wrapper as by the adhesive 25. A revenue stamp E is then applied to the package to extend transversely over the overlying folds b at the upper end of the package and then downwardly on the opposite sides of the outer wrapper as shown in Fig. 5 thus completing the package.

In effecting opening of the package in accordance with my invention the end portion of the uppermost flap b carrying the tear-off lines 21 and 24 is grasped between the thumb and finger and lifted upwardly to effect initial tearing of the end portion on the perforated line 23 as shown in Fig. 6, whereupon a continued pull is effected on the tab d formed by this initial tear so as to continue the tear downwardly over one side of the package and around a corner thereof as shown in Fig. 7. In effecting this tear a simultaneous tearing action is effected throughout a portion of the tear-off line 23 and throughout the length of the tear-off line 24 unless the latter be in the form of a slit, so as to effect formation of the tab d as particularly shown in Fig. 7. By reason of the outer wrapper B being adhered to the inner wrapper by the adhesive 25, both the inner and outer wrappers will be collectively torn along their respective curved tear-off lines 23 and 22 so that on continued pull on the tab d both the inner and outer wrappers will be severed to effect either partial opening of an upper corner portion of the package, as shown in Fig. 8, or complete opening of said corner portion by effecting complete tearing off of the portions of the wrapper encompassed by the tear-off lines, and whereby end portions of the cigarette C are exposed so that they may be readily grasped at the sides of end portions thereof to effect their removal from the package in a well-known manner.

In the modified form of the invention shown in Figs. 10 and 11, the tear-off line 23 of the inner wrapper is equipped with a rip cord 26 that is stitched through the perforations of the line 23 in a conventional manner and which rip cord has

an end extended from the margin of the wrapper so that when the latter is applied to the pack as shown in Fig. 11 the cord may be readily grasped to effect ripping of the pack along the tear-off lines 22 and 23 as before described.

In the form of the invention shown in Figs. 7 and 13, a tab 27 is affixed to the margin of the inner wrapper A to protrude therefrom between the ends of the tear-off line 23 in such manner that on applying the wrappers the tab 27 may be folded back over the flap a and be projected outwardly from the end wall on the back in convenient reach so that a pull on the tab 27 will effect severance of the wrapper along the combined tear-off lines 22 and 23. Where the rip cord and tab construction is employed, as shown in Figs. 10 to 13 inclusive, the supplemental tear-off line 24 shown in the construction of Figs. 1 to 9 inclusive, is omitted.

While I have shown and described a specific embodiment of my invention I do not limit myself to the exact details of construction and arrangement shown, but may employ such changes and modifications as occasion may require coming within the meaning and scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a cigarette package including an inner and an outer wrapper folded around a cigarette pack; a tear-off line on the inner wrapper and a tear-off line on the outer wrapper, said tear-off lines being juxtapositioned and arranged to encompass a corner portion of the package with perforated portions of the inner wrapper exposed at an end of the package; said wrappers being adhered together at portions thereof encompassed by the tear-off lines of both wrappers so that when pulling on and rupturing the inner wrapper along the portions of the tear-off lines covered by the outer wrapper, the outer wrapper will be ruptured along its tear-off lines.

2. In a cigarette package, an outer wrapper formed with an arcuate perforated tear-off line the ends of which terminate in the upper margin of the wrapper and the intermediate portion of which extends across a portion of the wrapper that is embodied in a side-end wall of the package, and an inner wrapper folded around a pack of cigarettes having an arcuate perforated tear-off line adjacent to but out of registry with the tear-off line of the outer wrapper, whereby each wrapper will seal the perforation in the other wrapper, said wrappers being adhered together at the portions thereof encompassed by said tear-off lines.

3. The structure called for in claim 2 in which the inner wrapper has a marginal portion projecting beyond the perforated upper portion of the outer wrapper which is folded over a butt end of the cigarette pack by end flaps and overlying side flaps formed on said inner wrapper, and in which the perforated tear-off line of said inner wrapper has its end portions extending across said side flaps and terminating in the projected margin of said inner wrapper, and in which one end of at least one of said side flaps is separable from the adjacent end flap along a line intermediate the end portions of the tear-off line in the stated marginal portion of said inner wrapper.

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