

Mini casas ecologicas architecture details Document

mini casas ecologicas architecture details have gained significant popularity among eco-conscious homeowners and developers seeking sustainable, efficient, and aesthetically pleasing living spaces. These compact, environmentally friendly homes combine innovative design principles with eco-friendly materials to minimize their ecological footprint while maximizing functionality and comfort. In this comprehensive guide, we explore the key architecture details of mini casas ecologicas, providing insights into their design elements, construction techniques, and sustainable features that make them a smart choice for modern living.

Understanding Mini Casas Ecologicas

Mini casas ecologicas, or small ecological houses, are compact dwellings designed with sustainability at their core. Typically ranging from 15 to 50 square meters, these homes focus on reducing energy consumption, utilizing renewable resources, and employing eco-friendly construction methods. Their architecture is characterized by a thoughtful integration of form, function, and environmental responsibility.

Core Architecture Principles of Mini Casas Ecologicas

Designing an eco-friendly mini house involves adhering to several core principles that ensure sustainability, efficiency, and harmony with the environment.

1. Compact and Efficient Layouts

The small footprint of mini casas necessitates intelligent space planning. Open floor plans, multi-functional furniture, and vertical storage solutions maximize usable space while reducing material use.

2. Use of Sustainable Materials

Eco-friendly homes prioritize natural, recycled, and low-impact materials such as bamboo, reclaimed wood, recycled metal, and non-toxic paints. These materials reduce environmental impact and improve indoor air quality.

3. Passive Design Strategies

Incorporating passive solar design, natural ventilation, and insulation minimizes energy needs. Proper orientation and window placement harness sunlight for heating and lighting, reducing reliance on artificial sources.

4. Renewable Energy Integration

Solar panels, small wind turbines, and other renewable energy systems are often integrated to supply electricity, making the home largely self-sufficient.

Architectural Details of Mini Casas Ecologicas

The specific architectural features of eco-friendly mini homes reflect their sustainability goals and aesthetic appeal.

1. Building Envelope and Insulation

A well-designed building envelope is crucial for energy efficiency. Features include:

- **High-performance insulation:** Rigid foam, cellulose, or sheep's wool insulate walls, roofs, and floors to reduce heat transfer.
- **Thermal breaks:** Materials that prevent heat conduction through structural components.
- **Green roofs:** Vegetated roof systems improve insulation, manage stormwater, and promote biodiversity.

2. Windows and Natural Light

Windows are strategically placed to maximize daylight and passive solar gain:

- **Large south-facing windows:** Capture sunlight during winter months.
- **High-performance glazing:** Low-emissivity coatings and double-glazing prevent heat loss.
- **Skylights:** Enhance natural light and ventilation.

3. Renewable Energy Systems

The integration of renewable energy sources is a hallmark of eco-friendly architecture:

- **Solar panels:** Photovoltaic systems installed on roofs to generate electricity.
- **Solar water heaters:** Reduce energy consumption for hot water needs.

- **Wind turbines:** Small-scale turbines suitable for windy locations.

4. Water Management and Conservation

Sustainable water use is achieved through:

- **Rainwater harvesting systems:** Collect and store rainwater for irrigation and flushing toilets.
- **Greywater recycling:** Reuse wastewater from sinks and showers.
- **Low-flow fixtures:** Reduce water consumption without sacrificing performance.

5. Eco-friendly Construction Techniques

Construction methods that reduce environmental impact include:

- **Prefabrication:** Modular components manufactured off-site to reduce waste and construction time.
- **Passive house standards:** Achieving high energy efficiency through airtight construction and superior insulation.
- **Use of recycled and reclaimed materials:** Minimizes resource depletion and landfill waste.

Design Aesthetics and Exterior Details

Eco-friendly mini houses often feature designs that blend harmoniously with their environment.

1. Natural and Earthy Color Palettes

Colors inspired by nature—beige, green, brown—help the home integrate seamlessly into its surroundings.

2. Use of Local Materials

Utilizing locally sourced materials reduces transportation emissions and supports local economies.

3. Incorporation of Green Spaces

Landscaping with native plants, vegetable gardens, and green walls enhances biodiversity and promotes sustainability.

Interior Design and Sustainable Features

Interior details complement the eco-friendly architecture, focusing on health, efficiency, and comfort.

1. Non-Toxic Finishes and Materials

Use of low-VOC paints, natural textiles, and organic finishes improve indoor air quality.

2. Multi-Purpose Furniture

Furniture that serves multiple functions conserves space and reduces material use:

- Fold-away beds
- Convertible tables
- Storage ottomans

3. Efficient Heating and Cooling

Options include:

- Radiant floor heating
- Ceiling fans
- Passive cooling strategies like shading devices and cross-ventilation

Benefits of Mini Casas Ecologicas Architecture

Adopting eco-friendly architecture details offers numerous advantages:

- **Environmental Impact:** Reduced carbon footprint and conservation of resources.
- **Cost Savings:** Lower energy bills and reduced maintenance costs.
- **Healthier Living Environment:** Improved indoor air quality and natural lighting.
- **Flexibility and Mobility:** Smaller size allows for easier relocation or adaptation.
- **Community and Sustainability:** Promotes sustainable lifestyles and eco-conscious communities.

Conclusion

Mini casas ecologicas architecture details exemplify the perfect harmony between sustainability, functionality, and aesthetic appeal. From innovative insulation techniques and renewable energy integration to eco-friendly materials and thoughtful design, these homes demonstrate that smaller

living spaces can be highly efficient and environmentally responsible. As awareness of climate change and resource conservation grows, the architectural principles behind mini casas ecológicas will continue to evolve, inspiring more sustainable living solutions worldwide. Whether for personal use, vacation homes, or community projects, these eco-conscious designs offer a compelling blueprint for the future of sustainable architecture.

Mini Casas Ecológicas Architecture Details: A Deep Dive into Sustainable Small-Scale Living

In recent years, the concept of mini casas ecológicas or small ecological houses has gained remarkable popularity among environmentally conscious homeowners, minimalists, and urban dwellers seeking sustainable living options. These tiny homes are not just about size reduction; they embody a comprehensive approach to sustainable architecture, emphasizing eco-friendly materials, energy efficiency, and harmony with the environment. This in-depth review explores the architectural details that define mini casas ecológicas, shedding light on their design principles, construction techniques, materials, and innovative features that make them a viable and attractive alternative to conventional housing.

Understanding the Philosophy of Mini Casas Ecológicas

Before diving into specific architectural elements, it's essential to understand the core philosophy behind these tiny ecological homes:

- Sustainability: Minimize environmental impact through eco-friendly materials and energy-efficient systems.
- Simplicity: Focus on functional, efficient use of space, avoiding unnecessary complexity.
- Integration with Nature: Design that promotes harmony with the surrounding environment, often including natural landscaping and green features.
- Affordability and Accessibility: Cost-effective solutions that make sustainable living accessible to a broader demographic.

This philosophy influences every architectural decision, from materials selection to spatial layout, ensuring that each mini casa is both practical and environmentally responsible.

Architectural Design Principles of Mini Casas Ecológicas

Designing a mini casa ecológica involves balancing compactness with comfort, aesthetics with sustainability. The key principles guiding these designs include:

1. Compact and Efficient Use of Space

- Multi-functional furniture to maximize utility.
- Open-plan layouts to create a sense of spaciousness.
- Vertical storage solutions to reduce footprint.

2. Passive Solar Design

- Orientation that optimizes sunlight exposure, reducing heating needs.
- Strategic placement of windows for natural light and ventilation.
- Overhangs and shading devices to prevent overheating during summer.

3. Use of Natural and Recycled Materials

- Locally sourced timber, bamboo, and reclaimed wood.
- Non-toxic, biodegradable insulation materials.
- Recycled metal, glass, and plastic elements.

4. Renewable Energy Integration

- Solar photovoltaic panels for electricity.
- Solar thermal systems for water heating.
- Small-scale wind turbines where applicable.

5. Water Conservation and Management

- Rainwater harvesting systems.
- Greywater recycling.
- Low-flow fixtures to reduce water consumption.

Core Architectural Elements of Mini Casas Ecológicas

The architectural details of eco-friendly tiny homes encompass various elements that contribute to their sustainability, durability, and aesthetic appeal.

Structural Framework

- Foundation: Lightweight concrete piers or insulated concrete slabs to minimize disturbance to

the land.

- Walls: Timber frame with eco-friendly insulation; straw bale or hempcrete options for natural insulation.
- Roofing: Green roofs with native vegetation or metal roofs with high reflectivity to reduce heat absorption.
- Flooring: Bamboo, reclaimed wood, or polished concrete with low-VOC finishes.

Exterior Facade

- Use of natural finishes like clay plasters or lime render.
- Cladding options include reclaimed wood, bamboo panels, or recycled metal siding.
- Large, energy-efficient windows with double or triple glazing.

Interior Spaces

- Open-plan living, kitchen, and sleeping areas to maximize space.
- Built-in furniture to reduce clutter and optimize space.
- Use of eco-friendly paints, finishes, and sealants.

Natural Ventilation and Daylighting

- Cross-ventilation through strategically placed windows and vents.
- Skylights or clerestory windows for additional natural light.
- Passive cooling strategies, such as shaded patios or pergolas.

Innovative Materials and Construction Techniques

The choice of materials and construction methods significantly influences the sustainability and resilience of mini casas ecológicas.

Materials

- Reclaimed and Recycled Materials: Old pallets, reclaimed bricks, salvaged metal.
- Natural Insulation: Sheep's wool, cellulose, cork, or hemp-based insulations.
- Eco-friendly Finishes: Clay paints, natural oils, and non-toxic sealants.

Construction Techniques

- Prefab and Modular Construction: Reduces waste and construction time, improves quality control.
- Straw Bale or Hempcrete Walls: For superior insulation and carbon sequestration.
- Passive Solar Principles: Incorporating thermal mass to regulate indoor temperatures.

Integrating Technology for Sustainability

Smart technology plays a vital role in enhancing the sustainability of mini casas ecológicas.

- Solar Power Systems: Off-grid or grid-tied setups with battery storage.
- Rainwater Harvesting: Automated systems with filtration for potable use.
- Energy-efficient Appliances: LED lighting, low-energy refrigerators, and induction stoves.
- Smart Home Automation: Monitoring energy and water usage, optimizing systems for efficiency.

Design Examples and Case Studies

Examining successful mini casas ecológicas provides insight into real-world applications of the principles discussed.

Example 1: The Eco Pod

- Compact footprint of 20 m².
- Features a green roof, passive solar design, and reclaimed materials.
- Incorporates solar panels and rainwater harvesting.

Example 2: The Bamboo Retreat

- Using bamboo as the primary material for structural elements.
- Elevated on stilts to promote airflow and reduce land impact.
- Natural ventilation and shading devices for climate control.

Example 3: The Off-grid Tiny Home

- Fully autonomous energy and water systems.
- Insulated with hempcrete for thermal stability.
- Designed with a sustainable lifestyle in mind, including composting toilets and greywater reuse.

Challenges and Considerations

While mini casas ecológicas offer numerous benefits, they also present unique challenges:

- Building Codes and Regulations: Navigating local zoning laws can be complex.
- Material Availability: Sourcing sustainable materials may be limited in certain regions.
- Cost: Initial investment in eco-friendly systems can be higher, though long-term savings offset this.
- Space Constraints: Designing functional spaces within limited square footage requires creativity.

Addressing these challenges involves thorough planning, collaboration with eco-architects, and community engagement.

Conclusion: The Future of Eco-Friendly Small-Scale Housing

The architectural details of mini casas ecológicas exemplify a thoughtful integration of sustainability, functionality, and aesthetics. As technology advances and awareness of environmental issues grows, these small ecological homes are poised to become a mainstream solution for sustainable living. Their design principles promote responsible resource use, minimize ecological footprints, and foster a closer relationship with the environment.

By embracing innovative materials, passive design strategies, and renewable energy systems, mini casas ecológicas demonstrate that size does not compromise sustainability or comfort. They embody a paradigm shift towards conscious living, offering a blueprint for future residential architecture that respects both human needs and planetary boundaries.

Whether as a primary residence, vacation retreat, or community hub, these tiny ecological homes reinforce the idea that sustainable living is accessible, adaptable, and aesthetically inspiring. As the movement continues to evolve, so too will the architectural details that make mini casas ecológicas a beacon of eco-friendly design.

Question What are the key eco-friendly materials commonly used in mini casas ecológicas architecture? **Answer** Materials such as reclaimed wood, bamboo, recycled metals, non-toxic paints, and insulated panels made from natural or recycled materials are frequently used to minimize environmental impact and promote sustainability. How does passive design contribute to the energy efficiency of mini casas ecológicas? Passive design strategies like optimal orientation, natural ventilation, insulation, and strategic window placement reduce the need for artificial heating and cooling, making the tiny house more energy-efficient and environmentally friendly. What are some innovative roofing solutions for eco-friendly tiny houses? Green roofs, solar panel-integrated roofs, and reflective or insulated roofing materials are popular choices that enhance thermal

regulation, rainwater collection, and renewable energy generation in eco-friendly tiny homes. How can water conservation be integrated into the architecture of mini casas ecológicas? Incorporating rainwater harvesting systems, water-efficient fixtures, greywater recycling, and composting toilets helps reduce water consumption and promote sustainable water management. What role do smart technologies play in the eco-architecture of mini casas? Smart technologies such as energy monitoring systems, automated lighting, and climate control help optimize resource use, improve energy efficiency, and enhance the sustainability of tiny homes. How can natural lighting be maximized in eco-friendly mini casas? Design features like large south-facing windows, skylights, and light-colored interior finishes maximize natural light, reducing the need for artificial lighting and creating a healthier indoor environment. What are some space-saving architectural details specific to eco-friendly mini casas? Built-in multifunctional furniture, vertical storage solutions, and compact kitchen and bathroom designs help maximize limited space while maintaining functionality and sustainability. How do eco-architecture details influence the overall cost and maintenance of mini casas ecológicas? While initial costs may be higher for sustainable materials and technology, eco-architecture reduces long-term expenses through lower energy and water bills, easier maintenance, and increased durability of eco-friendly components.

Related keywords: mini casas ecológicas, arquitectura sostenible, diseño verde, construcción ecológica, casas pequeñas ecológicas, detalles de arquitectura sustentable, diseño compacto ecológico, construcción con materiales naturales, eficiencia energética en viviendas, casas ecológicas modulares

ARCHITECTURE A VERY SHORT INTRODUCTION VERY SHORT

architecture a very short introduction very short is a concise way to understand the fundamental principles and significance of architecture as an art and science of designing spaces. Architecture shapes our environment, influences our daily lives, and reflects cultural identities across history. In this article, we will explore the key aspects of architecture, its history, types, elements, and its impact on society.

Understanding Architecture: A Brief Overview

What Is Architecture?

Architecture is the art and science of designing and constructing buildings and other physical structures. It combines creativity, technical skill, and practical considerations to create functional, safe, and aesthetically pleasing environments. Architecture is not only about shelter but also about creating spaces that inspire, communicate cultural values, and improve quality of life.

The Importance of Architecture

Architectural designs influence how people interact with their surroundings. Well-designed architecture enhances safety, efficiency, and comfort while also serving as a cultural expression. Iconic structures often become symbols of identity and pride for communities and nations.

The History of Architecture

Ancient Civilizations

Early architecture dates back to ancient civilizations such as Egypt, Mesopotamia, Greece, and Rome. These societies developed foundational structures like pyramids, temples, aqueducts, and amphitheaters, showcasing technological innovation and cultural priorities.

Medieval Architecture

Medieval architecture features castles, cathedrals, and monasteries characterized by Gothic and Romanesque styles. These structures emphasized grandeur, religious symbolism, and defensive features.

Renaissance and Modern Periods

The Renaissance revived classical principles, emphasizing symmetry, proportion, and harmony. The modern era introduced new materials like steel and concrete, leading to innovative designs such as skyscrapers and contemporary architecture.

Contemporary Architecture

Today's architecture incorporates sustainable practices, smart technology, and minimalist aesthetics. It aims to balance environmental responsibility with functionality and aesthetic appeal.

Types of Architecture

Residential Architecture

Focuses on designing homes, apartments, and housing communities. Priorities include comfort, privacy, and functionality.

Commercial Architecture

Covers office buildings, shopping malls, hotels, and other business-related structures. These

designs often emphasize accessibility, branding, and efficiency.

Industrial Architecture

Designs factories, warehouses, and plants. These structures prioritize durability, safety, and operational flow.

Institutional and Public Architecture

Includes schools, hospitals, government buildings, and cultural centers. The focus is on capacity, safety, and community service.

Landscape Architecture

Involves designing outdoor spaces such as parks, gardens, and urban plazas, integrating natural elements with built environments.

Key Elements of Architectural Design

Form and Function

The fundamental principle that architecture should be both aesthetically pleasing (form) and serve its intended purpose (function).

Space and Volume

The arrangement of interior and exterior spaces to facilitate movement, interaction, and comfort.

Materials and Construction

Choice of building materials influences durability, appearance, and sustainability.

Lighting and Ventilation

Designing for natural and artificial lighting, along with proper airflow, to enhance comfort and energy efficiency.

Structural Integrity

Ensuring safety and stability through sound engineering principles.

Architectural Styles and Movements

Classical Architecture

Features symmetry, columns, and elaborate ornamentation inspired by Greek and Roman designs.

Gothic Architecture

Known for pointed arches, ribbed vaults, flying buttresses, and stained glass windows.

Modernism

Emphasizes minimalism, functionalism, and the use of modern materials like steel and glass.

Postmodernism

Combines traditional elements with contemporary design, often with playful or ironic touches.

Sustainable Architecture

Focuses on environmentally friendly design practices, energy efficiency, and use of renewable materials.

The Role of Technology in Modern Architecture

Building Information Modeling (BIM)

A digital process that improves accuracy and collaboration during design and construction.

Parametric Design

Uses algorithms to generate complex forms and optimize performance.

Smart Buildings

Incorporate sensors, automation, and IoT technology to improve energy efficiency and user experience.

Green Building Materials

Use of eco-friendly, recycled, or low-impact materials to reduce environmental footprint.

The Impact of Architecture on Society

Economic Impact

Architectural projects generate jobs, attract tourism, and contribute to local economies.

Cultural Significance

Buildings often reflect cultural values, history, and identity, fostering community pride.

Environmental Responsibility

Sustainable architecture helps mitigate climate change through energy efficiency and green practices.

Urban Development and Planning

Good architecture promotes organized, accessible, and vibrant urban environments.

Challenges and Future Trends in Architecture

Climate Change and Sustainability

Architects are increasingly adopting eco-friendly designs to combat global warming.

Technological Integration

Advances in digital fabrication, AI, and robotics are transforming how structures are conceived and built.

Adaptive and Resilient Design

Creating buildings that can withstand natural disasters and adapt to changing conditions.

Inclusive Architecture

Designing spaces that are accessible and welcoming to all individuals, regardless of ability or background.

Conclusion

Architecture, though briefly introduced here, is a vital discipline that combines artistry, science, and social responsibility. It influences our surroundings profoundly, from iconic monuments to everyday homes. As technology advances and societal needs evolve, architecture continues to innovate, striving for sustainability, resilience, and inclusiveness. Understanding its principles and history enriches our appreciation for the built environment and inspires future generations to design thoughtful, impactful spaces.

Architecture: A Very Short Introduction

Architecture is often regarded as both an art and a science—an essential discipline that shapes the spaces where we live, work, and interact. It influences our environment, reflects cultural values, and showcases technological innovation. Despite its significance, many people seek a concise understanding of what architecture truly entails. This guide offers a very short introduction to architecture, exploring its fundamental concepts, history, key elements, and contemporary trends.

What is Architecture?

At its core, architecture is the practice of designing and constructing buildings and other physical structures. It goes beyond mere construction; it embodies creativity, functionality, cultural expression, and technical expertise. Architecture is about solving spatial problems—creating environments that are safe, comfortable, and inspiring.

The Dual Nature of Architecture

- Artistic Aspect: Architecture expresses aesthetic values, cultural identity, and artistic vision. It can evoke emotion, symbolize power, or reflect traditions.
- Technical Aspect: It involves engineering principles, material science, environmental considerations, and sustainability. Architects must ensure their designs are structurally sound and functional.

A Brief History of Architecture

Understanding architecture's evolution helps clarify its significance and the forces shaping it today.

Ancient Beginnings

- Prehistoric Structures: Early humans built shelters from natural materials like caves and simple huts.
- Ancient Civilizations: The Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans developed monumental

architecture?pyramids, temples, aqueducts?demonstrating technological innovation and cultural values.

Medieval to Renaissance Era

- Gothic Cathedrals: Characterized by verticality, stained glass, and intricate stonework.
- Renaissance: Revival of classical ideals?symmetry, proportion, harmony?leading to iconic structures like Brunelleschi?s Dome.

Modern Architecture

- Industrial Revolution: New materials (steel, glass) and technologies revolutionized design possibilities.
- 20th Century: Movements like Modernism and Postmodernism challenged traditional aesthetics, emphasizing function, minimalism, and diversity.

Contemporary Trends

- Emphasis on sustainability, smart buildings, and adaptive reuse.
- Integration of digital tools like Building Information Modeling (BIM).

Key Elements of Architecture

Understanding architecture involves recognizing its core components:

Form and Space

- Form: The shape and configuration of a building.
- Space: The interior and exterior environments designed for human activity.

Function

Designs are driven by their purpose?residential, commercial, cultural, or recreational.

Materials

Choices range from traditional (stone, wood) to modern (concrete, steel, glass), affecting aesthetics,

durability, and sustainability.

Light and Color

Lighting influences mood, functionality, and perception of space. Color adds emotional and visual impact.

Structural Systems

Frameworks that support buildings include:

- Load-bearing walls
- Framing systems (steel, timber)
- Innovative solutions (tensile structures)

Context and Environment

Designs respond to their surroundings?climate, landscape, urban fabric?blending or contrasting with existing environments.

The Role of an Architect

An architect is a professional responsible for the conception, design, and oversight of building projects. Their role includes:

- Understanding client needs and site conditions
- Developing design concepts
- Creating detailed drawings and models
- Coordinating with engineers, contractors, and stakeholders
- Ensuring compliance with regulations and standards

Modern Architectural Movements and Styles

While architecture is diverse, some notable styles include:

- Modernism: Emphasizes simplicity, functionality, and the absence of ornament.
- Postmodernism: Reacts against modernism, embracing eclecticism and symbolism.
- Brutalism: Features raw concrete and bold, geometric forms.

- Deconstructivism: Disrupts traditional forms to create fragmented and dynamic structures.
- Sustainable Architecture: Focuses on eco-friendly practices, energy efficiency, and materials.

Contemporary Topics in Architecture

Sustainability and Green Building

- Use of renewable energy sources
- Incorporation of green roofs and walls
- Passive design strategies for energy conservation

Smart Buildings and Technology

- Integration of IoT devices for automation
- Building management systems for efficiency
- Use of digital modeling and visualization tools

Urban Design and Public Spaces

- Creating inclusive, accessible urban environments
- Revitalization of neighborhoods and public parks
- Addressing urban challenges like congestion and pollution

The Impact of Architecture on Society

Architecture shapes societal values and behaviors. Well-designed spaces promote health, community, and cultural identity. Conversely, poorly planned structures can lead to social issues and environmental degradation.

Cultural Reflection

Buildings often symbolize cultural identity, history, and aspirations.

Economic Influence

Architectural innovation can boost tourism, property values, and local economies.

Environmental Responsibility

Sustainable design reduces carbon footprint and conserves resources.

Final Thoughts

While this very short introduction touches on the essentials, architecture is a vast field that intertwines creativity, science, and societal values. Every structure tells a story about its creators, its users, and the times it was built in. Whether ancient or modern, architecture remains a vital part of our human experience, shaping the world around us in profound ways.

Remember: architecture is not just about buildings; it's about creating environments that inspire, protect, and serve humanity—an ongoing dialogue between form, function, and environment.

Question What is the main focus of 'Architecture: A Very Short Introduction'? It provides a concise overview of architecture's history, principles, and significance in society. Who is the author of 'Architecture: A Very Short Introduction'? The book is authored by Andrew Ballantyne. Why is 'Architecture: A Very Short Introduction' considered a good starting point? Because it offers a brief yet comprehensive overview suitable for beginners and those interested in architecture. What topics are covered in this book? It covers architectural history, design principles, urban planning, and the cultural impact of architecture. Is 'Architecture: A Very Short Introduction' suitable for non-experts? Yes, it is written in an accessible manner, making complex concepts understandable for general readers. How does the book address modern architectural trends? It discusses contemporary styles, innovations, and the evolving role of architecture in society. Can this book help someone pursuing a career in architecture? Yes, it provides foundational knowledge that can enhance understanding and inspire further study in the field.

Related keywords: architecture, introduction, brief, overview, design, structure, building, urban planning, history, fundamentals

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