

best nutrition apps uk

best nutrition apps uk are revolutionising how individuals approach their health and well-being, offering powerful tools for tracking dietary intake, monitoring fitness, and achieving personal health goals. In the United Kingdom, the demand for accessible and effective digital health solutions has surged, making these applications indispensable for many. From understanding macronutrient breakdowns to planning balanced meals and identifying hidden sugars, the right app can demystify nutrition and empower users with knowledge. This comprehensive guide explores the top contenders in the UK market, detailing their features, benefits, and suitability for various user needs. Whether you are a seasoned health enthusiast or a beginner looking to make informed dietary choices, discovering the best nutrition apps UK can significantly impact your journey towards a healthier lifestyle.

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Understanding the Need for Nutrition Apps

In today's fast-paced world, maintaining a balanced and healthy diet can be challenging. The proliferation of processed foods, busy schedules, and conflicting dietary advice often leaves individuals feeling overwhelmed and unsure about how to nourish their bodies effectively. This is where the best nutrition apps UK come into play, serving as digital companions that simplify the complex landscape of food and health. These applications provide a structured and data-driven approach to understanding one's eating habits, enabling users to make conscious and informed decisions about their food intake. By offering insights into calorie counts, macronutrient and micronutrient profiles, and potential allergens, they equip individuals with the knowledge necessary to align their diet with their health objectives, whether that be weight management, improved energy levels, or managing specific health conditions.

The modern user is increasingly seeking convenience and personalisation in their health management. Nutrition apps cater to this demand by offering customisable meal plans, barcode scanners for quick food logging, and integration with wearable fitness trackers. This seamless integration allows for a holistic view of one's health, combining dietary data with physical activity metrics. Furthermore, many of these apps go beyond simple tracking, offering educational resources, recipe suggestions, and community support, fostering a more engaging and sustainable approach to healthy eating. The accessibility of these tools through smartphones and tablets means that nutritional guidance is literally at your fingertips, empowering individuals to take control of their well-being anytime, anywhere.

Key Features to Look for in Nutrition Apps

When evaluating the best nutrition apps UK, several core features stand out as essential for effective use and user satisfaction. The ability to accurately log food intake is paramount. This often includes a vast database of foods, restaurant meals, and branded products, ideally with a barcode scanner for effortless input. Beyond just logging, a good app should provide detailed nutritional breakdowns, including calories, macronutrients (protein, carbohydrates, fats), and crucially, micronutrients (vitamins and minerals). Understanding the full spectrum of a food's nutritional contribution is vital for making balanced dietary choices.

Personalisation is another critical aspect. The best nutrition apps will allow users to set specific goals, such as weight loss, muscle gain, or maintaining a healthy weight, and then tailor recommendations and calorie targets accordingly. Features like customisable meal plans, which can be generated based on dietary preferences (e.g., vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free) and nutritional needs, add significant value. Integration with other health and fitness devices, such as smartwatches and fitness trackers, offers a more comprehensive picture of overall health, allowing the app to adjust recommendations based on activity levels. Finally, user interface and experience are vital; an app should be intuitive, easy to navigate, and visually appealing to encourage consistent usage.

Food Logging and Database

The foundation of any effective nutrition app lies in its food logging capabilities. The best nutrition apps UK boast extensive databases that encompass a wide array of food items, from common produce and pantry staples to popular restaurant dishes and branded products found in UK supermarkets. The presence of a barcode scanner is a significant time-saver, allowing users to quickly scan packaged goods and automatically populate nutritional information. Advanced logging features might also include the ability to save custom meals and recipes, which is particularly useful for individuals who frequently consume the same dishes or cook at home. The accuracy and breadth of the food database directly impact the reliability of the nutritional data the user receives, making it a primary consideration.

Nutritional Analysis and Reporting

Once food is logged, the app's ability to perform detailed nutritional analysis is crucial. This involves breaking down the intake into key components such as calories, macronutrients (protein, carbohydrates, fats), and essential micronutrients (vitamins and minerals). The best nutrition apps UK will present this information clearly, often with visual aids like charts and graphs, allowing users to easily track their progress against daily targets. Detailed reporting can highlight deficiencies or excesses in certain nutrients, providing actionable insights for dietary adjustments. Some apps even offer more advanced analyses, such as sugar content, fibre intake, and hydration tracking, offering a more granular understanding of one's diet.

Goal Setting and Personalisation

Effective nutrition apps are not one-size-fits-all. They excel when they offer robust goal-setting functionalities and a high degree of personalisation. Users should be able to define their objectives,

whether it's shedding pounds, building muscle, or simply adopting healthier eating habits. Based on these goals, the app should then calculate personalised calorie and macronutrient targets. Customisation extends to dietary preferences and restrictions, such as vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free, dairy-free, or low-carb diets. The ability to create or modify meal plans and recipes to suit individual tastes and availability further enhances the user's engagement and adherence to the app's recommendations.

Integration with Wearable Devices and Health Platforms

In an increasingly interconnected health ecosystem, the best nutrition apps UK often offer seamless integration with popular wearable devices and health platforms. Connecting with fitness trackers, smartwatches, and other health apps allows for a more comprehensive and accurate assessment of one's caloric expenditure. This data then informs the app's nutritional recommendations, providing a more dynamic and responsive approach to diet management. For example, if a user has a particularly active day, the app can suggest a slightly higher calorie intake to compensate for the increased energy expenditure, ensuring that nutritional goals remain aligned with physical activity levels. This holistic view of health data is invaluable for optimising well-being.

Top Nutrition Apps for the UK Market

The UK market boasts a diverse range of nutrition apps, each catering to different user needs and preferences. From comprehensive tracking tools to intuitive meal planning aids, there is a solution for everyone looking to improve their dietary habits. The selection of the "best" app often depends on individual requirements, such as the level of detail desired, budget, and specific health goals. However, certain apps consistently rise to the top due to their robust features, user-friendly interfaces, and extensive databases relevant to UK consumers.

When considering the best nutrition apps UK, it's important to explore options that offer a balance of advanced functionality and ease of use. Many users seek apps that not only track food but also provide educational content and support systems. The following are some of the leading contenders, each offering a unique set of benefits that have made them popular choices among health-conscious individuals in the United Kingdom.

MyFitnessPal

MyFitnessPal is a perennial favourite and often cited among the best nutrition apps UK. Its strength lies in its enormous food database, which includes a vast number of UK-specific products and restaurant meals. The app's user-friendly interface makes logging food and activities straightforward, and its barcode scanner is highly effective. MyFitnessPal allows users to set personalised calorie and macronutrient goals, track their progress over time with detailed charts, and even connect with friends for added accountability. It offers a free version with core features and a premium subscription for advanced insights and ad-free experience.

Lifesum

Lifesum stands out for its visually appealing interface and its focus on providing a more holistic approach to healthy eating. The app offers various diet plans, such as keto, paleo, and Mediterranean, along with personalised meal suggestions and recipes. Lifesum's strength lies in its ability to motivate users through challenges and progress tracking, presenting nutritional information in an easily digestible format. For UK users, its database is well-populated, and it offers integration with popular fitness trackers. The free version provides basic tracking, while the premium version unlocks full access to meal plans, recipes, and advanced insights.

Nutracheck

Nutracheck is a highly regarded nutrition tracking app specifically tailored for the UK market. It boasts an impressive database of UK foods, including supermarket products, which makes logging particularly accurate for local users. The app emphasizes simplicity and ease of use, making it an excellent choice for beginners. Nutracheck offers detailed calorie and nutrient tracking, a barcode scanner, and helpful visual reports. It also includes a community forum for support and motivation. While it offers a free version, its paid subscription unlocks features like photo logging and advanced reporting.

Yazio

Yazio is another robust option for those seeking to manage their diet effectively. The app allows for detailed tracking of food, water, and physical activity. It offers a variety of diet plans and fasting options, catering to a wide range of health goals. Yazio's interface is clean and intuitive, making it easy to log meals and monitor progress. Its database is extensive and includes many UK products. The free version provides essential tracking, while the PRO version offers personalised plans, recipes, and deeper nutritional insights. Its integration with health platforms further enhances its utility for UK users.

Fooducate

Fooducate distinguishes itself by focusing on the quality of food rather than just calories. It assigns a "grade" to foods based on their nutritional value, helping users make healthier choices by understanding the ingredients and processing involved. The app's barcode scanner provides a quick assessment of packaged goods, and its database includes a significant number of UK products. Fooducate also offers insights into the nutritional impact of processed foods and encourages users to discover healthier alternatives. While its primary focus is on food education, it also provides tracking features for calories and macronutrients.

Factors Influencing Your Choice of Nutrition App

Selecting the best nutrition app UK for your needs involves considering several personal factors. The primary driver for many is their specific health objective. Are you focused on weight loss, muscle gain, managing a medical condition like diabetes, or simply improving your overall dietary intake? Apps

with specialised features for these goals, such as macro-focused tracking for bodybuilders or detailed carbohydrate monitoring for diabetics, will be more beneficial. Understanding your primary aim will help narrow down the vast array of options available.

Beyond individual goals, consider your lifestyle and how you plan to use the app. If you are constantly on the go and eat out frequently, an app with an extensive restaurant database and quick logging features will be invaluable. For those who cook extensively at home, apps that allow for easy recipe creation and import might be more suitable. Your technical proficiency and preference for user interface also play a significant role. Some users prefer minimalist designs with straightforward functionality, while others appreciate detailed charts, graphs, and extensive data analysis. Finally, budget is a practical consideration; while many excellent apps offer robust free versions, premium features can significantly enhance the user experience and provide deeper insights.

Your Specific Health Goals

The most crucial factor in choosing the best nutrition app UK is aligning the app's capabilities with your distinct health objectives. If your primary goal is weight loss, you'll need an app that excels at calorie tracking and provides clear insights into your daily intake versus expenditure. For individuals aiming to build muscle, an app that allows for detailed macronutrient tracking (protein, carbs, fats) and helps monitor protein intake is essential. Those managing specific health conditions, such as diabetes or high blood pressure, will benefit from apps that offer specialised tracking, like monitoring blood sugar levels or sodium intake. Understanding your target will guide you towards apps with the most relevant features.

Ease of Use and User Interface

The effectiveness of any nutrition app hinges significantly on its ease of use and the intuitiveness of its user interface. Even the most feature-rich app will be neglected if it's cumbersome or confusing to navigate. For individuals new to nutrition tracking, a simple, clean design with straightforward logging mechanisms is paramount. Features like a powerful barcode scanner, quick-add options for common foods, and clear visual representations of data can make the process less daunting and more engaging. Conversely, experienced users might appreciate more detailed customisation options and in-depth analytical tools. The best nutrition apps UK strike a balance, offering a user-friendly experience that caters to both novice and advanced users, ensuring consistent engagement.

Cost and Subscription Models

When exploring the best nutrition apps UK, the cost and subscription models are practical considerations for many users. Most apps offer a freemium model, providing basic tracking and logging functionalities for free, which can be sufficient for individuals with simpler needs. However, to access advanced features like personalised meal plans, detailed nutritional analysis, customisable goals, and an ad-free experience, a paid subscription is often required. It's important to evaluate whether the benefits offered by a premium version justify the cost. Some apps offer monthly subscriptions, while others provide better value through annual plans. Researching these options and understanding what each tier offers is key to making an economically sound choice that meets your nutritional tracking requirements.

Maximising Your Use of Nutrition Apps

To truly harness the power of the best nutrition apps UK, consistent and accurate usage is key. Logging every meal, snack, and drink diligently provides the app with the data it needs to generate meaningful insights. Don't rely on memory; log as you eat or immediately after to ensure accuracy. Be as specific as possible with portion sizes, as this significantly impacts the nutritional calculations. For instance, instead of logging "chicken breast," specify "4oz grilled chicken breast." This attention to detail transforms the app from a simple diary into a powerful analytical tool.

Beyond just logging, actively engage with the insights the app provides. Regularly review your daily and weekly summaries to identify patterns, strengths, and areas for improvement. If your app offers recipe suggestions or meal plans, try incorporating them into your routine. Use the educational resources available, if any, to deepen your understanding of nutrition. Consider connecting with friends or joining community groups within the app for support and motivation. Ultimately, the best nutrition apps UK are catalysts for change, but the sustained effort and mindful application of their features by the user are what drive lasting results and a healthier lifestyle.

Consistent and Accurate Logging

The cornerstone of effectively using any of the best nutrition apps UK is consistent and accurate food logging. This means diligently recording everything you consume, from full meals and snacks to beverages and condiments. Accuracy is paramount; aim to be as precise as possible with portion sizes. Instead of guessing, use measuring cups, spoons, or a food scale when possible. If you frequently eat out, take a moment to estimate portion sizes or check the restaurant's nutritional information online if available. The more detailed and truthful your logging is, the more reliable the data and insights provided by the app will be, enabling you to make informed dietary adjustments.

Reviewing Nutritional Insights and Reports

Merely logging food is only half the battle. To truly benefit from the best nutrition apps UK, actively engaging with the insights and reports they generate is crucial. Dedicate time each day or week to review your nutritional summaries. Pay attention to your calorie intake, macronutrient distribution, and micronutrient levels. Most apps provide visual aids like charts and graphs, which can quickly highlight trends and potential imbalances. For example, you might notice you're consistently low on fibre or exceeding your recommended sugar intake. Understanding these patterns allows you to proactively make dietary changes and refine your eating habits for better health outcomes.

Utilising Recipes and Meal Planning Features

Many of the best nutrition apps UK go beyond simple tracking by offering valuable features like recipe databases and meal planning tools. To maximise your use of these apps, actively explore and utilise these functionalities. Browse the suggested recipes that align with your dietary goals and preferences. Many apps allow you to easily add ingredients from recipes directly to your daily log, saving time and effort. Meal planning features can help you create a structured eating schedule for the week, ensuring you have balanced meals planned and reducing the likelihood of resorting to less healthy impulse choices. Experimenting with these features can lead to discovering new, nutritious

dishes and establishing a more organised and sustainable approach to healthy eating.

Conclusion

The landscape of digital health in the UK has been profoundly shaped by the advent of sophisticated nutrition apps. These tools offer unparalleled convenience and personalised guidance, empowering individuals to take a proactive stance on their dietary well-being. By providing detailed tracking, insightful analysis, and often, motivational support, the best nutrition apps UK serve as indispensable companions on the journey to a healthier lifestyle. Whether the goal is weight management, improved energy levels, or simply gaining a better understanding of one's eating habits, these applications deliver the data and actionable advice needed to make informed choices and achieve lasting results. The continuous innovation in this sector ensures that users have access to increasingly powerful and user-friendly solutions, making healthy eating more accessible and achievable than ever before.

FAQ

Q: What is the best free nutrition app in the UK?

A: While "best" is subjective, Nutracheck and MyFitnessPal offer robust free versions that are highly rated for UK users. Nutracheck's database is particularly strong for UK products, while MyFitnessPal boasts an enormous global database. Both allow for calorie and macronutrient tracking, barcode scanning, and goal setting.

Q: Can nutrition apps help with weight loss in the UK?

A: Yes, absolutely. The best nutrition apps UK are excellent tools for weight loss as they help users track calorie intake accurately and understand their macronutrient balance. By providing a clear overview of daily consumption and expenditure, they empower users to make conscious decisions to create a calorie deficit required for weight loss.

Q: Are there nutrition apps designed specifically for UK supermarkets?

A: Yes, several apps, such as Nutracheck, have databases that are heavily populated with UK supermarket products, making food logging more precise for users in the United Kingdom. This ensures that the nutritional information for branded items is readily available and accurate.

Q: How do nutrition apps track micronutrients in the UK?

A: The best nutrition apps UK track micronutrients by cross-referencing the foods you log with their comprehensive nutritional databases. These databases contain information on the vitamin and mineral content of various foods. As you log your meals, the app compiles this data to provide a breakdown of your micronutrient intake, highlighting potential deficiencies or excesses.

Q: Is it worth paying for a premium version of a nutrition app in the UK?

A: For many users, the premium versions of nutrition apps in the UK offer significant added value. These often include advanced features like personalised meal plans, in-depth reports on nutrient trends, integration with more devices, and an ad-free experience. If you are serious about achieving specific health goals or require more detailed insights, a premium subscription can be a worthwhile investment.

Q: How do nutrition apps help with managing specific dietary needs, such as vegan or gluten-free diets in the UK?

A: Many of the best nutrition apps UK allow users to set dietary preferences and restrictions, such as vegan or gluten-free. The app can then filter food options, provide relevant recipes, and highlight potential nutrient gaps that are common for these diets, helping users to ensure they are meeting all their nutritional requirements within their chosen dietary framework.

Q: Can nutrition apps integrate with NHS health recommendations in the UK?

A: While direct integration with specific NHS health recommendations might vary, many nutrition apps provide general guidance aligned with healthy eating principles promoted by health organisations. They help users track adherence to balanced diets, portion control, and sufficient intake of essential nutrients, which are all fundamental to NHS dietary advice.

Q: What are the most important features to look for in a UK nutrition app for beginners?

A: For beginners looking for the best nutrition apps UK, key features include an intuitive user interface, a reliable barcode scanner for easy logging of packaged foods, a comprehensive database of UK products, clear calorie and macronutrient tracking, and simple goal-setting capabilities. Ease of use is paramount to encourage consistent engagement.

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best nutrition apps uk: *Advances in Management, Business and Technological Systems* Irina Samoylenko, 2022-11-06 Economic development, social sustainability, and environmental protection play a major role in terms of efforts for innovation, digitalization, business, and global development. Today, nations all over the world attempt to accomplish the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and to ensure sustainable patterns. Combining empirical and theoretical information, this book demonstrates advanced initiatives and concrete examples from universities, research institutes, and companies, regarding cross-cutting issues in sustainable development of a wide range of fields. The major focus in the book is the promotion of quality of life, by means of a more sustainable food production, and improved food security. Additionally, the importance of digital technologies, business policy, social aspects, and corporate governance in ensuring sustainable regional development is studied. This book is a truly interdisciplinary publication, useful to scholars, social movements, practitioners, and members of governmental agencies and private companies.

best nutrition apps uk: *Health Apps, Genetic Diets and Superfoods* Tina Sikka, 2023-02-23 This book critically examines contemporary health and wellness culture through the lens of personalization, genetification and functional foods. These developments have had a significant impact on the intersecting categories of gender, race, and class in light of the increasing adoption of digital health and surveillance technologies like MyFitnessPal, Lifesum, HealthyifyMe, and Fooducate. These three vectors of identity, when analysed in relation to food, diet, health, and technology, reveal significant new ways in which inequality, hierarchy, and injustice become manifest. In the book, Tina Sikka argues that the corporate-led trends associated with health apps, genetic testing, superfoods, and functional foods have produced a kind of dietary-genomic-functional food industrial complex. She makes the positive case for a prosocial, food secure, and biodiverse health and food culture that is rooted in community action, supported by strong public provisioning of health care, and grounded in principles of food justice and sovereignty.

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best nutrition apps uk: *Journey To The Future* Guy Dauncey, 2015-12-01 In this blockbuster novel, young protagonist Patrick Wu visits a future world - Vancouver in 2032 - brimming with innovation and hope, where the climate crisis is being tackled, the solar revolution is underway and a new cooperative economy is taking shape. Dauncey's brilliant book shows solutions to the climate crisis that offer a future rich in opportunity and joy - scientist and award-winning broadcaster David Suzuki. Scientists, activists and politicians are enthusiastic in advance praise for Guy Dauncey's ecotopian novel, *Journey To The Future*. From Elizabeth May, NDP MP Murray Rankin and UK Green Party leader Caroline Lucas, to activists Tzeporah Berman, Angela Bischoff and Bill McKibben, and scientists David Suzuki, Andrew Weaver and Elisabet Sahtouris, the endorsements for Guy Dauncey's new book are united: *Journey To The Future* is a gamechanger that must be widely read. In this blockbuster novel, young protagonist Patrick Wu visits a future world - Vancouver in 2032 - brimming with innovation and hope, where the climate crisis is being tackled, the solar revolution is underway and a new cooperative economy is taking shape. But enormous danger still lurks. David R. Boyd, co-chair of Vancouver's Greenest City initiative, says *Journey To The Future* is an imaginative tour de force, blending science, philosophy and fiction into a delightful story about how we can and must change the world. About the author, Guy Dauncey Guy Dauncey is a futurist who works to develop a positive vision of a sustainable future and to translate that vision into action. He is founder of the BC Sustainable Energy Association, and the author or co-author of ten books, including the award-winning *Cancer: 101 Solutions to a Preventable Epidemic* and *The Climate Challenge: 101 Solutions to Global Warming*. He is an Honorary Member of the Planning Institute of BC, a Fellow of the Findhorn Foundation in Scotland, and a powerful motivational speaker.

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best nutrition apps uk: *The Wellness Trap* Christy Harrison, 2023-04-25 AS SEEN ON CBS MORNINGS, THE NEW YORK TIMES, THE CUT, AND MORE SELF MAGAZINE'S #1 WELLNESS BOOK OF 2023 A NEXT BIG IDEA CLUB MUST-READ BOOK FOR APRIL 2023 A searing critique of modern wellness culture and how it stands in the way of true well-being that will change the way you think about your health—in all the best ways.” (Casey Gueren) “It's not a diet, it's a lifestyle.” You've probably heard this phrase from any number of people in the wellness space. But as Christy Harrison reveals in her latest book, wellness culture promotes a standard of health that is often both unattainable and deeply harmful. Many people with chronic illness understandably feel dismissed or abandoned by the healthcare system and find solace in alternative medicine, as Harrison once did. Yet the wellness industry promotes practices that often cause even more damage than the conventional approaches they're meant to replace. From the lack of pre-market safety testing on herbal and dietary supplements, to the unfounded claims made by many wellness influencers and functional-medicine providers, to the social-media algorithms driving users down rabbit holes of wellness mis- and disinformation, it can often feel like no one is looking out for us in the face of the \$4.4 trillion global wellness industry. *The Wellness Trap* delves into the persistent, systemic problems with that industry, offering insight into its troubling pattern of cultural appropriation and its destructive views on mental health, and shedding light on how a growing distrust of conventional medicine has led ordinary people to turn their backs on science. Weaving together history, memoir,

reporting, and practical advice, Harrison illuminates the harms of wellness culture while re-imagining our society's relationship with well-being.

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best nutrition apps uk: *The New Mediterranean Diet Cookbook* Martina Slajerova, Thomas DeLauer, Nicholas Norwitz, Rohan Kashid, 2021-04-20 The New Mediterranean Diet Cookbook is your guidebook to the ultimate superdiet, an evidence-based keto diet that emphasizes a diversity of fish, healthy fats, and a rainbow of colorful vegetables—with 100 delicious recipes for everything from snacks to dinner. The Mediterranean diet has long been touted as one of the world's healthiest diets, renowned for its protective effects against heart disease, cancer, and other chronic illnesses. However, its heavy inclusion of grains and carbohydrates can contribute to obesity and is a drawback for many. Also shown to have many health benefits, the ketogenic diet stimulates the fat-burning and longevity-promoting state of ketosis by limiting carbs and emphasizing high-fat foods. While the keto diet is about the proportion of macronutrients (fats, protein, carbohydrates) in the food you eat, the Mediterranean diet is about specific food types: seafood, olive oil, colorful vegetables, and other anti-inflammatory foods. This book is about living and eating at the intersection of these complementary diets so you can reap the benefits of both. While both diets advocate significant amounts of healthy fats and protein, the new Mediterranean approach to keto significantly shifts the fat profile of the diet to emphasize the monounsaturated and omega-3 fats

that health experts agree promote living a long disease-free life. It also includes colorful vegetables, providing a diversity of nutrients and flavor. The result is an enhanced Mediterranean diet that stokes metabolism, supports the gut and microbiome, and is anti-inflammatory, anti-aging, and nutrient-dense. Improve your overall health while enjoying delectable dishes including: Superfood Shakshuka Blender Cinnamon Pancakes with Cacao Cream Topping Green Goddess Salad Pancetta Wrapped Sea Bass Sheet Pan Crispy Salmon Piccata Fierce Meatball Zoodle Bolognese Nordic Stone Age Bread Chocolate Hazelnut "Powerhouse" Truffles With The New Mediterranean Diet Cookbook, you'll learn how to balance your macronutrients, what foods are considered the new Mediterranean superfoods, and how to make tasty dishes to keep you satisfied all day.

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