

Teaching yoga essential foundations and technique Document

Teaching yoga essential foundations and technique is a vital aspect of guiding students safely and effectively through their yoga journey. Whether you are an aspiring yoga instructor or a seasoned practitioner looking to deepen your teaching skills, mastering the fundamental principles of yoga practice and pedagogy is crucial. The foundation of any successful yoga class lies in understanding proper alignment, breathing techniques, sequencing, and how to create an inclusive and motivating environment. In this comprehensive guide, we delve into the core elements of teaching yoga with a focus on essential foundations and technique, ensuring you can deliver classes that are safe, inspiring, and transformative.

Understanding the Importance of Foundations in Yoga Teaching

The foundations of yoga are the core principles that support safe practice and effective teaching. These include physical alignment, breath control, mental focus, and ethical considerations. When teachers have a solid grasp of these elements, they can better guide students through postures, modifications, and transitions.

Why Foundations Matter

- Safety: Proper alignment and technique help prevent injuries.
- Effectiveness: Correct foundations allow students to experience the full benefits of each posture.
- Inclusivity: Understanding individual differences enables teachers to modify poses for diverse bodies and abilities.
- Confidence: Knowledge of foundational principles fosters confidence in teaching and addressing student needs.

Core Elements of Teaching Yoga: Foundations and Technique

Developing expertise in yoga teaching involves mastery of several interconnected components. Below are the most essential elements to focus on.

1. Anatomical and Alignment Knowledge

A thorough understanding of anatomy helps teachers instruct students on proper alignment and safe execution of postures.

- Key areas to study:
- Skeletal structure
- Muscular system
- Joint mobility and stability
- Practical application:
- Cue precise alignment points (e.g., square hips, lengthening the spine)
- Recognize common misalignments and how to correct them

2. Breath Control (Pranayama)

Breath is the bridge between the physical and mental aspects of yoga.

- Fundamental techniques:
- Ujjayi breath (victorious breath)
- Dirga (three-part breath)
- Nadi Shodhana (alternate nostril breathing)
- Teaching tips:
- Encourage students to connect movement with breath
- Use breath to maintain focus and calmness

3. Clear and Effective Cueing

Precise verbal cues guide students into correct posture and alignment.

- Best practices:
- Use descriptive, step-by-step instructions
- Incorporate visual, verbal, and tactile cues
- Avoid vague language
- Examples:
- "Ground down through your feet as you lift your chest"
- "Engage your core to support your back"

4. Sequencing and Class Structure

A logical sequence enhances flow, safety, and the overall experience.

- Components of a balanced sequence:
- Warm-up poses

- Standing postures
- Balance poses
- Backbends and inversions
- Cool-down and relaxation
- Considerations:
- Gradually build intensity
- Include modifications and options for different levels
- End with restorative poses and Savasana

5. Modifications and Props

Adapting poses ensures accessibility.

- Common props:
- Blocks
- Straps
- Bolsters
- Chairs
- Teaching approach:
- Offer alternatives for students with limited mobility
- Encourage use of props for alignment and support

Techniques for Teaching Yoga Effectively

Beyond understanding the foundations, effective teaching techniques foster engagement and progress.

1. Demonstration and Visual Cues

- Demonstrate poses clearly from multiple angles.
- Use exaggerated movements to clarify alignment.
- Incorporate images or videos if possible.

2. Hands-On Adjustments

- Use gentle touch to guide students.
- Always ask for permission before adjustments.
- Focus on alignment correction rather than forcing posture.

3. Creating an Inclusive Environment

- Use welcoming language.
- Respect individual differences.
- Offer modifications and variations.

4. Mindfulness and Focus

- Encourage students to tune into sensations.
- Use guided imagery or affirmations.
- Incorporate meditation and relaxation techniques.

5. Providing Clear Instructions and Feedback

- Be concise and precise.
- Offer positive reinforcement.
- Check in with students regularly.

Building Your Teaching Technique: Practical Tips

- Practice Teaching Regularly: The more you teach, the more confident and skilled you become.
- Seek Feedback: Ask students or mentors for constructive criticism.
- Attend Workshops and Training: Continual education enhances your understanding and technique.
- Record Your Classes: Review recordings to observe your cueing and alignment.
- Develop Your Voice: Practice clear, calm, and confident speaking.

Conclusion

Teaching yoga with a solid understanding of its essential foundations and technique is the key to fostering safe, effective, and inspiring classes. By mastering anatomy and alignment, breath control, cueing, sequencing, and modifications, teachers can create a supportive environment that caters to diverse student needs. Combining these foundational skills with effective teaching techniques ensures that students gain the maximum benefits from their practice, both physically and mentally. Remember, teaching yoga is an ongoing journey of learning, refinement, and connection. Embrace these principles, stay curious, and continue cultivating your skills to become a confident and compassionate yoga instructor.

Meta Description: Discover the essential foundations and techniques for teaching yoga effectively. Learn about alignment, breathing, cueing, sequencing, and more to become a confident instructor.

Teaching yoga essential foundations and technique is a vital aspect of becoming an effective and inspiring yoga instructor. Whether you're new to teaching or looking to refine your approach, understanding the core principles of yoga, the importance of proper technique, and foundational teaching methods can significantly elevate your classes. A well-grounded instructor not only imparts physical postures but also fosters a safe, inclusive, and transformative experience for students. In this comprehensive review, we'll explore the essential foundations and techniques necessary for teaching yoga effectively, covering key principles, methodologies, and practical tips to enhance your teaching journey.

Understanding the Foundations of Yoga

Before delving into teaching techniques, it's crucial to grasp the fundamental principles underlying yoga. These foundations serve as the blueprint guiding your instruction and ensuring a holistic approach that benefits students physically, mentally, and spiritually.

Philosophy and Ethics of Yoga

Yoga is rooted in a rich philosophical tradition, primarily derived from the Yoga Sutras of Patanjali, which emphasize ethical conduct, self-awareness, and spiritual growth.

Key Elements:

- Yamas and Niyamas: Ethical guidelines promoting non-violence, truthfulness, contentment, discipline, and self-study.
- Union and Integration: Yoga aims to unite the body, mind, and spirit.
- Mindfulness and Presence: Cultivating awareness in every action and thought.

Importance in Teaching:

Integrating these principles into your classes nurtures a mindful environment, encouraging students to develop a deeper connection with themselves beyond physical postures.

Understanding the Physical and Subtle Anatomy

An essential foundation is a solid grasp of anatomy—both gross and subtle.

Features:

- Musculoskeletal Knowledge: Understanding joint movements, muscle engagement, and alignment.
- Energy Anatomy: Knowledge of chakras, nadis, and prana, which helps in guiding breath work and meditation.

Pros:

- Enhances safety and precision.
- Allows for modifications tailored to individual needs.
- Builds credibility and confidence as an instructor.

Cons:

- Requires continuous learning and study.
- Can be complex, especially when integrating subtle anatomy concepts.

Principles of Safety and Alignment

Ensuring safety is paramount in yoga teaching.

Features:

- Clear cues for proper alignment.
- Awareness of contraindications and modifications.
- Emphasis on listening to the body.

Pros:

- Prevents injuries.
- Builds trust and confidence among students.
- Encourages sustainable practice.

Cons:

- Overemphasis on alignment can sometimes overshadow the experiential aspect.
- May require personalized adjustments, demanding more time and attention.

Core Techniques for Effective Yoga Teaching

Having established foundational knowledge, the next step involves mastering teaching techniques that facilitate learning, safety, and engagement.

Clear and Compassionate Communication

Effective instruction hinges on your ability to communicate clearly and empathetically.

Features:

- Use of precise, simple language.
- Demonstrations that are accessible.
- Encouraging cues that motivate and support students.

Pros:

- Eases understanding.
- Builds a welcoming atmosphere.
- Helps students feel supported and confident.

Cons:

- Over-explanation can overwhelm.
- Language barriers may require adaptations.

Sequencing and Class Structure

A thoughtfully designed sequence optimizes the learning experience.

Features:

- Warm-up to prepare the body.
- Gradual progression into peak poses.
- Proper cool-down and meditation.

Pros:

- Enhances safety and effectiveness.
- Keeps students engaged and motivated.
- Facilitates integration of physical and mental aspects.

Cons:

- Requires planning and experience.
- Rigid sequences may limit spontaneity.

Use of Props and Modifications

Props like blocks, straps, and bolsters expand accessibility.

Features:

- Provides support for different body types.
- Facilitates correct alignment.
- Offers alternative poses for injuries or limitations.

Pros:

- Promotes safety.
- Encourages inclusivity.
- Helps students deepen their practice.

Cons:

- Can be perceived as a crutch if overused.
- Requires additional space and equipment.

Breathwork (Pranayama)

Breath control is integral to yoga practice and teaching.

Features:

- Techniques like Ujjayi, Nadi Shodhana, and Kapalabhati.
- Synchronizing breath with movement.
- Cultivating mindfulness and energy regulation.

Pros:

- Enhances focus.
- Balances nervous system.
- Deepens the yoga experience.

Cons:

- May be challenging for beginners.
- Needs careful guidance to avoid hyperventilation.

Meditation and Mindfulness

Incorporating mental practices creates a holistic class.

Features:

- Guided meditation.
- Body scan exercises.
- Mindful observation.

Pros:

- Reduces stress.
- Improves concentration.
- Complements physical postures.

Cons:

- Time constraints.
- Some students may find it difficult to settle.

Practical Tips for Aspiring Yoga Teachers

To elevate your teaching, consider these practical aspects:

- Continual Learning: Attend workshops, trainings, and read extensively.
- Observe and Adapt: Watch experienced teachers and adapt techniques to your style.
- Build Confidence: Practice teaching in front of friends or record sessions for self-review.
- Create a Safe Space: Foster an environment of respect, inclusivity, and non-judgment.
- Gather Feedback: Regularly solicit student input to improve your classes.
- Emphasize Personal Practice: Maintain your own yoga practice to deepen understanding and authenticity.

Conclusion

Teaching yoga essential foundations and technique is a multifaceted endeavor that combines philosophical understanding, anatomical knowledge, effective communication, and practical teaching skills. A strong foundation rooted in the principles of yoga ensures that students not only achieve physical benefits but also experience mental clarity and spiritual growth. Mastering core techniques such as sequencing, alignment, breathwork, and mindfulness enables instructors to create safe, engaging, and transformative classes. As you progress, remember that teaching yoga is a lifelong journey of learning, self-discovery, and service. By continually refining your understanding and approach, you can inspire and support your students on their unique yoga journeys, fostering a community rooted in health, awareness, and compassion.

Question What are the fundamental principles of teaching yoga safely and effectively? The fundamental principles include understanding anatomy and alignment, creating a safe and inclusive environment, guiding students through proper breathwork, and adapting poses to individual needs while emphasizing mindfulness and awareness. **Answer** How can a new yoga teacher develop a strong understanding of yoga poses and their correct techniques? New teachers should study detailed anatomy and alignment cues, practice poses regularly, attend training workshops, observe experienced teachers, and use reliable instructional resources to grasp proper technique and nuances. What are the essential techniques for guiding students through transitions between poses? Effective techniques include clear verbal cues, demonstrating movements, using breath to synchronize transitions, providing modifications when needed, and encouraging mindful awareness during each movement. How important is breathwork in teaching yoga, and what are core breathing techniques to include? Breathwork is vital for promoting relaxation, focus, and energy flow. Core techniques include Ujjayi breath, diaphragmatic breathing, and Nadi Shodhana (alternate nostril breathing), which help deepen practice and improve concentration. What strategies can teachers use to ensure alignment and prevent injuries during practice? Teachers should provide clear instructions, observe students closely, offer modifications, emphasize listening to one's body, and

encourage slow, mindful movements to maintain proper alignment and avoid injury. How can a yoga teacher cultivate a mindful and compassionate teaching approach? By practicing active listening, being patient and non-judgmental, offering personalized guidance, fostering a supportive environment, and encouraging students to honor their body's limits and progress at their own pace. What are some common pitfalls to avoid when teaching yoga fundamentals and technique? Common pitfalls include rushing through instructions, neglecting individual differences, overemphasizing perfect alignment at the expense of accessibility, and failing to create an inclusive, supportive atmosphere for all students.

Related keywords: yoga teaching, yoga fundamentals, yoga techniques, yoga instruction, beginner yoga, yoga alignment, yoga practice, teaching yoga poses, yoga pedagogy, yoga teacher training

radiographic technique chart for kodak systems

radiographic technique chart for kodak systems serves as an essential guide for radiologic technologists aiming to produce high-quality diagnostic images while minimizing patient radiation exposure. Kodak, a longstanding leader in medical imaging technology, offers a range of digital and analog radiography systems that require precise technique settings tailored to various clinical needs. A well-maintained technique chart ensures consistency, accuracy, and safety during imaging procedures. This comprehensive guide aims to elucidate the fundamentals of Kodak's radiographic technique charts, explain how to interpret and customize them, and highlight best practices for optimal imaging results.

Understanding the Importance of a Radiographic Technique Chart

A radiographic technique chart functions as a reference tool that standardizes exposure parameters such as kilovoltage peak (kVp), milliamperage-seconds (mAs), and other technical factors. Proper use of these charts helps achieve:

- Consistent image quality across different patients and technologists
- Optimized radiation dose, adhering to ALARA (As Low As Reasonably Achievable) principles
- Efficient workflow and reduced need for retakes
- Accurate documentation for quality assurance and legal purposes

For Kodak systems specifically, the technique chart is tailored to their digital detectors and film-based systems, accommodating the unique characteristics of each modality.

Core Components of Kodak Radiographic Technique Charts

A typical Kodak radiographic technique chart includes the following key elements:

1. Patient Size Categories

- Small, medium, large patients
- Pediatric versus adult patients
- Special populations (e.g., bariatric patients)

2. Anatomical Regions and Views

- Chest (PA, lateral)
- Abdomen
- Extremities
- Spine
- Skull

3. Exposure Parameters

- Kilovoltage peak (kVp): controls penetration
- Milliampere-seconds (mAs): controls the amount of radiation
- Exposure time (seconds or milliseconds)
- Grid usage and grid ratio (if applicable)
- Focal spot size

4. Additional Technical Settings

- Dose modulation settings
- Collimation guidelines
- Post-processing recommendations

Interpreting and Customizing the Technique Chart

While the standard Kodak technique chart provides a solid starting point, individual facilities often customize these parameters based on their equipment, patient population, and clinical requirements.

1. Using the Standard Chart

- Match the patient size and the anatomical region to the corresponding exposure parameters.
- Follow the recommended kVp and mAs values as a baseline.
- Adjust based on image quality feedback and clinical outcomes.

2. Adjusting for Equipment Variability

- Different Kodak digital detectors may have varying sensitivities.
- Calibration and quality control tests should inform adjustments.
- Consult system-specific guidelines or manufacturer recommendations.

3. Fine-tuning for Patient Factors

- Larger patients may require increased mAs or higher kVp.
- Pediatric patients often need reduced exposure settings.
- Obese patients may benefit from additional filtration or altered technique.

Sample Kodak Technique Chart for Common Examinations

Below is an illustrative example of a Kodak radiographic technique chart for common exams. Note that actual values should be tailored to your specific system and clinical protocols.

Chest (PA and lateral views)

- Patient Size: Medium
- kVp: 110-125
- mAs: 2-4
- Grid: Yes (grid ratio 8:1 or 10:1)

Abdomen (Supine)

- Patient Size: Medium
- kVp: 80-85
- mAs: 20-40
- Grid: Yes (grid ratio 8:1)

Extremities (e.g., hand, foot)

- Patient Size: Small
- kVp: 50-60
- mAs: 1-2
- Grid: No

Best Practices for Using the Kodak Technique Chart

To maximize image quality and safety, follow these best practices:

- Always verify patient size and positioning before selecting exposure parameters.
- Use the technique chart as a guideline, but remain flexible for individual patient needs.
- Maintain consistent positioning to ensure the standardization of technique application.
- Perform regular quality control tests on the imaging system to validate the accuracy of technique settings.
- Document all exposure parameters for each examination for quality assurance and legal compliance.
- Train staff regularly on updates to the technique chart and system capabilities.

Advanced Considerations in Kodak Systems

Kodak's digital radiography systems incorporate advanced features that influence technique selection.

1. Dose Optimization Algorithms

- These systems often include automatic exposure control (AEC) and dose modulation.
- Technologists should understand how these features interact with the technique chart.

2. Digital Detector Sensitivity

- Digital systems can often operate at lower doses compared to film.
- Adjustments to the technique chart may be necessary to leverage detector sensitivity without compromising image quality.

3. Image Processing Parameters

- Post-processing algorithms can compensate for slight under- or over-exposure.
- Clinicians and technologists should collaborate to optimize both acquisition and post-processing settings.

Maintaining and Updating the Technique Chart

A static technique chart can become outdated as equipment ages or protocols evolve. Regular review and updates are essential.

1. Routine Quality Assurance

- Conduct periodic audits comparing image quality and radiation dose.
- Adjust the technique chart accordingly.

2. Incorporating New Technologies

- As Kodak releases system upgrades or new models, update the technique chart to reflect new capabilities.

3. Staff Training and Feedback

- Educate staff on chart updates.
- Encourage feedback on practical application and patient outcomes to refine techniques.

Conclusion

A comprehensive radiographic technique chart for Kodak systems is vital for delivering high-quality diagnostic images efficiently and safely. By understanding the core components, interpreting and customizing the chart, and adhering to best practices, radiologic technologists can optimize imaging protocols. Regular maintenance and updates ensure that the technique chart remains aligned with technological advancements and clinical needs, ultimately enhancing patient care and diagnostic accuracy. Whether working with digital or film-based Kodak systems, mastery of the technique chart is an essential skill for every radiologic professional.

Radiographic Technique Chart for Kodak Systems: A Comprehensive Guide for Modern Imaging

Introduction

Radiographic technique chart for Kodak systems is an essential resource that bridges the gap between precise imaging requirements and optimal diagnostic outcomes. Kodak, a name synonymous with innovation in the field of medical imaging, has long been at the forefront of developing reliable, standardized radiographic protocols tailored to their extensive range of digital and film-based systems. Whether in a busy hospital radiology department or a specialized outpatient clinic, understanding and effectively utilizing these technique charts ensures high-quality images, minimizes patient dose, and enhances diagnostic accuracy. This article delves into the intricacies of Kodak's radiographic technique chart, exploring its components, applications, and best practices for clinicians and radiologic technologists alike.

The Significance of a Radiographic Technique Chart

Before exploring the specifics of Kodak's charts, it's vital to understand why such tools are indispensable in radiography.

Consistency and Standardization

- Technique charts provide a standardized approach to imaging, reducing variability between technologists and facilities.
- They serve as a reference point to maintain consistency across different patients, body types, and clinical indications.

Optimization of Image Quality and Patient Safety

- Proper technique selection ensures optimal image contrast, resolution, and detail.
- It helps in minimizing radiation exposure, aligning with ALARA (As Low As Reasonably Achievable) principles.

Efficiency and Workflow

- Clear guidelines streamline the imaging process, reducing repeat exposures and saving time.
- They assist in training new staff and maintaining quality assurance.

Components of Kodak's Radiographic Technique Chart

Kodak's technique charts are meticulously designed, incorporating various parameters that collectively influence image quality and patient safety. Understanding each component is fundamental for correct application.

- Exposure Factors

- kVp (Kilovoltage peak): Determines the energy and penetrating power of X-rays.
- mAs (Milliampere-seconds): Controls the quantity of X-ray photons produced.

- SID (Source to Image Distance)

- Standard distances typically range between 40" to 72", depending on the exam.
- The SID influences magnification, penumbra, and image sharpness.

- Grid Use

- The chart specifies when grids are recommended, based on body part and patient size.
- Gearing the grid ratio and frequency to the exam helps in balancing dose and image quality.

- Patient Positioning and Part Alignment

- Precise positioning instructions ensure reproducibility.
- Proper alignment minimizes distortion and superimposition.

- Image Receptor Type

- Whether using digital detectors, film-screen combinations, or computed radiography, the chart accounts for receptor sensitivity.

Understanding Kodak's Technique Chart Layout

Kodak's radiographic technique charts are typically organized in a user-friendly layout, often including:

- Body part or exam type: e.g., chest, abdomen, extremities.

- Patient size categories: e.g., small, medium, large.
- Recommended exposure parameters: kVp and mAs values.
- SID and grid recommendations
- Notes or special instructions: e.g., breathing instructions, immobilization.

This format allows technologists to quickly reference the appropriate settings, adapt to patient variability, and troubleshoot if images do not meet diagnostic standards.

Application of Kodak Technique Charts in Clinical Practice

Step-by-Step Utilization

- Identify the Exam and Patient Size
- Determine the specific radiographic procedure.
- Categorize the patient's size to select the correct parameters.
- Select Appropriate Exposure Settings
- Refer to the chart for initial kVp and mAs values.
- Adjust as needed based on patient condition or clinical indications.
- Position the Patient Correctly
- Follow positioning guidelines to ensure proper alignment.
- Confirm SID and grid placement.
- Perform the Exposure
- Use the specified exposure factors.
- Observe radiographic safety protocols.

- Evaluate Image Quality
- Check for adequate penetration, contrast, and sharpness.
- If necessary, fine-tune parameters for subsequent images.

Quality Assurance and Continuous Improvement

- Regularly review images for consistency.
- Update technique settings based on technological upgrades or new clinical data.
- Engage in staff training emphasizing the importance of adherence to technique charts.

Technological Advances and Adaptations in Kodak Systems

As imaging technology evolves, so do the parameters within Kodak's technique charts. Digital systems, for example, offer greater flexibility:

- Automatic Exposure Control (AEC): Many Kodak digital units incorporate AEC, allowing for real-time adjustment based on patient anatomy.
- Image Processing Algorithms: Post-processing capabilities can influence initial exposure choices.
- Dose Monitoring and Feedback: Integration with dose-tracking systems helps in refining technique charts over time.

In response, Kodak's charts often include guidelines for digital systems, emphasizing calibration, quality control, and dose optimization.

Best Practices for Using Kodak Technique Charts

- Stay Updated: Regularly review and implement updates provided by Kodak or institutional protocols.
- Customize When Necessary: While charts serve as a foundation, adjust parameters based on individual patient needs and clinical judgment.
- Document Settings: Record exposure parameters for each exam to facilitate quality assurance and troubleshooting.
- Collaborate with Radiologists: Ensure alignment between technologists' technique choices and radiologists' diagnostic requirements.
- Prioritize Patient Safety: Always aim for the lowest dose that achieves diagnostic quality.

Conclusion

The radiographic technique chart for Kodak systems embodies a vital intersection of science, technology, and clinical practice. By understanding its components, applications, and the principles underlying its design, radiologic technologists can deliver high-quality images with optimal safety. As Kodak continues to innovate with digital imaging and dose management, these charts will evolve, but their core purpose remains unchanged: to serve as a reliable guide toward excellence in medical imaging. Embracing these tools not only enhances diagnostic accuracy but also reinforces the commitment to patient-centered care in modern radiology.

Question What is a radiographic technique chart for Kodak systems? A radiographic technique chart for Kodak systems is a standardized guide that provides recommended exposure parameters (kVp, mAs, distance) to obtain optimal image quality for different body parts and imaging modalities using Kodak radiography equipment. **Answer** How can I customize a Kodak radiographic technique chart for specific patient sizes? You can customize a Kodak technique chart by adjusting exposure settings based on patient size, using established guidelines or comparison with test images, to ensure adequate penetration and image quality while minimizing dose. What factors influence the selection of techniques on a Kodak system chart? Factors include the body part being imaged, patient size, tissue density, desired image contrast, and the type of Kodak imaging system (e.g., digital or analog). These influence the recommended kVp, mAs, and other parameters. Are Kodak radiographic technique charts compatible with digital and analog systems? Yes, Kodak provides specific technique charts tailored for both digital and analog radiography systems, ensuring optimal image quality across different modalities. How often should a radiographic technique chart for Kodak systems be updated? It should be reviewed and updated regularly, especially when equipment calibration changes, new technologies are adopted, or new clinical protocols are established to maintain optimal imaging standards. Where can I find official Kodak radiographic technique charts? Official Kodak technique charts are typically provided with the equipment, available through Kodak's clinical support resources, or can be obtained from Kodak's technical representatives or official manuals. What are common mistakes to avoid when using a Kodak system technique chart? Common mistakes include using inappropriate exposure settings for different patient sizes, neglecting to verify calibration, or not adjusting the chart for specific clinical needs, which can compromise image quality or patient safety. Can I modify Kodak radiographic technique charts for specialized imaging procedures? Yes, modifications can be made based on clinical experience, specific patient cases, or research, but they should be validated to ensure image quality and patient safety are maintained.

Related keywords: radiographic technique chart, Kodak systems, X-ray exposure chart, film processing guide, radiography settings, imaging protocols, Kodak radiography, medical imaging standards, technique selection, Kodak X-ray parameters

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