



Mercedes-Benz

## Operation Guide



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## Overview

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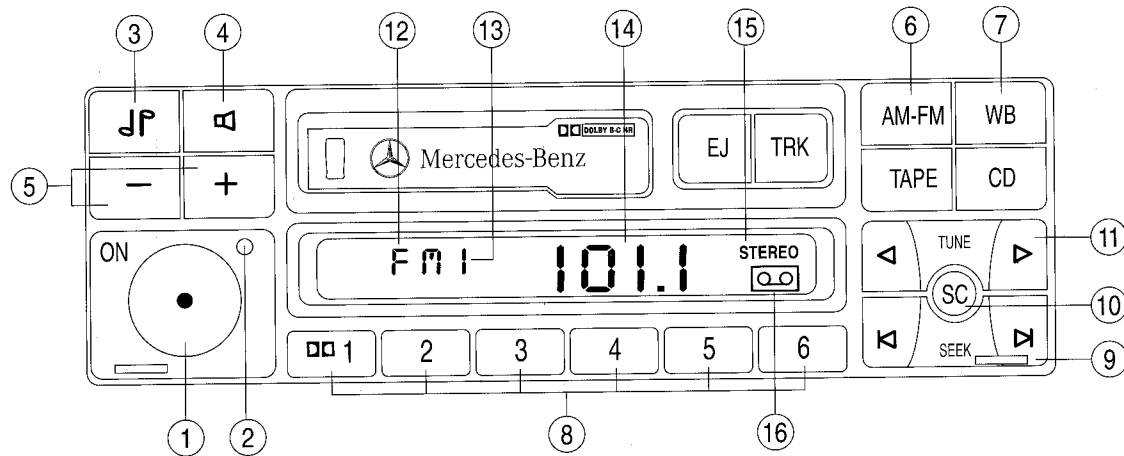
Prepare to enjoy the many pleasures of listening to a superb sound system: the Mercedes-Benz AM and FM stereo radio with cassette player. This Operation Guide is designed to give you both a quick reference of basic functions and features and a detailed description of the system's entire range of operation. To maximize your listening satisfaction, take a few minutes to carefully review all sections of this guide.



Note: The following instructions also include the functions of the optional dealer-installed trunk-mounted compact disc changer.\*

\* Standard on V-12 models.

# Radio Functions



## Basic Controls

- 1 On/Off Switch, Volume Control
- 2 Anti-theft Indicator
- 3 Bass/Treble Selector
- 4 Fader/Balance Selector
- 5 Bass, Treble, Fader, Balance Control

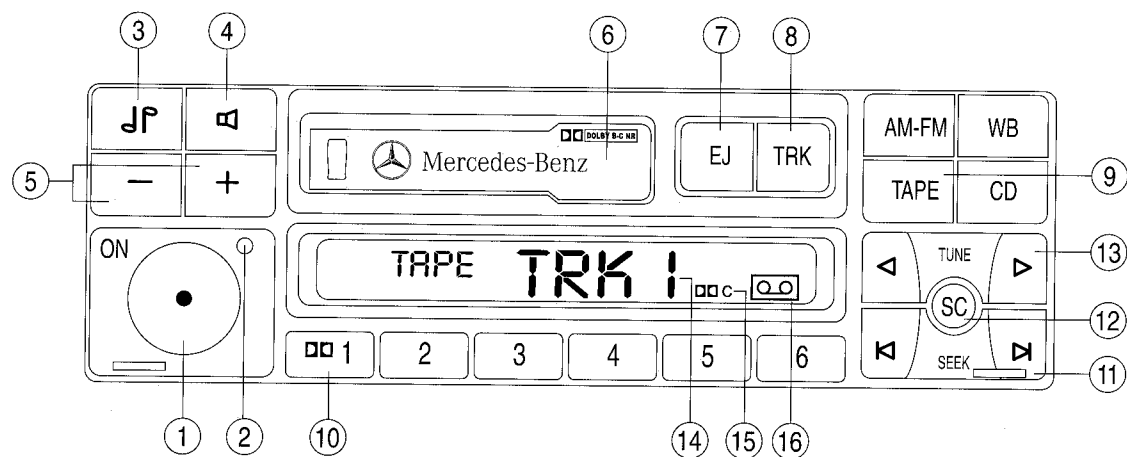
## Tuning

- 6 AM or FM Band
- 7 Weather Band (WB)
- 8 Station Memory Buttons
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- 11 Manual Tuning

## Display Panel

- 12 Band (AM/FM/WB)
- 13 Station Memory Location
- 14 Station Frequency
- 15 Stereo Mode
- 16 Cassette-in Indicator

## Cassette Player Functions



### Basic Controls

- 1 On/Off Switch, Volume Control
- 2 Anti-theft Indicator
- 3 Bass/Treble Selector
- 4 Fader/Balance Selector
- 5 Bass, Treble, Fader, Balance Control

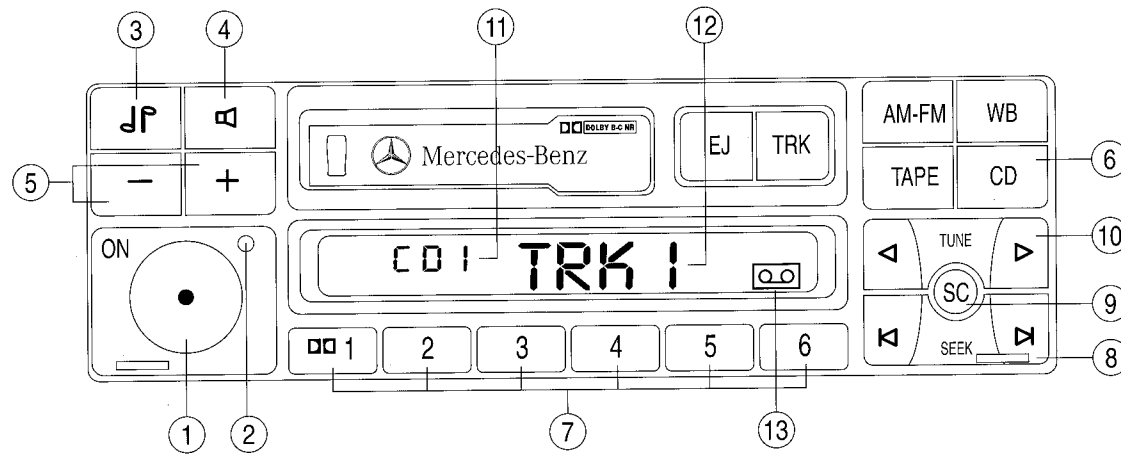
### Cassette Operation

- 6 Cassette Port
- 7 Cassette Ejection Button
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- 9 Tape Mode Selector
- 10 Dolby Noise Reduction Selector
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- 13 Fast Forward/Rewind

### Display Panel

- 14 Tape Track
- 15 Noise Reduction Type
- 16 Cassette-in Indicator

# Compact Disc Changer Functions



## Basic Controls

- 1 On/Off Switch, Volume Control
- 2 Anti-theft Indicator
- 3 Bass/Treble Selector
- 4 Fader/Balance Selector
- 5 Bass, Treble, Fader, Balance Control

## CD Operation

- 6 CD Mode Selector
- 7 Disc Selector
- 8 Track Seek
- 9 Track Scan
- 10 Fast Forward/Reverse

## Display Panel

- 11 Disc Number
- 12 Track Number
- 13 Cassette-in Indicator

## Radio Operation

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### Power and Volume

The sound system will operate with the car's ignition switch in position 1 or 2, and can also be activated without the ignition key. In this condition, the radio will turn off after 1 hour to conserve the vehicle battery. To operate the radio, simply push the large knob located on the left side of the radio faceplate. To adjust the volume, rotate the knob.

### AM/FM Selection

Press the AM/FM button until the desired band appears in the left side of the display. The word STEREO will appear in the right side of the display if the selected FM station is broadcasting in stereo. If the indicator flashes, it signifies that the station is weak, and reception may not be clear.

### Weather Band

Press the WB button to begin automatic tune-in of

the nearest available National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) broadcasts, which come directly from the offices of the National Weather Service. There are about 372 National Weather Service stations in the United States. A station's antenna has a line of sight broadcast range of about 40 miles. If NONE appears in the display, the radio has searched through all seven weatherband frequencies 3 times and could not find a sufficiently strong signal. If you are tuned to one weather station but wish to listen to another, press either the Scan (SC), or Seek or Tune button. Please note that Weatherband stations 1 through 6 are preset into memory locations 1 through 6. To change these preset locations, refer to the "Station Memory Tuning" section on page 5.

### Scan Tuning

To automatically find the next radio station in ascending frequency, push the Scan (SC) button. The radio will play the first station it finds for eight

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seconds, then scan upward to the next station, which it will also play for for eight seconds. SC will appear in the display. To avoid stops on marginal stations, the radio will scan the entire band in the least sensitive mode first, then automatically switch to high sensitivity and scan again. This sequence will repeat until the Scan (SC), Seek or Tune button is pressed. Selecting another mode or turning power OFF and ON again will also cancel the scan function.

### **Seek Tuning**

To find and lock onto the next station in ascending frequency, push the right side of the seek button. Push the left side to lock onto the next station in descending frequency.

### **Manual Tuning**

To manually tune through each possible radio broadcast frequency in ascending order, press the right side of the tune button. Each possible

frequency number will appear in the display. To manually tune through radio stations in descending order, press the left side of the tune button.

### **Station Memory Tuning**


This radio allows storing of up to six AM, FM and weatherband stations for instant pushbutton tuning. First, tune to a station using scan, seek, or manual tuning. Next, depress and hold one of six numbered station-memory buttons. In approximately two seconds, a beep tone will be heard through the speakers, signaling that the new station is stored in the numbered location you pressed. Each new station-memory button can store one AM, one FM and one weatherband station. The display will indicate the storage location next to the band selected in the left side of the display.

### **Bass/Treble Control**


To adjust bass or treble response, press the tone



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(  ) control button repeatedly until BASS or TREB appears in the display. To increase treble or bass, press the “+” button. To decrease, press the “-” button. Horizontal bars at the bottom of the display indicate the amount of adjustment plus or minus the center (flat) point. To set bass or treble to their flat settings, push the tone button, then simultaneously press and hold both the “-” and “+” buttons momentarily (less than 4 seconds). Please note that only the tone settings for the current mode (AM, FM, WB, tape or CD) will be set flat. If you press and hold the “+” and “-” buttons for at least 5 seconds, both bass and treble (as well as fader and balance) will automatically reach the center point of their ranges and RESET (CENTR) will appear in the display. The volume level will also return to a preset point.

### **Fader/Balance Control**

To adjust left-right speaker balance or front to rear fader \*, press the speaker button (  ) repeatedly

until FADER or BAL appears on the display. Then press either the “+” or “-” button to adjust fader or balance. Horizontal bars at the bottom of the display indicate the amount of adjustment plus or minus the center point. To set fader or balance to their center positions, push the Fader/Balance selector, then simultaneously press and hold both the “-” and “+” button momentarily (less than 4 seconds). The fader and balance settings for all models will be set to their center positions. If you press and hold the “-” and “+” buttons for at least 5 seconds, left-right speaker balance, front to rear fader (as well as bass and treble) will automatically reach the center point and RESET will appear in the display. The volume level will also return to a preset point.

\* SL, SLK models do not have the fader function.

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## Antenna

The antenna extends automatically whenever the radio is switched on and retracts whenever the radio or the vehicle's ignition is switched off. \*\*

Be sure to switch the radio off before entering a car wash to avoid damage to the antenna mast.


\*\* Model Year 1996 E-Class models: antenna will only extend with cellular telephone, which must be switched on. Radio antenna is integrated into the vehicle.

As of Model Year 1997, all antenna elements are integrated in the E-Class

## Cassette Operation

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### Basic Functions

To play a cassette, turn on the radio, then insert the cassette into its port, side 1 or A facing up. Inserting a cassette automatically selects the TAPE mode. The “cassette in” symbol  at the lower right corner of the display will illuminate. If AM, FM, WB or CD is currently selected and a cassette is already in the mechanism, press the TAPE button to begin cassette operation. The proper tape equalization for normal or chrome/metal tape is automatically selected. At the conclusion of the first side played, the auto-reverse mechanism will automatically begin playing the other side of the tape. When a tape is inserted, all dual-function controls and displays - those that function differently in radio and cassette player modes - switch to the cassette player mode.

### Eject

To remove a cassette, push the eject (EJ) button. The tape will automatically disengage and can be removed from the cassette port. Ejecting a

cassette switches the system back to the last radio mode (AM or FM) which was used prior to TAPE. If the ignition is turned off while a cassette is playing, the cassette will remain in the port. Switching the radio ON will restart the tape.

**NOTE:** The cassette can be ejected if the radio is OFF even if it is in a CODE condition.

### Dolby® B and C Noise Reduction

This function, which is activated by pressing the Dolby noise-reduction button, reduces background hiss while playing a cassette that was recorded using the Dolby B or Dolby C noise-reduction systems. Most prerecorded cassettes indicate which type of noise reduction was used during recording (if any). The display will show which system is selected.

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### **Rewind**

Push the left side of the Tune button to rewind the tape. Once this function is engaged, the tape will rewind until either the Scan (SC), Tune or Seek button is pressed again, or the beginning of the side has been reached. When rewind is selected, RWD will appear in the display.

### **Fast Forward**

To fast forward to the end of a side, press the right side of the Tune button. Once this function is engaged, the tape will fast forward until either the Scan (SC) Tune, or Seek button is pushed again, or the end of the side has been reached. When fast forward is selected, FWD will appear in the display.

### **Forward Music Search/Reverse Music Search**

A cassette tape can be automatically advanced to the next selection by pressing the right side of the Seek button. SEEK ▷ will appear in the display. To rewind the tape to the beginning of the present selection, press the left side of the seek button. SEEK ▷ will appear in the display. Note that a pause of at least 4 seconds must be present between selections for the radio to recognize the next selection.

### **Side Selection**

Once a cassette has been engaged, push the track (TRK) button to switch to the tape's other side without having to remove and flip the cassette. Once the side is finished, the other side will be selected automatically.

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### **Tape Scan**

To automatically scan the tape's selections, push the Scan (SC) button. Each selection will play for eight seconds, then the tape will fast forward to the next selection, which will also play for eight seconds. This sequence will repeat until either the Scan (SC), Tune or Seek button is pressed. Selecting another mode or turning power OFF and ON again will also cancel the Scan function. SC plus the track number will appear in the display, while the selection is playing, and TAPE FWD SC will appear between selections.

### **Maintenance Reminder**

Every 30 hours of cassette operation, CLEAN will flash in the display panel for 10 seconds accompanied by a one second audible warning, reminding you to clean the tape head, pinch rollers and capstan. The proper cleaning cassette and instructions are available at your authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer.

## Compact Disc Operation

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If the optional dealer-installed CD changer is connected to your system,\* it can be operated via the same keys that control the radio and cassette player. The same instructions that govern volume, tone, balance and fader in the radio and cassette modes apply to the CD mode as well. However, some system functions and procedures are exclusive to the CD mode.

### Loading the CD Magazine and CD changer

The CD changer is located inside the car's trunk. Its magazine will accept up to six discs. For CD magazines with non-removable trays, insert the discs into the magazine compartment with the label surface facing up, as indicated on the CD magazine. For CD magazines with removable trays, slide the CD tray part way out of the magazine, and place the disc on the tray with the label facing UP. Slide the tray back into the magazine until a light click is heard. Repeat for any additional discs you wish to insert. When the magazine is loaded, place it into the

\* Standard on V-12 models



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CD port. An arrow in the top surface of the magazine indicates which end should be inserted first. When you feel the magazine lock snugly into position in the port, close the port door. During this procedure, the display panel will indicate CD MAG LOAD. The first available CD will then start to play.

**Note:** If a disc is inserted into the tray of magazine upside down, that disc will not be recognized.

### **Ejecting the CD Magazine**

To eject the magazine from the CD changer, slide open the magazine port door. The magazine eject button will be illuminated. Press the button and the magazine will automatically slide halfway out of the magazine port. The eject button will blink; you may now remove the magazine manually. To close the port door, press the button located at the front of the door. The door will slide to the closed position.

### **To play CDs**

First turn on the radio. Then press the CD button. If the CD magazine has not been inserted into the CD changer, the display will indicate MAG NONE. If a magazine slot is empty, or if the disc is inserted incorrectly, the display will indicate NO CD for each empty magazine compartment. The radio will return to the last AM or FM mode selected prior to CD. The radio's station recall buttons, numbered 1 through 6 function as CD direct disc-selected buttons as well. To play the disc in the CD magazine's fourth compartment, for example, press button 4. To interrupt one disc and choose another, press the appropriate disc-selector button for the disc desired. The display will indicate CD LOAD along with the disc number until the newly selected disc begins playing. Should NO CD appear in the display, an empty compartment in CD magazine has been selected. If an empty slot is selected the FIRST TIME the magazine is inserted, the next available disc will be loaded. Subsequently, NO CD will appear, and the current disc will play.

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### **Scan Tracks**

To scan in ascending order through the tracks on a CD, press the Scan (SC) button. The magazine will play each track for about eight seconds, then scan up to the next track. SC and the track number being played will appear in the display. This sequence will repeat until either the Scan (SC), Seek or Tune button is pressed. Selecting another mode or disc or turning power OFF and ON again will also cancel the Scan function.

### **Seeking Tracks**

To go directly to the beginning of the track in ascending order, press the right side of the Seek button. To return to the beginning of the track being played, press the left side of the Seek button. Pressing the left side of the button repeatedly will select tracks in descending order. If the Seek button is pressed during the first 10 seconds of play, the previous track will be selected. After 10 seconds, the currently selected track will restart from the

beginning. The selected track number will appear in the display.

### **Fast Forward/Fast Reverse**

To move rapidly forward through a track, press the right side of the Tune button. To move rapidly in reverse through a track, press the left side of the Tune button. The audible signal can be used to gauge your progress, and the display will indicate elapsed time in minutes and seconds (MM:SS).

### **Notes For CD System Operation:**

Extreme temperatures will affect the performance of the CD system. However, optimum performance will occur between 0 and 160 degrees Fahrenheit.

If the ambient temperature exceeds 160 degrees Fahrenheit, CD TEMP  $\Delta$  will appear on the display, and play will stop. After 4 seconds, the mode which was active prior to CD will resume. CD operation will not resume until the temperature falls within the optimum performance range.



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If the ambient temperature drops below 0 degrees Fahrenheit, CD TEMP ▽ will be displayed and flash for 8 seconds. Play will continue, however, the CD player will be more likely to exhibit skipping over unusual road conditions. The normal CD display will re-appear after 8 seconds. If another mode is selected again, this process will repeat if the temperature is still below 0 degrees Fahrenheit.


Dampness on the disc surface can be caused by changing temperatures and may affect disc performance, inhibiting the system's laser from focusing and making it impossible for it to read the contents of a disc. As soon as relative humidity has decreased, this situation will correct itself, usually within one to two hours.

Although compact discs are specially coated for durability, they should still be handled carefully. Handle discs only by the edges and avoid fingerprints, dust, scratches, and dampness on both surfaces. Do not label the disc or affix paper or tape to them. After removing a disc from the magazine,

store it in its original case. If necessary, clean the disc with a CD cleaning cloth, wiping radially from the center of the disc to the edge. Do not use solvents such as benzene, thinner, or commercially available cleaners intended for analog discs. Mistracking or skipping due to road shock is unavoidable, and will not damage the unit or discs.

#### **Self-diagnostic Mode indications**

If the CD changer detects an operational error, it will automatically enter its self-diagnostic mode. The machine's analysis of the cause is displayed in code. The chart on page 18 lists the self-diagnostic codes and actions you can take.

 **Caution:** This CD player contains a Class 1 laser unit. If the cover is opened or damaged, there is danger from invisible laser radiation. Do not remove the cover. There are no parts that can be repaired by the user. Only qualified service technicians should attempt internal maintenance or repairs, including cleaning.

## Anti-theft System

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The Mercedes-Benz AM and FM stereo radio with cassette player and CD compatibility is fitted with a built-in system designed to help render it inoperative in case of theft. If the radio or battery is disconnected, the radio will automatically be disabled. To indicate this state, the word **CODE** will appear on the radio's display. To render the radio operable again, the correct five digit code must be entered into the radio via its numbered station-recall buttons. A code is preassigned to each radio and supplied to the owner on two wallet-sized cards.

### Recoding Sequence

To recode a radio, follow this procedure:

1. Turn ignition key to lock position one. 2. Turn on the radio. The word **CODE** appears on the display with the letter "C" flashing. 3. Enter the first digit of the radio's anti-theft code as it appears on the code card. The word **CODE** will disappear and the first number that you have entered will be displayed,

followed by four dashes, e.g. 1 — — — — . 4. Enter the rest of the five digit anti-theft code. Each number will be displayed when it is keyed in. 5. When all five anti-theft code numbers have been correctly entered, the first number in the code flashes, alerting you to confirm the code. Press the Scan (SC) Seek or Tune button to confirm the code. Radio operation will now resume.

### Incorrect Code

If an incorrect anti-theft code digit is entered, continue to enter numbers until the five-digit code is correctly entered and displayed. If an incorrect code is confirmed, the word **CODE** will appear again. The system allows two more recoding attempts. After the third attempt, the word **WAIT** is displayed. A period of 10 minutes must pass and the word **CODE** must again be displayed before recoding can be successful. The radio must be left on during this period. This measure is meant to prevent recoding of the radio by randomly entering numbers.

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If the correct anti-theft code has not been entered after nine separate attempts and therefore after two 10-minute wait intervals- the radio will lock for 24 hours to prevent any further recoding attempts. The radio must be left on with the ignition key in position 1 during this period in order for it to reenter the code mode.

Code cards should not be stored in the glove compartment. During vehicle service at an authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer, we recommend that you leave one card with your service advisor. Thus, if the battery is disconnected, the Service Advisor can recode the radio before the car is returned to you.

If you have difficulty reprogramming the radio or if the reprogramming function fails to operate, please contact your authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer.

## Error Code Chart

INDICATION	CAUSE	SOLUTION
CD E-01	Disc-change malfunction.	Consult your Mercedes-Benz dealer.
CD E-02	Disc is retained in player mechanism.	Insert an empty magazine, then press the magazine eject button.
CD E-03 CD E-04 CD E-05	Disc-change malfunction.	If the code disappears within a few seconds, unit will function properly. If it does not, consult your Mercedes-Benz dealer.
CD E-06	Disc-change malfunction.	Press the magazine eject button and pull out the magazine. Check for error indication. Try again. If the magazine cannot be pulled out, consult your Mercedes-Benz dealer.
CD-07	Magazine ejection impossible.	Press the magazine eject button. If the magazine does not eject, consult your Mercedes-Benz dealer.
CD EEEEE	No communication between the radio and the CD changer.	Consult your Mercedes-Benz dealer.
CD 2 ERROR	Read problem with CD in No. 2 compartment of CD changer.	Consult your Mercedes-Benz dealer.

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