

Advanced Game Controls



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Microsoft
game studios



XBOX 360

XBOX
LIVE

⚠ WARNING

Before playing this game, read the Xbox 360 Instruction Manual and any peripheral manuals for important safety and health information. Keep all manuals for future reference. For replacement manuals, see www.xbox.com/support or call Xbox Customer Support.

Important Health Warning About Playing Video Games

Photosensitive Seizures

A very small percentage of people may experience a seizure when exposed to certain visual images, including flashing lights or patterns that may appear in video games. Even people who have no history of seizures or epilepsy may have an undiagnosed condition that can cause these “photosensitive epileptic seizures” while watching video games.

These seizures may have a variety of symptoms, including lightheadedness, altered vision, eye or face twitching, jerking or shaking of arms or legs, disorientation, confusion, or momentary loss of awareness. Seizures may also cause loss of consciousness or convulsions that can lead to injury from falling down or striking nearby objects.

Immediately stop playing and consult a doctor if you experience any of these symptoms. Parents should watch for or ask their children about the above symptoms—children and teenagers are more likely than adults to experience these seizures. The risk of photosensitive epileptic seizures may be reduced by taking the following precautions:

- Sit farther from the television screen.
- Use a smaller television screen.
- Play in a well-lit room.
- Do not play when you are drowsy or fatigued.

If you or any of your relatives have a history of seizures or epilepsy, consult a doctor before playing.

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Welcome to Piñata Island



What if... there was a place, far across the sea, where every Piñata was a living, breathing creature?

What if... YOU were invited there, then given the land and the tools to help build the Piñatas a home?

Welcome to the world of Viva Piñata™!

As it happens, Piñata Island is a place with an important purpose. Right in the middle of the island, surrounded by gardens, is Piñata Central. When Piñatas from the gardens are ready to be all that they can be, Piñata Central sends them blasting off around the globe to share their candy at any party in need.

Then, when each Piñata has finished bringing happiness and excitement to one party, it returns to the island to start the whole amazing process all over again!

Now you can experience Piñata Island life for yourself—on land that once belonged to the most well-known and gifted gardener of all, Jardiniero. Do you have what it takes to follow in such famous footsteps? Good luck!



Deeds to the Garden

Deeds to the Garden

The bearer of this certificate is entitled to grant access to Piñatas for visiting, residing or romancing purposes without limit. This document entitles the bearer to protect and/or defend the aforementioned area by whatever means necessary except the use of very old sweaty gym socks as projectiles. The bearer may construct any type of building on the aforementioned area and is responsible for its upkeep. Any buildings constructed may be used for residential, recreational or industrial purposes although the owner may not construct a Piñata distribution centre or other establishment that may be considered a competitor to Piñata Central. The bearer may not play music on the first Tuesday in February when there is a full moon. The bearer cannot construct robots or other automatons at any time within the aforementioned area.



Garden Personalities

As you start to bring the garden back to life, you'll meet some of the local characters and find out how they fit into its history...

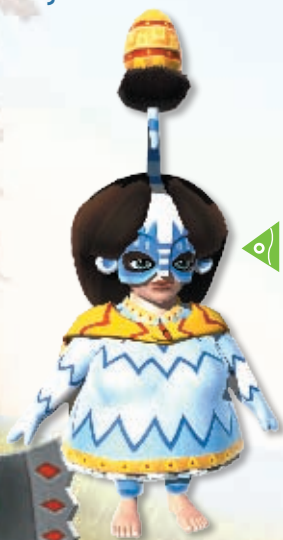
Leafos

Leafos is the one person on Piñata Island that you'll talk to most regularly. She'll do all she can to help you prove yourself, and you won't get far without her advice, so try to stay on her good side!



Storkos

Is it a bird? Well, not quite. But Storkos does soar through the island skies delivering eggs wherever two Piñatas are expecting a baby, and she takes her job very seriously (even the costume).



Seedos

The eccentric Seedos is a great source of new seeds. Problem is, he'll happily talk about seeds for hours. Some people end up falling back on physical methods of removing him from their garden.



Dastardos

Watch out for an appearance by the sinister Dastardos when a Piñata gets sick. Don't let his cheerful song and talk of 'fixing' the poor creature fool you, as Dastardos is no doctor. No, he's more of a Reaper...



Jardiniero

Piñata Island has yet to see another gardener as gifted as Jardiniero. Legends say he could grow any plant and summon almost any Piñata. Now it's your turn to work the land that was once his!



Meet the Piñatas

More than 60 different Piñata species roam the island, and the right conditions could attract any or all of them to your garden. These are just a few examples!

Horstachio

Bigger and stronger than most Piñata steeds, and a good sign that you're on the way to earning your racing stripes.



Buzzlegum

A generally good-natured Piñata insect, valued for its honey. But it does have a sting and has been known to use it...



Mousemallow

Likely to be an early visitor to your garden. Excellent hearing helps keep it safe from Piñatas higher up the food chain!



Pretztail

This foxy character is quite easy to keep, as predators go. It's most at home prowling around in the quiet hours after sunset.



Moozipan

With no milk deliveries to the island, having this Piñata around is the best way to guarantee a supply of calcium goodness.



Parrybo

An eye-catching Piñata, but with a voice as loud as its plumage, it's not a good choice for anyone with sensitive ears.



Fudgehog

Luckily the island doesn't have any busy roads or these easy-going nocturnal critters might end up in short supply.



Elephanilla

A Piñata worth boasting about, but be prepared to pay for its huge daily diet and a certain amount of property damage.









quick start Guide

With the freedom of choice open to *Viva Piñata* players, you're bound to take a different path than your friends and achieve things at a different rate. But everyone begins at the same point, so here's a quick guide to getting started.

1. After an introduction to Piñata Island, you'll meet your guide, a sad young girl named Leafos.



2. If you want to adjust your level of control over the game, you can do this now (or later) by pressing  and toggling Control Style between Simple and Advanced. See Simple Controls (p. 11) for more details. When you're finished, press  again to continue.

3. Use  to highlight Leafos, then press  to talk. Keep pressing  to proceed through a conversation and return to the game.

4. After you've been given the Journal, press  to bring up the Main Menu—you'll be using this menu a lot—and use  to select the new Journal option. Listen to Leafos' explanation, then press  to return to the garden.

5. Leafos will now demonstrate the Alert system. See Tools and Resources (p. 14) for more information on Alerts and menus. After you've read your first Alert, Leafos will entrust you with the shovel.





6.

Now you can really get started! Press  to bring up the Main Menu, highlight the shovel and press  to select it. Move around the garden, holding  to get rid of all the junk and chasing down any chocolate coins that pop out.


7.

A Whirlm will soon approach your garden. See Acquiring Piñatas (p. 16) for tips on getting it to visit and reside. Congratulations on your first Piñata appearance!

8.

Following either the Whirlm appearance or the garden being cleared, Leafos will reward you with the grass seed packet. Plant grass on fertile ground with  (or pull it up with ). You may need to turn over the soil with the shovel first. The quickest way to cover large areas is to hold down  while using  to move around.


9.

If at any time you need a recap of something you've been told, remember it's all logged in the Journal (press  to bring up the Main Menu and select Journal). Tips from the tutorial are also stored here; this is worth remembering as, once completed, the tutorial won't reappear during any new games assigned to the same Profile. To trigger the tutorial again, just use a different Profile to log in and play!

From here on in you're free to do things the way you like, so there's no point leading you by the hand any further. It's all up to you now!

Advanced Game Controls

Simple Controls

A simplified control scheme is available for younger or less experienced players (and depending on your Profile settings, may be chosen automatically). This style confines control to the Left Stick (Ⓕ) and the four coloured buttons. Moving Ⓕ left or right will rotate the camera around the cursor: Ⓕ up or down will allow forward or backward movement. A, B, X and Y keep the same functions. Press  to toggle your control setup.

Xbox Guide button: Preferences established in the Xbox Guide might override individual game settings. If changes made to your in-game options do not take effect, check that there is no conflict with your Xbox Guide settings.

Zoom out

Zoom in

Return to garden

Save game/Adjust controls

Move cursor
(click for fast cursor)

Information
(highlight a Piñata)

Discard/Cancel

Main Menu

Action/Select

Tool shortcuts



Highlight
an Alert

Move camera
(click for top view)

Game screen




Starting and saving a game

Make sure you have created a Profile on your Xbox 360™ console before playing Viva Piñata. You can do this from the Xbox Dashboard, or by loading the game and pressing the Xbox Guide button.

To begin a game, press  at the Viva Piñata start screen. Select the Profile you would like to use (game progress and Achievements will only be recorded on this Profile), then decide whether to begin a brand new garden or continue work on one that you'd saved previously.

For every new garden, you'll need to choose a name and a storage device on which to save it. Saved files can't be moved or copied once created, so choose carefully. Also, bear in mind that if you start playing without specifying a new or existing save file, you won't be able to save your game at all!

If you have more than one garden saved under the same Profile, all your gardens will share the same pool of cash and experience.

When the game is underway, the Viva Piñata in-game autosave system records your progress on a regular basis (and again after key events, such as trading). You can also save manually at any time by pressing  and choosing to Save and Continue or Save and Quit.

Tools and Resources

Menus

Most of the services and information sources you'll need can be reached through the Main Menu, brought up by pressing **X**, then pushing **1** toward an option. Tools, the Journal and village shops are just a few of the things you can easily access this way.

The separate **START** menu allows you to toggle your control style (between Simple and Advanced), invert the X or Y axis, and save your game. Pressing **Y** when highlighting a Piñata calls up an Information menu specific to that Piñata.



The Journal



The Journal given to you by Leafos is constantly updated with new details as you make progress and discoveries. Alerts, Leafos' comments and a log of garden events are also stored within its pages. Read the Journal at any time by selecting it from the Main Menu (press **X**).

Alerts

Leafos and others will use these to get your attention. When Alerts appear in the lower-right corner, press **1** down to highlight one then press **A** to read it. You'll miss out on a lot if you ignore them!

Press **1** up to return to the garden from the Alert bar when you're done.



Garden Tools

Born gardeners only need a few tools, and Leafos will provide these when she thinks you're ready. Press **X** to access the Main Menu and select a tool. Tapping or holding down **A** lets you use it, while **B** puts it away. As your garden improves, so will your equipment!

Shovel

At first you'll use this to remove junk and discourage pests, but later its abilities will allow you to shape the garden in more literal ways.



Watering Can



During watering, watch the meter and be careful—you mustn't let your seeds and plants dry out, but it's just as unhealthy to water them too much...

Grass Seed Packet

A special, never-ending supply of instant grass seed, crucial to a green and healthy garden! Press **A** once to start sowing and again to stop.



Other seeds come in all shapes, sizes and quantities, but be sure you're actually planting them (by pressing **A**) rather than just dropping them (by pressing **B**). Dropped seeds may not grow immediately or at all, although they can be picked up again and properly planted.

Acquiring Piñatas



Each Piñata species has its own requirements for appearing, then visiting and eventually making a home in your garden. You might need to offer the right plants, neighbours or conditions, or a combination of all these.

For instance, a Whirlm in your garden might coax a Sparrowmint out of hiding, and a small pond might encourage visits from Lickatoads and Quackberries, but more is needed before they'll move in permanently. Food supply is often an important factor.



To learn more about Piñatas and their needs, highlight one in or around your garden, press **Y** to display its information and check requirements on the Condition Status tab. Hopefully, by using these guidelines, you can persuade it to stay!

Get everything just right, and you'll see the visiting Piñata change from black and white to the glorious colours of a garden resident. You can then give it a name by bringing up the **Y** Piñata Information menu, clicking the Basic Info tab and selecting the Rename option. Nicely done! But remember that Piñatas will only stick around as long as they're treated well...



Looking After Piñatas

Time and Experience

When you're eventually given a clock, it'll be easier to remember when chores need doing, when your Helpers start and finish work, and the times of day when different Piñatas are most lively.

Around the clock is an Experience gauge, with petals that turn blue as you work on your garden and attract new Piñatas. When it's full, you'll level up, which can mean one of many things: upgrades to your tools, extra garden space or the possibility of brand new Piñata appearances!



Piñata Housing



Each kind of Piñata has its own unique style of home designed to make it feel most comfortable. When you have more than one resident Piñata of a single type, it's time to think about providing one of these homes. The local builder will even do the first job free of charge.

Position the building site anywhere you like in the garden, and confirm by pressing **A**. If it turns red, there's not enough room to build at that location, so try either rotating it to fit (hold down **X** and move **⬇**) or finding a new spot.



Homes not only provide safety and a place to sleep, leaving your Piñatas generally happier, they also make romancing possible!





Piñata Romance

This is the next aim after you've persuaded Piñatas to appear, visit and reside in your garden.

When a Piñata home has been built, try kindling a romantic spark between two Piñatas of the same type. Just highlight one by pressing **A**, then do the same with another. Sometimes requirements have to be met first (press **Y** on a highlighted Piñata for details), but when you see hearts begin to fly, it's going well!

Each species then has its own maze mini-game. Collect coins and you get to keep them, but hit the walls enough times to use up all your lives and you fail, losing your coins and leaving the Piñatas broken-hearted and unable to face romance again for a while.



Success results in the happy couple performing their own romance dance to a suitable tune from the jukebox. Soon Storkos will

fly by to drop off an egg, and within a few moments, it'll hatch. Congratulations on creating a happy resident Piñata family!



One more thing: don't be alarmed when your plucky new youngster wraps itself in a cocoon, as it's the only way that it can become a proper adult Piñata.

Experimentation

Some of the more exotic and valuable types of Piñata can't be found by simply attracting them in from the wild. A little experimentation (for example, with a Piñata's diet) can result in variations in colour or appearance, or even brand new species. So if a wild idea crosses your mind, follow it up and see what happens!



Sweets

Standard Piñata Sweets increase a Piñata's value when eaten. All Piñatas also contain Life Sweets, and serious damage or illness can result in these being lost. (The Piñata then leaves the garden, loses its identity and reforms beyond the boundary in its wild state.)



Happy Sweets will boost any Piñata's Happy Meter, while more powerful Joyous Sweets send them into an overjoyed state where even the ageing process is suspended!



Bad Sweets are poisonous and spread by Sour Piñatas and Ruffians. Don't let your own Piñatas near them, unless you want a visit from Dastardos...



Finally, when a Piñata species has completed the romance dance, future romancing of that species can be done by simply getting both Piñatas to eat a Romance Sweet.

A Helping Hand

Village Shops

The local village is a shopper's paradise. Use the chocolate coins gained by clearing junk from your garden (and later earned in other ways, such as selling produce) to pay for the wide variety of items and services on offer, many of which will improve your garden and the quality of life for your Piñatas.

Other shops may open up as you play, but the ones listed on the following page provide the essentials.



General Store



The place to buy non-specialist seeds and other goods. Lottie here can also help clean up your inventory by buying whatever you don't need.



Pet Shop



Piñata accessories (and some animals) are the business of Miss Petula. Buy them for your own residents or give them as gifts. Some have interesting side-effects...



Post Office



Sending and receiving goodies in crates is a key part of co-operating with friends over Xbox Live®. Talk to Fanny Franker at your friendly neighbourhood Post Office.



Builder's Yard



Piñata homes give your residents safety and privacy. This is the chosen trade of local boy Willy Builder, and he'll start the building work wherever you like!

Helpers for Hire

Need a hand with the daily chores? No problem! Head over to the Village Inn and see if any Helpers are looking for work.

Once they're employed, it's your responsibility to keep them safe and happy (try letting them finish work early once in a while). A miserable Helper won't be much help to anyone!



Sprinkling

Keep forgetting to take care of your watering duties? She'll make sure all your plants and seeds are well doused.

Weedling

If you're suffering a weed invasion and you don't have the time or know-how to deal with it yourself, look no further!



Gatherling

She'll take any fruit, vegetables or other produce lying around your garden, sell it and bring back the profits.



Watchling

Specialises in driving out pests. His success rate isn't perfect, but he will scare off more Sours than tame Piñatas.



Diggerling

If you buy into the stories of buried treasure on Piñata Island, he'll mine down under your garden to see what's there.



Customisation

Viva Piñata is all about customisation, and that goes for both your garden and the Piñatas in it.

After a Piñata has become a resident and been given a name, you can customise it. Visit the Pet Shop (or trade with friends) to obtain accessories, from hats and jewellery to more specialised items. There is a limit to how many accessories you can attach, so spend wisely!



A Piñata brought up from birth in your garden will carry your own individually designed label, making your accomplishments visible to all who see it. This way, each Piñata has a real identity and value all of its own. Eventually, you could even see highly sought-after 'celebrity' Piñatas on the market...




Label Designer

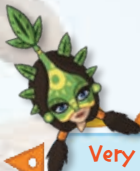
Becoming available upon delivery of your first Piñata egg, this can be reached by pressing **X** to open the Main Menu and selecting Label Designer. Labels are made up of three elements (border, background and foreground) of two colours each. When editing a label, you can randomise the shapes and colours or tweak each element specifically to your own liking.

Trouble in the Garden

Sour Piñatas



Not all wild Piñatas are harmless—some really live up to the 'wild' name. Sours appear when certain conditions are met just like any other Piñata, but whatever the species, you can bet they'll be nothing but trouble. Protect your seeds, plants and other Piñatas in any way you can until your unwanted guests are gone!

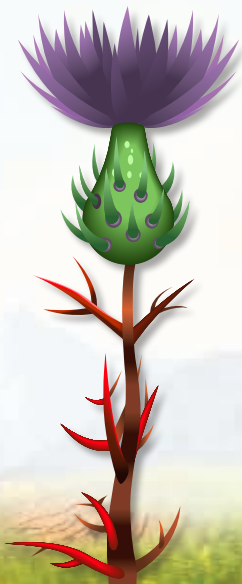


Very good gardeners have been known to tame Sours and get them to revert to their normal, friendly Piñata forms. That's one way of getting a new species in your garden!

Weeds

Just as some kinds of Piñata are less welcome than others, so will all manner of weeds spring up in your nice neat vegetable rows and flower beds given half a chance. The thistle, for instance, spreads quickly to fill any empty ground, and your Piñatas aren't likely to be happy about getting prickled at every turn.

So remember, the only good weed is a... well, some would say there is no good weed. If you can't find a use for them, get rid of them as soon as possible!



Fights

On the whole, Piñatas avoid confrontations unless provoked. However, some species such as Kittyfloss and Barkbark are natural rivals and will happily attack one another, while parent Piñatas always fight to protect their young from danger.

Piñatas actually fight by bombarding each other with missiles—the Cinnamonkey, for example, throws banana skins. If you want to break up a fight, try using the shovel or watering can, but there's no guarantee you'll get the result you were hoping for...

Ruffians

The Ruffians are a band of hooligans under the control of Professor Pester, the self-proclaimed 'evil genius' of Piñata Island who wants all the Piñata candy for himself. With this in mind, he sends out his minions to smash, bash and trample the most valuable gardens, with not so much as a thought for the owners' feelings.



You'll know the Ruffians by their angry red masks and destructive behaviour. Don't waste your time trying to win them over like Sour Piñatas (although you could try appealing to their natural greed instead). Just get them out of there before they end up ruining the place!

Measuring Success

While *Viva Piñata* is generally an open-ended game, there are all kinds of challenges to attempt and goals to set for yourself.



Everything in your garden has a value. Rarer Piñata species are more valuable than others, though you can add to the value of any Piñata with sweets and accessories. Comparing the overall worth of your garden with friends is a good ongoing way to measure success.

Your Player Title will also change to reflect your skill level. New visiting and resident Piñatas add to your experience, as does growing plants to new heights and romancing different Piñata species until you obtain the title of Master Romancer!

You can also aim to get every available Piñata if you have the time and the talent. Not even Jardiniero himself managed such a feat...

Continue to do well, and you'll be contacted by Piñata Central with challenges to test what you've learned. Should you succeed, your Piñatas will join those sent out to parties worldwide, boosting their value and your own experience. Then you'll finally be playing a key role in the story of Piñata Island!

Working Together

Family Mode

Two or more players can co-operate on a single garden with Family Mode, included in *Viva Piñata* so that adults, older siblings or more experienced gamers can help beginners or younger players through any sections they find tricky with a minimum of fuss.

There's no need to call up any menus or change any settings—simply plug in one or more extra controllers and all players can now lend a hand by manipulating the same in-game cursor. It's as simple as that.

Co-operation with players in other gardens (either on the same Xbox 360 console or any other connected to Xbox Live) is also possible by using the Post Office to trade. See Xbox Live (p. 28) for more!



Xbox Live

Xbox Live is a high-speed or broadband Internet gaming community where you can create a permanent gamer identity, set up a Friends list with other players, see when they're online, receive invitations to play games and even download new content to enhance your gameplay experience.

Connecting

Before you can use Xbox Live, you need to connect your Xbox 360 console to a high-speed or broadband Internet connection and sign up for the Xbox Live service. To determine if Xbox Live is available in your region and for information about connecting to Xbox Live, visit www.xbox.com/connect.

Trading

By using the Post Office, you can trade seeds, plants, accessories and even Piñatas with your friends over Xbox Live. The trading facility becomes available (along with the Post Office itself) at a certain player level.



Just follow the on-screen instructions to send or receive crates, but remember that you can only have one crate in your garden at any time. The Post Office also has limited storage space, so be sure to unpack any crates that you receive shortly after they arrive.

Playing It Safe Online

Checking out the online features of a game can be great fun, but it's also important to use common sense and be cautious when dealing with people you don't know. Younger players should always involve their parents/guardians in setting up and keeping track of the games they play online. It might even persuade them to join in!

A Windows Live™ ID account is needed before you're able to join Xbox Live and play *Viva Piñata* online. Ask your parents/guardians to help create one if you don't already have one. It can be set up on your Xbox 360 console during the Xbox Live sign-up process, or it can be set up online at www.xbox.com.

Parents/guardians should also make sure that they're happy with the Family Settings of your Xbox 360 console. These can be found in the System area of the Xbox Dashboard.

Refer to the separate insert (or www.xbox.com) for detailed online child safety information.

If you do get a chance to explore the world of *Viva Piñata* online, we hope you enjoy all the features that we've included for you, and everything else we have in store for the future!

Languages That Aren't Supported in the Xbox Dashboard

If your game is available in a language that isn't supported in the Xbox Dashboard, you must select a corresponding locale (region) in Console Settings to enable that language in the game. For more information, visit www.xbox.com.

Hints and Tips



I hope you feel more confident now in making a start on your garden, if you haven't done so already. Let me just pass on a few more tips that you might find helpful...

You can set up accommodation in your garden for Helpers as well as Piñatas. If they're already on site when they wake up, they can make a start on the job right away!



If a Piñata is perched on something, you could try tapping it gently with your shovel to coax it down to ground level.

But don't get too free and easy with the shovel! Bad actions have repercussions, and while most objects can be smashed, you'd be better off selling what you don't need to keep your cash reserves high.



The fast cursor (click ⚡) can improve more than just viewing speed—try using it to increase the range of your watering can.

Sometimes achieving variation in the look of your Piñatas is more straightforward than it sounds. How about adding a touch of colour to their diet?



Credits

Rare

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Paige Williams

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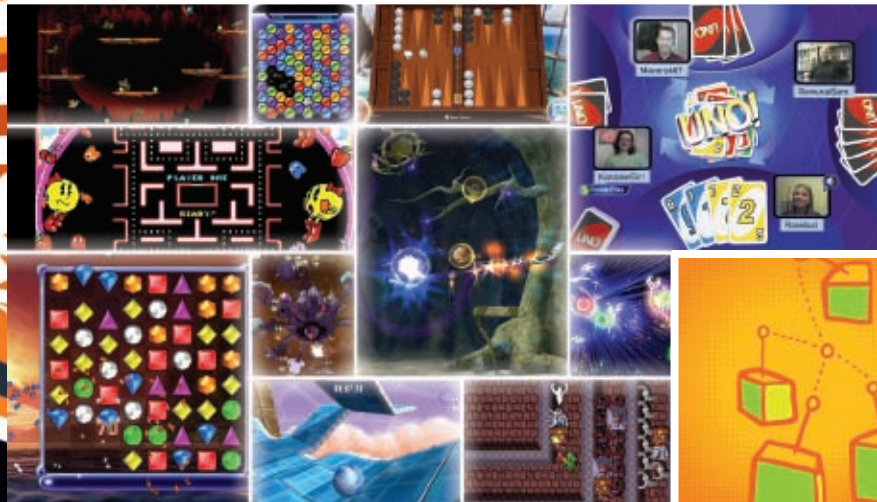
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