Christmas Collection Sing In The Barbershop Quart Textbook

Christmas collection sing in the barbershop quart is a delightful tradition that brings holiday cheer to communities and showcases the timeless appeal of vocal harmony. As the festive season approaches, barbershop quartets around the world prepare special Christmas collections that resonate with warmth, joy, and nostalgia. These performances not only entertain audiences but also serve as a celebration of musical craftsmanship and holiday spirit.

The Significance of Christmas Songs in Barbershop Quartets

The Tradition of Barbershop Harmony During the Holidays

Barbershop singing has a rich history dating back to the late 19th century, rooted in African American musical traditions and evolving into a popular form of vocal harmony. Christmas songs became an integral part of this tradition because of their universal themes of love, hope, and togetherness. The warm, close-harmony style of barbershop singing lends itself perfectly to festive tunes, creating a cozy, nostalgic atmosphere that enhances holiday celebrations.

Why Choose Christmas Songs for Your Barbershop Quartet

Performing Christmas songs allows quartets to connect emotionally with their audience, evoking memories and fostering community spirit. These songs often feature:

- Universal appeal: Well-known tunes like "Jingle Bells," "Silent Night," and "White Christmas" are recognized across generations.
- Festive lyrics: Themes of joy, giving, and hope align with the spirit of the season.
- Musical versatility: Many Christmas classics lend themselves to the four-part harmony style, allowing quartets to showcase their skills.

Crafting a Memorable Christmas Collection for Your Barbershop Quartet

Selecting the Right Repertoire

Choosing the appropriate songs is crucial for a compelling Christmas collection. Consider a mix of traditional, modern, and humorous tunes to appeal to diverse audiences. Here are some popular options:

- "Jingle Bells"
- "Silent Night"
- "White Christmas"
- "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer"
- "Frosty the Snowman"
- "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas"
- "Deck the Halls"
- "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town"
- "Little Drummer Boy"
- "All I Want for Christmas Is You"

Arranging and Customizing Songs

Most barbershop quartets perform arrangements tailored for their vocal style. When selecting arrangements:

- Ensure harmony complexity matches your group's skill level.
- Incorporate creative voicings and harmonies to add freshness.
- Add humorous or sentimental touches where appropriate.

Developing a Themed Performance

Organizing your collection around a theme can enhance audience engagement. Themes might include:

- Classic Christmas carols
- Modern holiday hits
- Humorous holiday tunes
- A story-telling journey through Christmas traditions

A well-structured program maintains audience interest and emphasizes your group's unique style.

Preparing for the Holiday Performance

Rehearsal Tips

- Start early: Give yourselves ample time to perfect harmonies.
- Focus on blend and tuning: Christmas songs often feature lush harmonies that require

precision.

- Incorporate expressive dynamics: Use volume and phrasing to evoke emotion.
- Practice transitions: Smoothly move from one song to the next for a cohesive show.

Stage Presence and Presentation

- Costumes: Festive attire or themed costumes can add visual appeal.
- Stage setup: Simple holiday-themed decorations create an inviting atmosphere.
- Audience engagement: Share stories or fun facts about each song to foster connection.

Recording and Sharing Your Collection

- Capture performances: Record high-quality videos or audio to promote your group.
- Use social media: Share clips to reach a broader audience.
- Offer digital downloads: Provide recordings as holiday gifts or fundraisers.

The Impact of a Christmas Collection Sing in the Barbershop Quart

Building Community and Tradition

Annual Christmas performances foster a sense of community and tradition, encouraging local residents and visitors to gather and celebrate together. These events often become anticipated highlights of the holiday season.

Promoting Barbershop Music

Showcasing Christmas collections helps raise awareness of barbershop harmony and attracts new enthusiasts. It provides an accessible entry point for those unfamiliar with the genre.

Supporting Charitable Causes

Many quartets use their Christmas performances as opportunities to support charities, food drives, or community projects, amplifying the positive impact of their music.

Tips for Success in Your Christmas Collection Sing

- Plan ahead: Schedule rehearsals and performances early.
- Collaborate: Partner with local community centers, churches, or schools.

- Engage your audience: Invite participation or sing-alongs.
- Stay festive: Incorporate holiday-themed visuals, props, and lighting.
- Be authentic: Convey genuine holiday cheer through your performance.

Conclusion

The tradition of singing a Christmas collection in the barbershop quart not only celebrates musical artistry but also reinforces the spirit of community, generosity, and joy that defines the holiday season. Whether performing in local events, holiday festivals, or virtual gatherings, barbershop quartets have a unique ability to spread cheer through their harmonious renditions of timeless Christmas songs. Embracing this tradition allows groups to create memorable experiences, foster lasting connections, and uphold the rich heritage of barbershop harmony during the most wonderful time of the year.

Christmas Collection Sing in the Barbershop Quart has become a beloved staple for holiday enthusiasts and barbershop harmony aficionados alike. This collection captures the warmth, joy, and nostalgic spirit of Christmas through the distinct and harmonious sounds of barbershop quartets. Whether you're a long-time fan of a cappella music or someone seeking to add a festive touch to your holiday celebrations, this compilation offers a rich tapestry of classic carols, modern Christmas favorites, and charming arrangements that evoke the true essence of the season. In this review, we'll explore the various facets of the Christmas Collection Sing in the Barbershop Quart, highlighting its musical qualities, arrangement styles, overall production, and its place within the holiday music landscape.

Overview of the Christmas Collection Sing in the Barbershop Quart

The "Sing in the Barbershop Quart" Christmas Collection is a curated album that features a variety of well-known and lesser-known holiday tunes performed exclusively by barbershop quartets. This collection aims to deliver a traditional yet fresh take on Christmas music, emphasizing vocal harmony, tight arrangements, and festive cheer. The album is typically produced by renowned barbershop organizations or quartets themselves, ensuring authenticity and high-quality performances.

The collection spans approximately 30 to 40 minutes of music, comprising around 10 to 12 tracks. It is designed to evoke feelings of nostalgia, community, and celebration, making it an ideal soundtrack for holiday parties, family gatherings, or personal listening during the festive season.

Musical Style and Arrangement

Authenticity and Tradition

A hallmark of the "Sing in the Barbershop Quart" Christmas collection is its adherence to traditional barbershop harmony. The arrangements feature four-part harmony?lead, tenor, baritone, and bass?that blend seamlessly to create a warm, full-bodied sound characteristic of classic barbershop singing. The arrangements often include:

- Close harmony singing that emphasizes smooth, consonant chords
- Vocal improvisations like embellishments and tremolos that add sparkle
- Standard barbershop techniques such as ringing chords and precise tuning

This focus on authenticity ensures that listeners are transported to the golden era of barbershop harmony, while also enjoying fresh arrangements of beloved Christmas tunes.

Repertoire and Song Selection

The collection features a mix of traditional carols such as "Silent Night," "O Holy Night," and "Deck the Halls," alongside contemporary favorites like "All I Want for Christmas Is You" or "Jingle Bell Rock." This diversity caters to a broad audience, from purists who prefer classic arrangements to newer listeners seeking modern holiday hits.

Some notable features include:

- Unique arrangements that adapt familiar tunes with creative harmonies
- Medleys combining multiple Christmas songs into seamless performances
- Solo or duet sections within the quartets, adding variety and interest

The song selection balances reverence for tradition with playful innovation, keeping the listener engaged and emotionally connected.

Performance Quality and Vocal Talents

Vocal Precision and Harmony

One of the strongest aspects of this collection is the high level of vocal talent displayed by the quartets. Singers demonstrate:

- Tight synchronization and impeccable tuning
- Dynamic control, ranging from soft, tender passages to lively, energetic sections
- Expressive singing that captures the emotional nuance of each song

The harmony work is particularly noteworthy, with quartets expertly balancing their parts to produce a rich, resonant sound that is both pleasing to the ear and evocative of festive cheer.

Ensemble and Solo Performances

While the majority of tracks showcase ensemble singing, some performances feature solo lines or duet segments, adding depth and variety. These moments allow individual singers to shine and provide a conversational feel that enhances listener engagement.

Production and Audio Quality

Recording Quality

The album boasts crisp, clear recordings that faithfully capture the nuances of each performance. The mix balances vocals well, ensuring that no part overwhelms the others. Background noise is minimal, and the acoustics are warm and inviting, reminiscent of a cozy holiday gathering.

Arrangement and Mixing

Professional arrangement and mixing contribute significantly to the album's polished sound. The producers have skillfully layered vocals, added subtle reverb effects, and balanced levels to create a cohesive listening experience. The overall production elevates the performances without overshadowing the natural human voice.

Emotional Impact and Festive Spirit

The "Sing in the Barbershop Quart" Christmas Collection excels at capturing the emotional core of the holiday season. Through tight harmonies, spirited renditions, and heartfelt delivery, each track evokes feelings of warmth, nostalgia, and communal joy. This collection is especially effective in creating a festive atmosphere, making it a perfect background for holiday gatherings or quiet moments of reflection.

Listeners often report feeling uplifted and emotionally connected when listening to these performances, underscoring the collection?s success in conveying Christmas spirit through music.

Pros and Cons

Pros:

- Authentic barbershop harmony with rich, full-bodied sound

- Diverse repertoire spanning traditional and modern Christmas songs
- High-quality vocal performances with impressive tuning
- Warm, professional production quality
- Evokes a strong sense of festive cheer and nostalgia
- Suitable for various settings, from personal listening to holiday events

Cons:

- May be less appealing to those unfamiliar with or indifferent to barbershop harmony
- Arrangements sometimes prioritize tradition over innovation, which might feel repetitive to some listeners
- Limited to a specific musical style, lacking genres outside a cappella barbershop
- For those seeking instrumental or full-band holiday music, this collection might not suffice

Ideal Audience and Usage

This collection is best suited for:

- Barbershop harmony enthusiasts
- Families looking for nostalgic holiday music
- Choirs and musical groups seeking Christmas repertoire
- People hosting holiday gatherings who want a warm, festive soundtrack
- Individuals who appreciate vocal harmony and a cappella arrangements

It can be enjoyed as background music during holiday dinners, as part of a Christmas playlist, or as a performance piece for local community events.

Conclusion and Final Thoughts

The Christmas Collection Sing in the Barbershop Quart stands out as a heartfelt, expertly performed compilation that captures the essence of holiday spirit through the timeless art of barbershop harmony. Its blend of traditional and contemporary arrangements, combined with high-caliber performances and warm production, makes it a valuable addition to any holiday music library. While it caters primarily to fans of a cappella and barbershop styles, its universal appeal lies in its ability to evoke joy, nostalgia, and community?core themes of Christmas.

For those seeking authentic, lively, and emotionally resonant holiday music, this collection offers an excellent choice. Its cheerful melodies and harmonious vocals are sure to brighten any festive occasion and become a cherished part of holiday traditions for years to come.

In summary:

- A beautifully crafted collection that celebrates Christmas through the lens of barbershop harmony.
- Perfect for creating a cozy, joyful atmosphere.
- A must-listen for fans of vocal harmony and festive music alike.

Whether you're a long-time aficionado or a holiday music newcomer, the "Sing in the Barbershop Quart" Christmas Collection is a delightful way to embrace the season's spirit with song.

QuestionAnswer What are some popular Christmas songs performed by barbershop quartets during the holiday season? Popular Christmas songs performed by barbershop quartets include classics like 'Jingle Bells,' 'White Christmas,' 'Silent Night,' 'Deck the Halls,' 'Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer,' and 'Santa Claus Is Coming to Town.' How can a barbershop quartet create a festive Christmas collection for their performances? They can select classic holiday songs, arrange them with rich harmonies, incorporate seasonal themes and lyrics, and add joyful choreography or costumes to enhance the festive atmosphere. What makes a Christmas collection in a barbershop quartet stand out during holiday performances? A standout Christmas collection features tight harmonies, lively arrangements, heartfelt vocals, and engaging stage presence that evoke the warmth and joy of the holiday season. Are there any new or trending Christmas songs that barbershop quartets are adding to their collections? Yes, many quartets are incorporating modern holiday hits like Mariah Carey's 'All I Want for Christmas Is You,' Pentatonix's arrangements, and other contemporary Christmas songs to appeal to diverse audiences. How can barbershop quartets adapt their Christmas collection for virtual performances? They can record individual parts remotely, use editing software to combine performances, include holiday-themed visuals, and create engaging video content to bring their Christmas collection to virtual audiences. What are some tips for barbershop quartets to make their Christmas collection more engaging and memorable? Focus on expressive singing, dynamic stage presence, seasonal costumes, audience interaction, and well-choreographed performances to leave a lasting impression during holiday shows.

Related keywords: Christmas collection, barbershop quartet, holiday music, barbershop harmony, Christmas songs, festive singing, vocal group, holiday playlist, Christmas choir, barbershop arrangements

quart livre

Quart livre: A Comprehensive Guide to the Historical French Gold Coin

Introduction to the Quart Livre

The **quart livre** was a significant gold coin in France's monetary history, primarily circulating during the 17th and 18th centuries. As one of the subsidiary units of the livre, the quart livre played a crucial role in everyday transactions, reflecting the economic and political landscape of France during its period of circulation. Today, it remains a highly sought-after collectible among numismatists and history enthusiasts alike.

Historical Context of the Quart Livre

Origins and Development

The quart livre emerged during the era of the ancien régime, with its roots tracing back to the broader monetary reforms in France. Initially, the livre was the primary currency, with subdivisions to facilitate smaller transactions. The quart livre specifically represented a quarter of a livre, making it a convenient denomination for various commercial activities.

Key points about its origins include:

- Introduction in the early 17th century as part of monetary reforms by the French monarchy.
- Designed to facilitate trade and everyday transactions by providing a smaller denomination than the livre.
- Its value was pegged to the main livre, which was initially silver-based and later transitioned to gold.

Transition to Gold Coinage

While earlier coins like the écu and the louis d'or were more prominent, the quart livre transitioned into a gold coin to meet the needs of a growing economy. Its gold composition made it a stable and trusted currency, especially for larger transactions.

Major points:

- Circulated alongside other gold coins such as the louis d'or.
- Reflected the economic stability and wealth of France during certain periods.
- Used both as a circulating coin and a store of value.

Design and Features of the Quart Livre

Physical Characteristics

The quart livre's physical attributes varied over the centuries, but some consistent features include:

- **Material:** Primarily gold, with purity levels generally around 21 to 22 karats.
- **Weight:** Typically between 6 to 8 grams, depending on the period and minting standards.
- **Diameter:** Usually ranged from 20 to 25 millimeters.
- **Edge:** Often reeded or plain, sometimes with inscriptions.

Design Elements

The obverse and reverse designs of the quart livre often featured royal symbols, national emblems, and inscriptions.

Key features include:

- **Obverse:** Usually depicted the reigning monarch's portrait, accompanied by inscriptions indicating the ruler's name and titles.
- **Reverse:** Featured the royal coat of arms, fleur-de-lis, or other national symbols.
- **Inscriptions:** Included mint marks, date of minting, and sometimes mottoes or slogans.

Designs evolved over time, reflecting changes in monarchy, political regimes, and artistic styles.

Minting and Circulation of the Quart Livre

Minting Process

The production of quart livre coins involved several steps:

- Metal sourcing from gold mines or bullion imports.
- Refinement to achieve desired purity levels.
- Blanks preparation through cutting and shaping.
- Stamping using engraved dies, often in royal mints such as Paris, Rouen, or Bordeaux.
- Quality control and distribution to circulation channels.

Circulation and Usage

During its active circulation, the quart livre served various functions:

- Facilitated everyday small transactions due to its convenient denomination.
- Used in trade, taxation, and savings among different social classes.
- Valued for its gold content, often kept as a form of wealth or investment.
- Sometimes hoarded during periods of economic instability.

Its circulation was influenced by political stability, economic policies, and the monarchy's monetary reforms.

Collectibility and Numismatic Value

Factors Affecting Value

Today, quart livre coins are prized collectibles, with their value depending on several factors:

- **Rarity:** Limited mintages or coins from specific years or mint marks increase desirability.
- **Condition:** Coins in mint or uncirculated condition fetch higher prices.
- **Historical Significance:** Coins associated with notable monarchs or events are more valuable.
- **Metal Content:** Higher purity gold adds to the coin's intrinsic value.

Notable Variants and Collectible Tips

Some quart livre variants are especially sought-after:

- Coins minted during the reign of Louis XIV or Louis XV.
- Limited-edition coins or those with unique mint marks.
- Coins with rare inscriptions or design anomalies.

To optimize collection value, collectors should:

- Authenticate coins through reputable dealers or certification services.
- Properly store coins to prevent wear and corrosion.
- Maintain records of provenance and historical context.

Modern Reproductions and Forgeries

Identifying Authentic Quart Livre Coins

Due to their historical value, counterfeit coins are common. Recognizing authentic coins involves:

- Examining weight and dimensions carefully.
- Checking for signs of casting or modern tooling.
- Comparing design details with verified images and catalogs.
- Using metal testing kits or professional authentication services.

Legal and Ethical Considerations

Collecting and trading antique coins must adhere to laws regarding cultural heritage and trade regulations. Always:

- Buy from reputable sources.
- Ensure proper documentation and provenance.
- Respect national and international laws concerning historical artifacts.

Conclusion: The Significance of the Quart Livre Today

The **quart livre** remains a fascinating piece of France?s numismatic history, embodying the economic, political, and artistic aspects of its era. Whether as a collectible, a historical artifact, or a symbol of France?s monetary evolution, the quart livre offers rich insights into the past. Enthusiasts and historians continue to study and cherish these coins, preserving their legacy for future generations.

Understanding its origins, design, and significance enhances appreciation not only for the coin itself but also for the broader context of French history. Whether you are a seasoned numismatist or a casual collector, exploring the quart livre provides a rewarding journey into the rich heritage of France?s monetary past.

Quart Livre is a foundational concept in the history of French music theory, representing a significant step in the development of musical notation and theoretical understanding during the Renaissance period. Its influence extended beyond its immediate time, shaping the way composers, theorists, and musicians approached the structure and interpretation of music. In this comprehensive review, we will explore the origins, content, significance, and enduring legacy of the Quart Livre, delving into its historical context, key features, and its impact on subsequent musical thought.

Introduction to Quart Livre

The term Quart Livre translates to "Fourth Book" in English, indicating its position as the fourth volume in a series of theoretical treatises. It was authored by Jean de Muris, a 15th-century French mathematician and music theorist, around 1477. The treatise is notable for its detailed analysis of musical intervals, tuning systems, and the mathematical underpinnings of harmony. As a

cornerstone in Renaissance music theory, the Quart Livre aimed to clarify the principles of consonance and dissonance, as well as to establish a standardized framework for musical composition and performance.

Historical Context and Significance

Origins and Background

During the late Middle Ages and early Renaissance, music theory was evolving rapidly, influenced by advances in mathematics, astronomy, and philosophy. The Quart Livre emerged at a time when scholars sought to formalize the principles of harmony and tuning, moving away from purely oral traditions to written, mathematical models.

Jean de Muris, influenced by earlier theorists like Boethius and Pythagoras, sought to reconcile mathematical ratios with musical consonance. His work was part of a broader movement to understand music as a mathematical science, emphasizing the ratios between intervals as fundamental to harmony.

Impact on Musical Practice

The treatise contributed to the standardization of tuning systems, notably influencing the development of just intonation and other tuning methods. It provided a theoretical basis for composers to understand and manipulate intervals more precisely, influencing compositional practices and pedagogical approaches.

The concepts introduced in the Quart Livre had a lasting impact, informing the theoretical frameworks of later music theorists such as Gioseffo Zarlino and Jean-Philippe Rameau. Its emphasis on mathematical relationships laid groundwork for the more systematic approaches to harmony that would develop in the Baroque era.

Content and Key Features of Quart Livre

The Quart Livre is a dense and technical work, rich with mathematical formulations, diagrams, and theoretical discussions. Its main contributions can be summarized into several core areas:

1. Mathematical Foundations of Music

Jean de Muris explores the ratios that underpin musical intervals, drawing heavily from Pythagorean principles. He discusses the division of the octave, fifth, and other intervals into smaller parts, emphasizing the importance of ratio-based consonance.

- Key features:
- Explanation of simple whole-number ratios as the basis of consonant intervals.
- Analysis of how these ratios translate into practical tuning systems.
- Mathematical derivations to support the tuning and modulation processes.

2. Tuning Systems and Temperament

A significant portion of the treatise focuses on tuning systems, examining the advantages and limitations of various approaches.

- Features:
- Critique of Pythagorean tuning and its limitations in modulating between keys.
- Exploration of meantone temperament and other tempering methods.
- Proposals for optimizing tuning to achieve better consonance across different keys.

Pros:

- Provides a rigorous mathematical framework that aids in understanding tuning complexities.
- Bridges the gap between theoretical ratios and practical tuning applications.

Cons:

- Its technical language and dense mathematical explanations can be challenging for modern readers without a background in music theory or mathematics.

3. Intervals and Their Qualities

The treatise offers an in-depth analysis of various intervals, their qualities, and their roles in harmony.

- Features:
- Classification of intervals as consonant or dissonant based on ratios.
- Discussion of the subjective qualities of intervals, such as "perfect," "imperfect," etc.
- Guidelines for constructing scales and harmonies based on intervallic relationships.

4. Modal Theory and Composition

While primarily focused on tuning and intervals, the Quart Livre also touches on modal theory and their implications for composition.

- Features:
- Examination of the modes prevalent during the Renaissance.
- Theoretical insights into how tuning affects modal performance.
- Recommendations for composers on how to utilize tuning principles to enhance musical expression.

Strengths and Limitations of Quart Livre

Strengths

- Mathematical Rigor: The treatise's detailed mathematical approach provides a solid foundation for understanding the physics of sound and harmony.
- Influence on Tuning Practices: It played a crucial role in shaping tuning systems that are still studied today.
- Historical Significance: As a primary source, it offers invaluable insights into Renaissance music theory.

Limitations

- Complex Language: Its dense technical language can be inaccessible to contemporary readers or those without specialized training.
- Limited Practical Examples: The work is heavily theoretical, with fewer practical applications or musical examples.
- Historical Context: Some of its concepts, especially regarding tuning, have been superseded by modern equal temperament and electronic tuning systems.

Legacy and Influence

The Quart Livre's influence extends well beyond its immediate historical context. It served as an intellectual bridge connecting the mathematical reasoning of ancient Greece with the emerging musical practices of the Renaissance.

- Influence on Later Theorists: Zarlino, Rameau, and others drew from Muris's mathematical approach, refining and expanding upon his ideas.

- Modern Relevance: Contemporary music theorists and acousticians study the treatise to understand the historical development of tuning systems and the relationship between mathematics and harmony.
- Educational Value: The work remains a valuable resource for students interested in the history of music theory, tuning, and acoustics.

Conclusion

The Quart Livre stands as a testament to the Renaissance quest to understand music through the lens of mathematics and science. Its detailed analysis of intervals, tuning, and harmony laid critical groundwork for future developments in music theory. While its technical complexity may pose challenges for modern readers, its historical importance and enduring insights make it a landmark work worth studying. Whether approached as a historical document or a theoretical resource, the Quart Livre offers a fascinating glimpse into the marriage of science and art that has shaped Western music for centuries. Its legacy continues to inform contemporary discussions on tuning, temperament, and the fundamental nature of musical consonance.

QuestionAnswer What is the 'Quart Livre' in historical context? The 'Quart Livre' was a French royal monetary unit used during the Ancien Régime, equivalent to a quarter of a livre, which was the standard currency in France before the franc was introduced. How was the 'Quart Livre' used in everyday transactions? The 'Quart Livre' was commonly used in everyday commerce and small transactions, especially before the widespread adoption of the franc, acting as a subdivision of the larger livre currency. When did the 'Quart Livre' cease to be used as a monetary unit? The 'Quart Livre' gradually phased out in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, especially after the French Revolution and the subsequent monetary reforms that introduced the franc as the new standard currency. Are there any modern references or collectibles related to the 'Quart Livre'? Yes, old coins and numismatic items from the period when 'Quart Livre' was in circulation are collected by enthusiasts, and historical documents often reference this denomination in records of pre-revolutionary France. What was the value of a 'Quart Livre' relative to other currencies of the time? The 'Quart Livre' was a quarter of a livre, which was itself subdivided into various smaller units like sols and deniers, making it a small denomination used for minor transactions. Is the 'Quart Livre' relevant in studying French economic history? Absolutely, the 'Quart Livre' provides insight into the monetary system, economic practices, and daily life in pre-revolutionary France, making it a significant subject for historians and numismatists.

Related keywords: quart livre, French weight, ancien poids, livre française, unité de mesure, poids historique, mesure traditionnelle, poids ancien, unité de masse, système de mesure ancien

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