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**Pocket Queries & Basic
 GSAK FUNDamentals**

presented by
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 ([blazingpathways](#)) 


 Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Soldotna
 15 November 2012

Tonight's Topics: 

- ▶ What are Pocket Queries?
- ▶ How to Build a Pocket Query
- ▶ Downloading and Using your Pocket Queries
- ▶ What is GSAK?
- ▶ GSAK Settings
- ▶ GSAK Filters
- ▶ Exporting files from GSAK
- ▶ Saving and Restoring Databases in GSAK



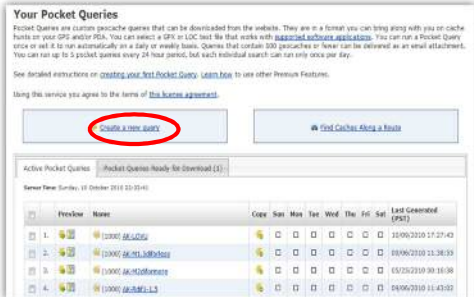
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Pocket Queries (PQ) 

- ❖ A premium feature of Geocaching.com
- ❖ Many newer GPSRs allow direct loading of the PQ file
- ❖ Allows you to download up to 1000 caches in one file
- ❖ A PQ of up to 500 will be attached to an email
- ❖ A PQ of over 500 must be downloaded from website
- ❖ Numerous filters are available to setup your PQ
- ❖ A PQ containing all of your found caches can be generated once every 3 days
- ❖ You may run up to 5 PQs per 24 hour period
- ❖ A single PQ can run only once per day

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Pocket Query Page



Your Pocket Queries

Pocket Queries are custom geocache queries that can be downloaded from the website. They are in a format you can bring along with you or cache banks on your GPS and/or PC. You can select a GPX or LOC list file that works with [approved software applications](#). You can run a Pocket Query once or set it to run automatically on a daily or weekly basis. Queries that contain 500 geocaches or fewer can be delivered as an email attachment. You can run up to 5 pocket queries every 24 hour period, but each individual search can run only once per day.

See detailed instructions on [creating your first Pocket Query](#). [Learn More](#) to see other Premium Features.

Using this service you agree to the terms of [this license agreement](#).


Active Pocket Queries:

Server Time: Sunday, 17 October 2012 10:35:40

ID	Preview	Name	Cope	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Last Generated (PST)
1		(1000) AK-6020		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10/06/2010 17:27:43
2		(1000) AK-6111-180804		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	09/06/2010 11:36:33
3		(1000) AK-6102-180804		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	03/25/2010 00:18:08
4		(1000) AK-6101-1,1		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	08/06/2010 11:43:02

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New Query – Step 1



- Enter a name for the Query (may be included in the GPX file name)
- What day(s) of the week query will run
- Uncheck the day – if only run occasionally
- Run the query every week – if daily or weekly
- Choose **maximum** number of caches to include (up to 1000)

New Pocket Query

Query Name: New Query

Days to Generate: (Server Time: Sunday, October 14, 2012 02:00:00 AM)

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Choose how often your query should run:

Uncheck the day if the week after the query runs


Run the query every week on the days checked

Run the query once then delete it

Show me 100 caches of

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New Query – Step 2



- Defaults - Any Type, Any Container
- Narrowing by Types or Containers is Additive

Any Types

- Web-based Pages
- Traditional Caches
- Virtual Caches
- Recent Cache™
- Virtual ARB Caches
- Real-world ARB Caches
- Mystery Cache
- Whirlwind Cache
- Multi-Stage Caches
- GPS Adventures
- GPS Adventures - Weblogs

Any Containers

- Web-based Coordinates
- Email
- Other (see description)
- Weblog
- Lurker
- Regular
- Misc
- Unknown
- Unknown

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New Query – Step 3

I haven't found
 I don't own
 Are available to all users
 Are not on my ignore list
 Found in the last 7 days
 Have Travel Logs
 Is Not Active

I have found
 I own
 Are for members only
 Are on my watch list
 Have not been found
 Updated in the last 7 days
 Is Active

Add
 Difficulty is greater than or equal to
 Found on greater than or equal to

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New Query – Step 4

- Default – None – within any country/state/province
- Limit to a Country
- Limit to a State/Province (e.g. Alaska)

With:
 None Selected
 Country:
 Afghanistan, Iceland, Albania, Argentina
 State / Province:
 Alaska, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh

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New Query – Step 5

- Origin – center point of query
- Radius – how far out from origin to pull caches
- Placed during


Place Origin:
 My Country:
 Origin and radius selected
 My Country
 Origin: Latitude:
 Origin and radius selected
 My Country
 Origin: Latitude:

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New Query – Step 6




- Attributes – Include (PNG, Winter, long hike ...)
- Attributes – Exclude (Needs Maint, thorns, night, ...)
- Relies on cache owner to list attributes for their cache

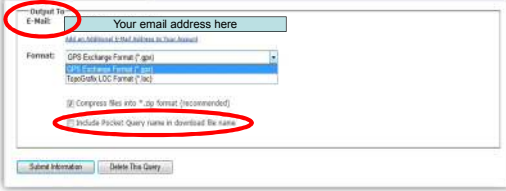


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New Query – Step 7




- Output Format – file extensions, compression
- Submit – creates a new query, generates a file, updates a previously created query




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Pocket Queries for Alaska




- ❖ To get all caches in Alaska, you need 6 PQ's (~5117)
- ❖ Note that it will take 2 days to run all of them
- ❖ Setup the PQ with date ranges on the cache placement and use the State field to specify Alaska
- ❖ AK-1 = May 03, 2000 to June 29, 2007 (984 caches)
- ❖ AK-2 = June 30, 2007 to April 30, 2009 (975 caches)
- ❖ AK-3 = May 01, 2009 to July 05, 2010 (977 caches)
- ❖ AK-4 = July 06, 2010 to August 03, 2011 (977 caches)
- ❖ AK-5 = August 04, 2011 to Sept 01, 2012 (963 caches)
- ❖ AK-6 = Sept 02, 2012 to Dec 31, 2013 (241 caches)

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Download Pocket Queries 


- ❖ Upon email notice that your PQ of over 500 caches is ready, visit your Pocket Queries page via your geocaching.com profile and select the "Ready for Download" tab to see your list of completed PQs
- ❖ Click the PQ name to start the download process
- ❖ After saving the file, you may open it with GSAK, Garmin's MapSource or BaseCamp software, EasyGPS software, or you may load it directly to gpx-ready GPSr
- ❖ For newer Garmin GPSr, connect it to your computer and copy the gpx file to the Garmin → GPX folder (Garmin are limited to 5,000 total caches via GPX)

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GSAK 


- **Geocaching Swiss Army Knife**
- Third party geocaching software that is available from <http://gsak.net/index.php> as shareware that you can try free for 21 days and then you'll get a "nag screen"
- Registration costs \$30 for current version 8.2.0 (9/21/12)
- GSAK is a very powerful database and filtering program
- GPX files from your PQs are loaded to GSAK
- GSAK compiles multiple PQs into a single database and allows complex filtering, sorting, and manipulation of the geocache data with many output format options

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GSAK 


- Some basic setup is recommended before you start
- Go to the Tools menu and select Options
- Enter your geocaching member ID to allow GSAK to correctly match you to your found and hidden caches
- Under the Locations tab, you may enter coordinates for your filter center points, such as your Home location
- With current version 8 or better, you can link GSAK to your geocaching.com login to allow live cache updates
- If you purchase a registration code, go to the Help menu and select "Register" to enter your unlock code

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GSAK 


- Use the "open file" icon or "Load GPX/LOC/ZIP File" command from the File menu to select and load the GPX files from your PQs to the GSAK database
- Each GPX may be loaded directly from the ZIP file you download from geocaching.com and will be added to the database or update existing data from previous loads
- Caches will get a color coding of yellow for your found caches, white for unfound caches, red for disabled caches, and green for your owned caches (by default)
- Caches that have Child waypoints will have the title appear in bold type (by default)

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GSAK 

- Archived caches: Note that when a geocache is archived, it will not appear in the PQ files from geocaching.com
- If you have a cache in your database and it is archived, its status in GSAK will remain as it was in the last GPX that it was loaded in
- There are Macros you can download and run that will find and delete archived caches from your database if you wish to remove these
- In your filters, you may use the last GPX date setting in your filter searches to exclude any of these old caches from your results
- Caches that are tagged as archived (such as from your "my finds" PQ) will be highlighted red with a lined out GC Code (by default)
- Also, if you know that a particular cache is archived, you can manually set that by "right clicking" & change the status to "archived"

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GSAK Filters 

- Creating filters against your database is a powerful method of selecting the caches that you wish to view or load to your GPSr for field use
- To create or run a filter, select the filter icon or go to the Search menu and select "Filter..."
- You can setup various filters and save them for later use
- The following series of screenshots will take us through setting up basic filters
- Note that these screen shots were pulled from version 7 and there are several added features under version 8, however the general procedure remains similar

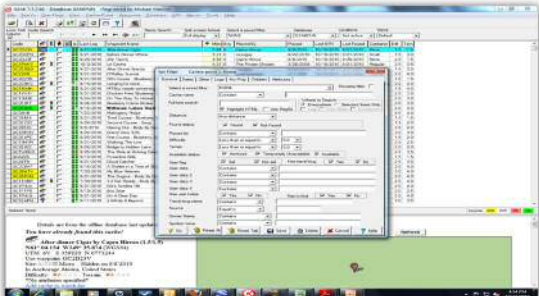
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Filtering with GSAK



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Filtering with GSAK



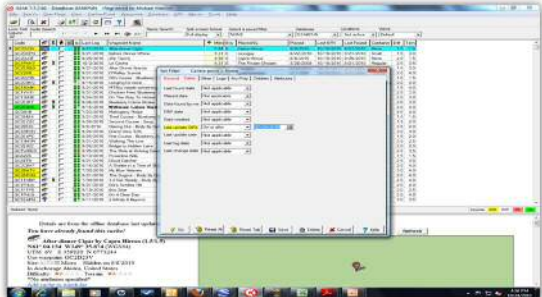
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Filtering with GSAK



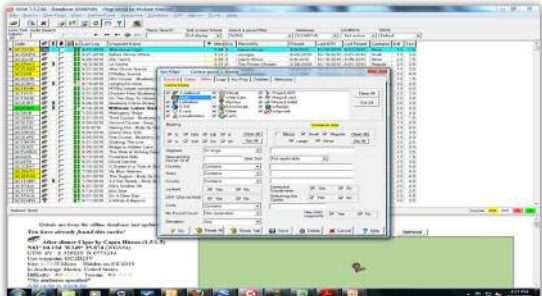
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Filtering with GSAK



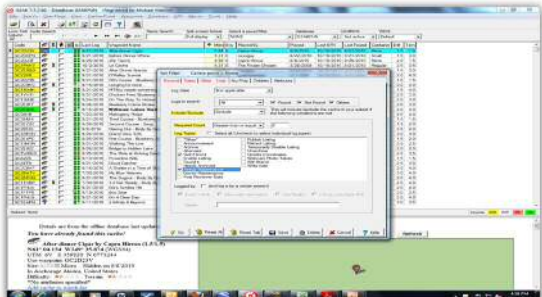
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Filtering with GSAK



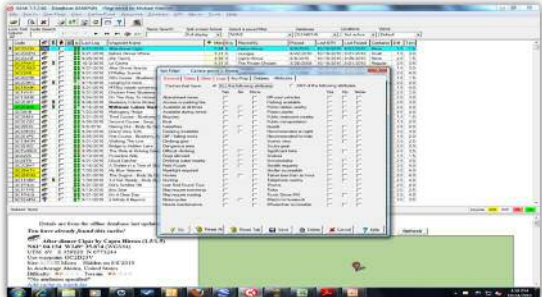
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Filtering with GSAK



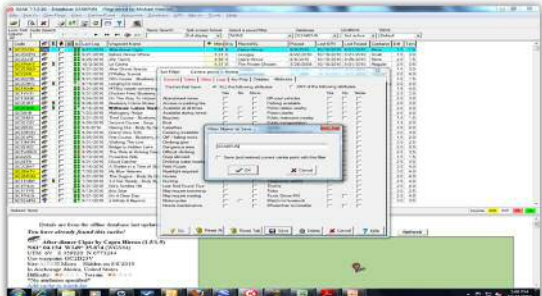
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Filtering with GSAK



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Filtering with GSAK



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Filtering with GSAK

The screenshot shows the GSAK software interface with a list of caches. A small icon in the bottom right corner of the list area is circled in red, representing the filter function.

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GSAK Exports


- Now that you have run a filter and have the group of caches that you wish to seek, you'll want to Export those to your GPSr or other GPS-enabled device
- GSAK can load directly to most GPSRs using either a batch of waypoints or a GPX file for compatible units
- GSAK can also export the filtered set to a number of other formats, such as CacheMate PDB files, GPX or LOC files, POI files for specific GPSr, HTML files for use in various Pocket PC and Palm Pilot applications, etc.
- The following screenshots will walk through direct exporting of your caches to a GPSr

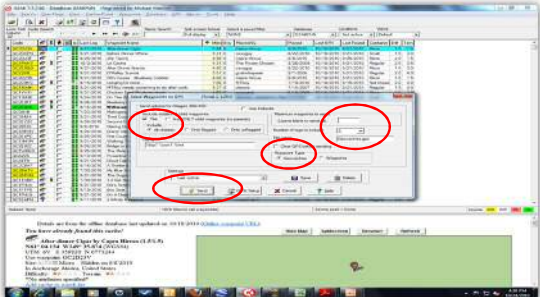
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Exporting to your GPSr


The screenshot shows the GSAK software interface with the 'Export' menu option circled in red.

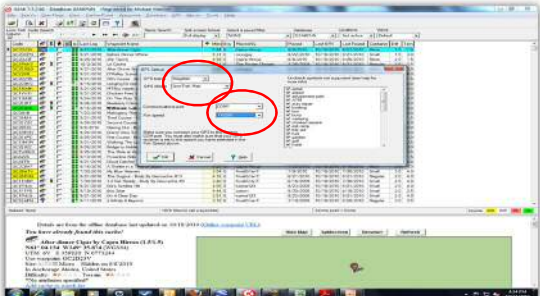
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Exporting to your GPSr 




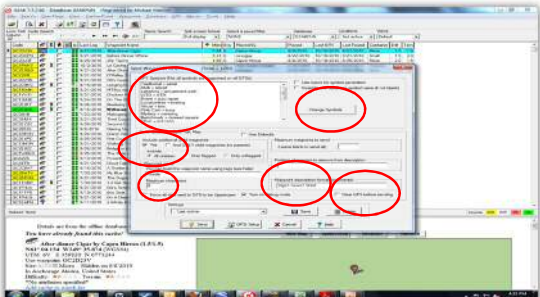
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Exporting to your GPSr
Non-GPX File Enabled 



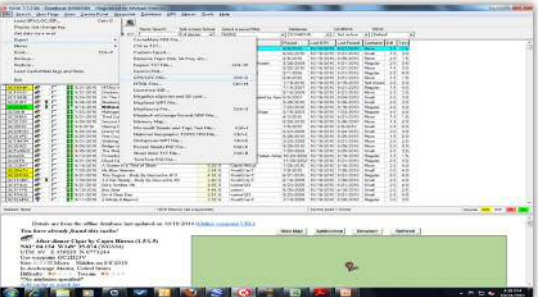
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Exporting to your GPSr
Non-GPX File Enabled 



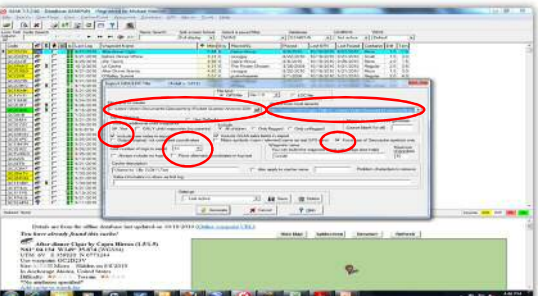
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Exporting to your GPSr
GPX Enabled



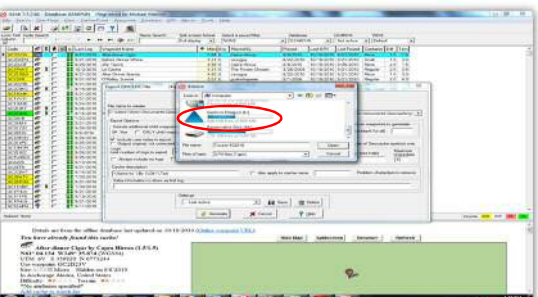
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Exporting to your GPSr
GPX Enabled



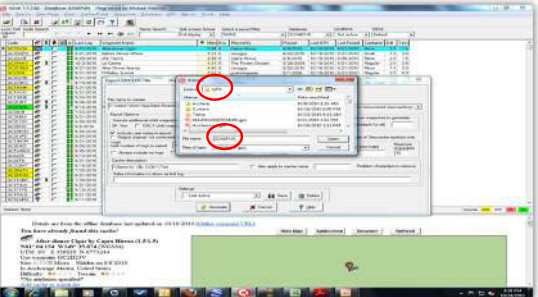
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Exporting to your GPSr
GPX Enabled



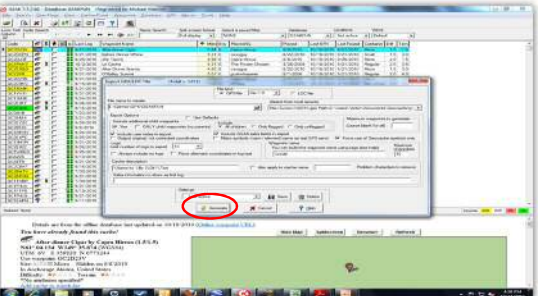
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Exporting to your GPSr
GPX Enabled



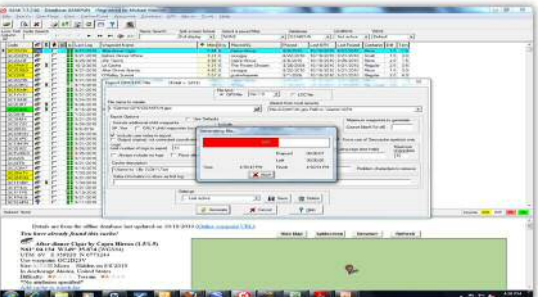
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Exporting to your GPSr
GPX Enabled



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Exporting to your GPSr
GPX Enabled



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Saving Your Data

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Saving Your Data

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Restoring Your Data

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Restoring Your Data 




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GSAK 

- We have only brushed the surface of what GSAK can do to help you become a "Power Cacher"
- Macros (downloaded or built) allow fast batch processing of your geocache database for a multitude of functions
- Solved puzzles can be tracked and the final coordinates entered as you go to be loaded directly to your GPSr
- A Polygon Mapping tool allows you to create irregular shapes on a Google Map for filtering of caches within unlimited boundaries to include or avoid any geography
- Backup your database and then feel free to experiment with all of these features without fear of losing any data

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Additional Resources 

- ✓ Geocaching Swiss Army Knife Website & Forums: <http://gsak.net/index.php>
- ✓ GSAK Online Help Files: <http://gsak.net/help/ghelp.htm>
- ✓ Geocaching.com Pocket Queries Knowledge Books: http://support.groundspeak.com/index.php?pg=kb_page&id=118
- ✓ Geocaching.com Forums: <http://forums.groundspeak.com/GC/>
- ✓ GeocacheAlaska! Website: <http://www.geocachealaska.org/>
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- ✓ Previous GSAK Presentations may be downloaded from our Education page: <http://www.geocachealaska.org/education.htm>

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