

how to make a vertical garden

How to Make a Vertical Garden: A Step-by-Step Guide to Greener Walls

how to make a vertical garden is a fantastic way to bring life and greenery into small spaces, urban apartments, or even large outdoor walls. Vertical gardening not only maximizes limited space but also adds a beautiful, lush aesthetic to your environment. Whether you have a tiny balcony, a bare wall in your living room, or a dull backyard fence, creating a vertical garden can transform your space while offering the benefits of cleaner air, improved mood, and even fresh herbs or vegetables at your fingertips.

In this guide, we'll explore practical tips and creative ideas to help you start your own vertical garden, covering everything from selecting the right plants to choosing the ideal structures and maintenance practices. Let's dive into the art of vertical gardening and discover how you can turn any vertical surface into a thriving green oasis.

Understanding the Basics of Vertical Gardening

Before jumping into building your vertical garden, it's essential to understand what vertical gardening entails and why it's such a popular trend among urban gardeners and nature enthusiasts alike. Vertical gardening is essentially growing plants on vertically inclined surfaces rather than traditional horizontal plots. This method is perfect for those with limited space or anyone looking to add a unique design element to their home or office.

Vertical gardens can be created indoors or outdoors, using various materials such as wooden pallets, hanging pockets, trellises, or modular plant walls. The key advantage is space efficiency, which makes it possible to cultivate a variety of plants, including flowers, succulents, herbs, and even vegetables in a compact area.

Choosing the Right Location and Structure

Assessing Your Space

How to make a vertical garden starts with choosing the perfect spot. The location should have enough sunlight based on the types of plants you intend to grow. For example, herbs like basil and thyme require at least six hours of direct sunlight, while ferns and some succulents thrive in partial shade. Check for wall orientation and light exposure throughout the day to ensure your plants will flourish.

Selecting a Suitable Vertical Garden Structure

There are several options when it comes to the framework of your vertical garden. Your choice depends on your aesthetic preference, space, budget, and the weight the structure needs to support.

- **Wooden Pallets:** Affordable and rustic, pallets can be repurposed into garden frames with some modifications like adding landscaping fabric or pots.
- **Hanging Pocket Planters:** Made of felt or canvas, these are perfect for small herbs and flowers and can be easily hung on walls or fences.
- **Trellises and Wire Grids:** Ideal for climbing plants such as peas, beans, and flowering vines.
- **Modular Panel Systems:** These are pre-made vertical garden kits that come with built-in irrigation and plant holders, suitable for those looking for a polished, professional look.

Selecting Plants for Your Vertical Garden

One of the most exciting parts of creating a vertical garden is choosing the plants that will bring life and color to your green wall. The key is to pick plants that are well-suited for vertical growth and the environmental conditions of your chosen space.

Best Plants for Vertical Gardens

- **Succulents:** Their shallow roots and low water needs make succulents excellent for vertical gardens, especially indoors.
- **Herbs:** Varieties like mint, parsley, basil, and oregano grow well vertically and can be harvested fresh for cooking.
- **Flowering Plants:** Petunias, begonias, and impatiens add vibrant color and thrive in pocket planters.
- **Climbing Vines:** Plants like ivy, jasmine, and morning glories naturally climb and cover vertical surfaces beautifully.
- **Vegetables:** Cherry tomatoes, lettuce, and radishes can be grown in vertical setups with adequate sunlight and care.

Considerations for Plant Selection

When deciding which plants to include, consider factors such as water requirements, growth habits, and maintenance levels. Group plants with similar needs together to make watering and care easier. Mixing textures and colors can also create an appealing visual impact that enhances your vertical garden's charm.

How to Assemble Your Vertical Garden

Building your vertical garden involves a few key steps to ensure it's sturdy, functional, and beautiful.

Step 1: Prepare the Wall or Frame

If you're mounting your garden directly on a wall, ensure that the surface is clean and can support the weight of soil, plants, and water. For heavier setups, consider installing a wooden frame or a metal grid for additional support.

Step 2: Install a Waterproof Backing

Protect your wall from moisture damage by adding a waterproof barrier like plastic sheeting or pond liner between the wall and your vertical garden structure. This step is crucial for outdoor or indoor walls prone to water exposure.

Step 3: Attach the Planters or Pockets

Secure your chosen containers, pockets, or shelves to the frame or wall. Make sure they are firmly anchored to avoid accidents and that they are spaced to allow plant growth and easy maintenance.

Step 4: Add Soil and Plants

Use a lightweight, well-draining potting mix suitable for container gardening. Fill your planters and gently place the plants, making sure roots are properly covered and plants have enough space to grow.

Step 5: Set Up a Watering System

Vertical gardens can dry out faster than traditional gardens, so consistent watering is essential. Consider installing a drip irrigation system to automate watering or use self-watering planters designed for vertical setups. Regular misting can also help maintain humidity for moisture-loving plants.

Maintaining Your Vertical Garden

How to make a vertical garden doesn't end with planting. Regular care ensures your green wall remains vibrant and healthy.

Watering and Feeding

Vertical gardens often require more frequent watering due to increased drainage and exposure. Check soil moisture regularly and adjust your watering schedule accordingly. Fertilize plants every few weeks with a balanced liquid fertilizer to support growth.

Pruning and Replacing Plants

Trim back overgrown plants to keep your vertical garden tidy and prevent overcrowding. Replace any plants that aren't thriving to maintain the overall look and health of your garden.

Monitoring for Pests and Diseases

Keep an eye out for common pests like aphids or spider mites, especially in indoor vertical gardens. Treat infestations early with organic insecticides or natural remedies to avoid damage.

Creative Ideas to Personalize Your Vertical Garden

Vertical gardens offer endless opportunities to express your creativity. You can create themed walls, such as an herb garden near your kitchen or a colorful flower display on a patio. Mixing materials like reclaimed wood, metal accents, and decorative pots can add a personalized touch.

For those interested in sustainability, consider using recycled containers or rainwater harvesting systems to water your vertical garden. Incorporating LED grow lights can extend your plant-growing season indoors or in low-light areas.

Creating a vertical garden can be both a rewarding and enjoyable project, blending gardening with design and functionality. By understanding how to make a vertical garden, you're opening the door to a greener lifestyle and a more beautiful space, no matter how limited your floor area may be. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or a curious beginner, vertical gardening invites you to think creatively and grow upwards—literally!

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the basic steps to create a vertical garden at home?

To create a vertical garden, start by selecting a suitable wall or structure, choose the right vertical garden system (like pockets, pallets, or shelves), select plants that thrive vertically and in your climate, prepare the planting medium, install the system securely, plant your chosen greenery, and establish a regular watering and maintenance routine.

Which plants are best suited for a vertical garden?

Plants that do well in vertical gardens include trailing plants like pothos and ivy, succulents such as echeveria, ferns, herbs like basil and mint, and small flowering plants like begonias. Choose plants based on sunlight availability and the conditions of your vertical garden location.

How can I ensure proper watering for my vertical garden?

Proper watering can be ensured by installing a drip irrigation system or self-watering planters, using moisture-retentive soil, and regularly monitoring soil moisture levels. Vertical gardens tend to dry out faster, so consistent watering is key to keeping plants healthy.

What materials are commonly used to build a durable vertical garden structure?

Common materials include wooden pallets, metal frames, PVC pipes, fabric pockets, and plastic or metal wall-mounted planters. Choose weather-resistant and sturdy materials that can support the weight of soil and plants over time.

Can I create a vertical garden indoors, and what should I consider?

Yes, you can create an indoor vertical garden. Consider factors like adequate lighting (natural or grow lights), humidity levels, and proper drainage. Choose indoor-friendly plants, use lightweight soil mixes, and ensure the structure is securely mounted to avoid

damage to walls.

Additional Resources

How to Make a Vertical Garden: A Professional Guide to Transforming Your Space

how to make a vertical garden is a question increasingly posed by urban dwellers, interior designers, and gardening enthusiasts alike. As living spaces shrink and the demand for sustainable, aesthetic greenery rises, vertical gardens offer an innovative solution that maximizes space while enhancing air quality and visual appeal. This article investigates the essential steps, materials, and design considerations involved in creating a vertical garden, providing a detailed, professional overview for anyone interested in integrating this trend into their home or commercial environment.

Understanding the Concept of Vertical Gardens

Vertical gardening is a method of growing plants on vertically suspended panels, structures, or walls rather than traditional horizontal garden beds. This approach is particularly advantageous in urban environments where ground space is limited. Vertical gardens, sometimes referred to as living walls or green walls, can be installed indoors or outdoors and utilize a variety of systems including hydroponics, soil-based pockets, or modular panels.

The primary benefits of vertical gardening include space efficiency, improved air filtration, enhanced insulation properties, and an aesthetic boost to otherwise bland surfaces. However, making a vertical garden requires careful planning to ensure plant health and structural integrity.

How to Make a Vertical Garden: Step-by-Step Analysis

1. Assessing the Location and Space

The first step in how to make a vertical garden involves selecting the appropriate location. This includes analyzing the available wall space, sunlight exposure, humidity levels, and proximity to water sources. South-facing walls generally receive the most sunlight, making them ideal for sun-loving plants, whereas shaded walls suit shade-tolerant species.

Additionally, consider the wall's material and strength. Structural support is critical, especially for heavier living walls that use soil or hydroponic systems. A thorough assessment prevents future damage or failure of the garden system.

2. Choosing the Right Vertical Garden System

There are several systems to consider when making a vertical garden, each with distinct advantages and limitations:

- **Modular Panel Systems:** Pre-fabricated panels with pockets or trays allow for easy planting and maintenance. They are versatile and often come with integrated irrigation.
- **Hydroponic Walls:** These use nutrient-rich water solutions without soil, offering efficient water use and faster plant growth but require more technical knowledge.
- **Fabric or Felt Pockets:** Lightweight and flexible, these allow for planting individual species but may dry out quickly and need frequent watering.
- **Recycled Materials:** Using pallets, gutters, or repurposed containers can be cost-effective and eco-friendly, though they may require more customization.

Choosing the appropriate system depends on budget, maintenance capacity, and the desired aesthetic.

3. Selecting Suitable Plants

Plant choice is pivotal in the success of a vertical garden. Factors influencing selection include climate, lighting, and maintenance expectations. Generally, plants with shallow root systems and adaptability to vertical growth are preferred. Popular options include ferns, succulents, ivy, herbs, and flowering plants such as begonias or petunias.

For indoor vertical gardens, consider air-purifying plants like pothos, spider plants, and peace lilies that thrive in lower light. Outdoor installations can accommodate more diverse species but require consideration of seasonal changes.

4. Installation and Structural Considerations

Once the system and plants are selected, installation can proceed. This phase involves:

- Preparing the wall surface, including waterproofing or adding a protective barrier to prevent moisture damage.
- Mounting the vertical garden framework securely using brackets, hooks, or screws appropriate for the wall type.
- Integrating an irrigation system if applicable, which can range from manual watering

to automated drip irrigation.

- Planting the selected species according to their spacing and growth requirements.

Structural integrity and moisture management are critical; neglecting these can result in damage to the building or poor plant health.

Maintenance and Sustainability Considerations

A vertical garden is not a one-time project but requires ongoing maintenance to thrive. Understanding how to make a vertical garden includes planning for regular watering, pruning, fertilizing, and pest control. Automated irrigation systems can ease maintenance but add to the initial investment.

Sustainability is increasingly important; using native or drought-resistant plants can reduce water use. Additionally, integrating composting or organic fertilizers supports environmental health. Monitoring plant health and replacing dead specimens promptly maintains the garden's appearance and function.

Comparing Vertical Gardens with Traditional Gardening

While vertical gardens excel in space-saving and aesthetics, they also present challenges compared to traditional gardens:

- **Pros:** Efficient use of vertical space, enhanced urban greenery, potential for improved air quality, and striking visual impact.
- **Cons:** Higher initial setup costs, more complex maintenance, potential structural risks if improperly installed, and limited plant variety due to space and root depth.

Understanding these factors helps gardeners make informed decisions aligned with their goals and resources.

Innovations and Trends in Vertical Gardening

Recent advancements have made vertical gardening more accessible and sophisticated. Smart irrigation systems controlled via smartphone apps enable precise watering schedules, reducing waste. Additionally, advances in LED grow lights support indoor vertical gardens by compensating for low natural light.

Design trends are also evolving, with vertical gardens being used as dynamic art installations, acoustic barriers, and even urban food production units. This versatility underscores the growing relevance of vertical gardens in sustainable urban design.

Exploring how to make a vertical garden reveals a blend of horticulture, architecture, and technology. Whether for beautifying a small balcony or greening a corporate lobby, vertical gardens represent a compelling intersection of form and function that reflects contemporary environmental and aesthetic priorities.

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How to Build a Vertical Garden: Perfect for Apartments and Small Spaces Grow more with less—bring nature to your walls. This hands-on guide teaches you how to design and build vertical gardens that thrive—even in tight spaces. Whether you live in a small apartment, urban loft, or cozy balcony, you'll discover simple and affordable solutions to create lush, productive gardens that enhance your environment, purify your air, and elevate your mood. Inside, you'll learn: The best vertical garden styles for limited space (modular walls, shelves, hanging systems, trellises, pallets) How to choose the right plants for vertical growth, light conditions, and maintenance levels DIY instructions for building planters, frames, and support structures Irrigation options for low-maintenance watering Tips for soil, drainage, and fertilization in vertical systems Indoor vs. outdoor vertical garden planning Solutions for herbs, vegetables, flowers, and decorative greenery Whether you're a gardening newbie or a plant lover with no yard, this book offers a complete solution to bring green life into any corner of your home.

how to make a vertical garden: Vertical Gardens - DIY Vertical Gardens Beth White, 2014-08-11 Vertical Gardens The Do It Yourself Step-By-Step Vertical Garden Playbook Vertical gardening is one of the most popular trends currently in home gardening. I first discovered it looking at pins on Pinterest, and I was immediately intrigued by the idea. When I started doing research, I discovered that vertical gardening means different things to different people. It can mean an outdoor vegetable garden where vining or sprawling plants are trained to grow up a trellis or other vertical structure. Or, it can mean growing plants in containers attached to an outdoor wall or other structure. Finally, it can mean growing plants in containers on a wall indoors. We will take a look at each of these types of gardens.

how to make a vertical garden: Vertical Gardening Nancy Ross, 2018-01-02 WANT TO LEARN THE INS AND OUTS OF VERTICAL GARDENING? Here Is A Preview Of What You'll Learn... Setting Up the Base You Need in Your Garden Working on the Maintenance of Your Vertical Garden Making Room for the Plants Picking Out the Right Plants Some Tips for Your Vertical Garden Much, Much, More!

how to make a vertical garden: Vertical Gardening Brielle Cross, 2017-03-09 Vertical Gardening Vertical Gardening How To Build A Vertical Vegetable Garden This book focuses on building, maintaining, and choosing the correct plants to grow in a vertical garden. With the inner cities becoming more crowded than ever and the ever need to increase healthy eating, growing a

garden on an unused wall seems like it will be the best option both aesthetically and economically. We'll go over a couple different designs for vertical gardens and cover the pros and cons of each one. We'll also go over how to make your own vertical garden in the same section. In the second chapter, we'll talk about how to maintain your vertical garden so that you can prevent issues like mold and the materials you should avoid using because the toxicity can leak into your plants. The third chapter will cover some plants that are well suited for growing in a vertical garden since vertical gardens are usually limited on space. This book will give you the steps you need to get started with your vertical garden in the correct direction.

how to make a vertical garden: The Art of Vertical Gardening Barrett Williams, ChatGPT, 2025-05-14 Discover the breathtaking potential of your urban space with **The Art of Vertical Gardening** - a transformative guide that reimagines the way we connect with nature in the bustling heart of the city. Whether you have a cozy balcony or a towering rooftop, this eBook is your gateway to creating lush, vibrant gardens that defy the constraints of floor space. Step into the vertical dimension and uncover the incredible benefits of vertical gardening. From air purification to mental wellness, this book dives into the compelling advantages of elevating your garden. Each chapter offers insight into selecting the perfect plants, ensuring they thrive amidst city skylines, and considering unique urban climates. Explore top-performing flora, robust enough to withstand the rigors of metropolitan living yet beautiful enough to transform your environment. Unlock the secrets behind essential tools and materials for vertical gardening. Develop an understanding of vertical planters, innovative irrigation systems, and the optimal substrates that provide a foundation for healthy plant growth. With expert guidance in planning and mapping your vertical paradise, you'll learn how to blend functionality with stunning aesthetics. In-depth installation advice covers the challenges specific to indoor and outdoor spaces, ensuring your creations not only flourish but are secure and sustainable. Maintenance becomes second nature with tips on watering regimes, nutrient management, and adapting to seasonal shifts. Immerse yourself in cutting-edge techniques like hydroponics and smart technology, while addressing common challenges with ease. Discover the eco-friendly side of vertical gardens, supporting urban ecology and reducing the carbon footprint. Packed with inspiring real-life case studies and a vision for the future of urban greening, **The Art of Vertical Gardening** empowers you to cultivate your own slice of urban Eden. Join the movement and take your first step towards a greener, more vibrant life.

how to make a vertical garden: Vertical Gardening Jason Johns, 2019-07-31 A vertical garden can run the gamut from a simple arrangement of flowers in a large container on a deck to an elaborate display of strawberries and geraniums amid climbing peas and vines of small squash growing up a backyard fence. Any upright structure that can support vegetables, fruits, herbs, or flowers, whether these plants are in containers or in the ground, can be used in vertical gardening. Although vertical gardening is of particular interest to apartment dwellers and to city residents with limited yard space, it's also used by suburban and rural gardeners to grow vining plants up supports, so valuable space can be freed up for root crops. Gardening expert Jason Johns offers examples of many types of vertical gardens and gives suggestions for the most appropriate plants to grow vertically. He also gives tips for how to plan a vertical garden to take advantage of sunlight, allow for easy watering and care, and provide protection from wind and insect damage. Included are many photographs illustrating innovative and creative vertical gardening containers and arrangements.

how to make a vertical garden: Vertical Gardening Tips For Beginners Timothy Tripp, 2013-05-05 Vertical gardening is the process of gardening that is done vertically or upward. While the traditional gardening process is gardening with plots on the ground, vertical gardening is a different approach to gardening as it aims to plant crops in a vertical position or standing position. This can either be done through hanging plots or with frameworks as long as plants are not planted on the ground like in traditional gardening. There are several advantages of vertical gardening. One, vertical gardening is a great space saver. Since your garden is positioned vertically, it does not take up too much space in your backyard, giving room to more plants to be planted. Two, vertical gardening is a very flexible type of gardening because it allows you to plant or to build a garden

even in an area with limited space. For instance, if you are only gardening on your rooftop or you only have a very small backyard, it is possible for you to plant many crops through vertical gardening even with that limited space you have. If you want to build a vertical garden, there are several things you need to be aware of. First, you need to know how to build one, you need to know how to prepare the soil for a vertical garden, you need to know how to maintain your vertical garden, and you need to know how to control pests and keep them from destroying your plants. This way, the time, money and effort you invested in building this garden won't be in vain. This book will discuss and reveal some of these helpful vertical gardening tips you need.

how to make a vertical garden: Vertical Gardening Pamela Wilson, 2016-04-28 Getting Your FREE Bonus Download this book, read it to the end and see BONUS: Your FREE Gift chapter after the conclusion. Vertical Gardening (FREE Bonus Included) 15 Creative Ways to Plant a Vertical Garden If you are planning to create a vertical garden, but would like some ideas on how you can design your garden look no further. In this guide book you will be given 15 different vertical garden designs to help get you inspired on what and how you are going to create your vertical garden. If you are short on gardening space, there is no need to worry with vertical gardening you can make great use out of small spaces to grow your vertical garden. Many people that live in apartments or townhouses would not even think about gardening, but now with vertical gardening people living in small places can also have gardens. It does not matter that you have a small space to work with when it comes to vertical gardening it makes gardening possible for just about everyone. Learn how to make use of limited space by using arbors, trellises, and special hanging containers that will help you to make the most of any small space. Imagine being able to create your own vertical garden, it could help cover up an ugly old wall, turning it into a lovely green space. Also keep in mind that you can grow more than just vines and flowers in vertical gardens. You can also grow fresh organic fruits and vegetables along with wonderful healthy herbs. The information in this quick read book will help get you started on creating your own vertical garden. You will be shown various design ideas for a vertical garden along with how to grow veggies so you can pick fresh veggies from your vertical garden with ease. Find out why plants do well in vertical gardens and what kind of equipment you will need to get started, you will become a green thumb before you know it!

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implement everything you need to get those plants growing so you can enjoy the view and the taste as quickly as possible! So Don't Wait, Scroll Up, Click On BUY NOW, and Start Building Your New Perfect Vertical Garden!

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Discover the Future of Urban Greening with The Vertical Garden Step into the transformative world of vertical gardens with The Vertical Garden, your ultimate guide to the flourishing frontier of urban horticulture. As cities expand and green space diminishes, the rise of vertical gardens offers an innovative solution to urban challenges, revitalizing cityscapes with lush, vibrant vegetation. Uncover why these towering gardens have captured the imaginations of urbanites worldwide, from their historical roots to their profound environmental benefits. Learn how vertical gardens enhance air quality, reduce urban heat, and improve energy efficiency, contributing to healthier, more sustainable cities. Dive deep into the essentials of designing your own vertical masterpiece. This book expertly navigates the intricacies of space, aesthetics, and framework selection, providing you with the tools to create a stunning horticultural display tailored to your environment. Discover the art of choosing the perfect plants, with advice on soil selection, nourishment, and sustainability to bolster local biodiversity. Master the mechanics of efficient irrigation systems, balancing water conservation with plant vitality. Tackle common maintenance issues head-on, ensuring your garden thrives season to season, free from pests and diseases. From innovative materials to cutting-edge technologies, explore the trends shaping the future of vertical gardens. With insights into the economic advantages and supportive policies, learn how these green marvels not only beautify urban settings but also offer profound financial benefits. The Vertical Garden also delves into social dynamics, illustrating how vertical gardens enhance urban aesthetics, foster community engagement, and address food security. With practical steps and real-world case studies illuminating successes and overcoming challenges, you're equipped to embark on your vertical gardening journey. Whether it's a towering green wall in a bustling city or a cozy vertical garden on your balcony, The Vertical Garden is your comprehensive roadmap to transforming any space, big or small, into a thriving vertical oasis. Embrace this green revolution and start your journey today.

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how to make a vertical garden: Grow a Living Wall Shawna Coronado, 2015-02-15 Sometimes called Green Walls or Vertical Gardens, living walls are easier than ever to plan and grow! Grow a Living Wall is the first wall-gardening book to focus exclusively on the needs of home gardeners. Make your vertical garden environmentally friendly and sustainable. It's easy with author Shawna Coronado's help! One of her themed vertical gardens is stocked mostly with flowers to make it a haven for bees and other pollinators. Other gardens are filled with vegetables and herbs so anyone with an outdoor wall can grow their own food - beautifully! Even more gardens promote aromatherapy or medicinal plants. Some are designed to provide a green net of air filtration near a living area, or to protect exterior walls from exposure to direct sunlight, which helps to keep the indoors cool. In addition to the comprehensive, step-by-step information that explains the basics of vertical gardening, each of the 20 featured gardens has its own chapter filled with useful tips, stunning photography, and fascinating background stories that point out how much difference a small garden can make. Like author Shawna herself, the gardens you'll find in Grow a Living Wall are positive, life affirming, and sure to produce a smile or two.

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overcrowded pots and struggling plants, and hello to a vertical garden that not only saves space but also enhances the beauty of your outdoor or indoor area. Navigate through the various types of vertical gardening structures, including towers, living walls, and plant shelves, and learn which options work best for different plant varieties. With a wealth of inspiration and practical advice, this book empowers you to create a garden that defies spatial limitations and showcases your gardening prowess. Elevate your gardening skills and transform your small space into a lush paradise with the power of vertical gardening. With stunning photography and valuable insights, this book is the ultimate guide to mastering the art of vertical gardening and elevating your garden to new heights. Say goodbye to cluttered gardens and inefficient use of space, and embrace the wonders of vertical gardening with confidence and creativity.

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down until the plant is firm, moisturize the soil, and then keep caring for your plant until you get an excellent harvest.

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