



Driver Stories - In Their Words

More than **119,000 drivers and growing** are providing essential services as independent contractors: Read their stories on why they drive.



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Alberto L.

Uber, Lyft, DoorDash, Postmates, Instacart
San Jose, CA



Omar A.



The total flexibility that my driving career allows making it possible to raise our family

My wife and I set out to raise our 3 kids where we grew up, the bay area. And we wanted to do this 100% without daycare or strangers caring for them. That was critical. And that was doable. But just not our full-time jobs. We both needed extra sources of income that would allow for maximum flexibility; I didn't wanna miss out on school plays, sports, recitals, little league, or time with the kids doing our family things. First driving for the grocery store app, Instacart, then later Shipt, and also driving for Uber and UberEats was a godsend for me. I instinctively knew when the delivery business was greatest, and when ride-sharing was most in-demand and could jump from app to app maximizing my efficiency to achieve the greatest bang for my buck if I had to work those extra hours to make our California dream reality. With my wife's extra part-time job in her chosen field, and with a supportive grandma to be that final link to our goal, our children were raised without the need for daycare or reliance on after school programs, no summer camps away or season tickets to theme parks to dump them off a couple of hours, and never a nanny or teenage babysitters to afford then constantly worry about what they were doing in our home while we were gone. The only grandma on Sundays, so I and my wife could actually spend time with



Uber, Lyft, Instacart
Linda Mar, CA

También mi flexibilidad es extraordinaria y me encanta.

¡Hola mi nombre es Alberto! ¡Yo hago viajes de comida con Door Dash! Este trabajo es maravilloso porque me ayuda a conocer muchos restaurantes , ver diferentes ideas, entender el mundo y sus diferentes culturas. La vida es muy bonita cuando trabajas cuando quieres y haces lo que te gusta, también es maravilloso tener tiempo para convivir con los que quieres. Ser tu propio jefe cambia tu forma de vivir, todo es alegría. ¡Los pagos pueden ser instantáneos, y eso es muy bueno!! Poder tener dinero al monto de trabajo es maravilloso, no importa en donde estés puedes tener acceso a dinero tuyo en cada viaje o en cualquier día. También mi flexibilidad es extraordinaria y me encanta. Es maravilloso que mis clientes siempre me agradecen por el trabajo que hago. Me hace sentir muy bien, me da energía para estar a tiempo y disfruto lo que hago. Amo mi libertad , amo lo que soy, lo que hago, mi flexibilidad, el futuro está aquí. ¡Bienvenido!



Alberto L.
Lyft, DoorDash
San Jose, CA



ourselves, her extra job, and the total flexibility that my driving career allows making it possible to raise our family as our own. Keeps our kids always within our loving and watchful care. That is critical to us, and without Prop 22, would be gone in 22 seconds. Please vote Yes on 22 to keep it our way to work and live in California.



John R.
Uber, Instacart
Concord, CA

Independent work is essential for me

My name is Mason and as a resident here in California, independent work is essential for me because time is very valuable. I am currently a freshman in college and my schedule does not allow me to have a set schedule as an employee. Therefore doing deliveries allows me to work when convenient while simultaneously giving my full attention to my studies. If I were not able to participate in deliveries my academic success would be jeopardized and I may not be able to efficiently contribute financially to next year's semester. I believe that app-based work is important because families need their groceries and people have places to be during this time. I am glad and willing to give up my time to make sure those in my community are able to benefit from these services. As long as I am able to lend a helping hand, I will continue to utilize app-based work.



Mason E.
Instacart
Menlo Park, CA



I like being independent and being my own boss



Marcus H.
DoorDash
San Jose, CA



Charlie B.
Uber, Lyft, DoorDash
San Jose, CA



David H.
Uber, Lyft
Palo Alto, CA

I like being independent and being my own boss. Lyft, Uber, and DoorDash are a lifeline for people like me. I love my job and love the riders and customers who rely on our service.



Gilbert C.
Lyft, Uber, DoorDash
Miller, CA



The ability to work when I want to, and make extra money is amazing

Having the ability to work on weekends and after my 9-5 has given me the extra money I need, to pay off debt and do something productive. The ability to work when I want to, and make extra money is amazing. Instead of wasting my weekends sitting at home, I can work and send that money to pay off old debt, something I was unable to do with my 9-5 job. Without this extra income, I would, unfortunately, fall back into debt. What California is trying to do is criminal in my opinion, I won't be able to take on a second job in the traditional sense. Having to report somewhere at a specific time frame would be too much.



Vincent S.
Instacart
Santa Rosa, CA



Driving at our convenience makes it possible for us

Driving for Lyft has made it possible for me and my wife to juggle our hectic schedules with our kids. From school to baby sitters, doctor's appts, and being as a family! And with the cost of living continuously rising, driving at our convenience makes it possible for us.



Clarence C.
Lyft
Vallejo, CA

I love my flexible hours

Hi my name is Robert. I drive for Uber and I like my Independence. I love my flexible hours that way I can work my other job.



Robert S.
Uber
Oakland, CA

Being your own boss is a privilege that I cherish

As a retiree, I am able to work when and however long I want to. Being your own boss is a privilege that I cherish! After working for someone else my entire life, it is so refreshing to be in control of my own destiny. Lyft has given me that opportunity.



Dave A.
Lyft
San Jose, CA

I will always be thankful to have flexibility

Hello, my name is Ramadon F. and I've worked as a Lyft driver since 2013. Also, I've worked as DoorDash since 2015. These companies have huge benefits for my financial needs because I am a deaf person and Social Security is not really fully functional to support the cost of living. It was hard for me to handle many situations with Social Security income until app-based work which was a huge help for many reasons...I will always be thankful to have flexibility

Let's keep our flexibility and our ability to be independent

Hi my name is Rey. The reason I started doing Uber was a need for flexibility. I used to be a Supervisor at the local Post Office. One day while getting ready for work, my mother said she couldn't feel her jaw and needed to go to the hospital. Six years later, after heart surgery and a major stroke, we take care of her 24 hours a day. I resigned from the Post Office and decided to do Uber/Lyft. I can work or not work whenever necessary and can be at home when needed. Without the flexibility of being entirely independent, it may or may not work for my particular situation. Vote for Prop 22, let's keep our flexibility and our ability to be independent!



Rey B.
Uber, Lyft
Oakland, CA

Provides an affordable and highly needed transportation option for senior citizens in my community

I drive for Lyft and Zoom since July and

and time to minister for the deaf community.



Ramadon F.

Rideshare & Delivery Driver
San Francisco, CA



I am very happy and grateful for the opportunity and the importance of this job

I am very happy and grateful for the opportunity and the importance of this job. I have 3 children and my wife and thanks to this job I have been able to support the needs of my family I hope and I want this source of employment to be forever because it adapts to any schedule and with 3 young children it is very difficult to find a job like this, DoorDash is the best thing I have found.



Eybar L.

DoorDash
Livermore, CA



I am proud to be able to help in these times

I am a mother with 2 children and my husband is injured due to a past car accident. He has had 12 surgeries and at the moment, I am helping with money for our family. With DoorDash, I am able to select any time to work when I know my children will be with their grandparents. I help deliver food to many of the customers that are also parents and cannot leave the house due to the pandemic or because they need to watch their children. Also a lot of customers are elderly people who cannot leave their house as well. I am proud to be able to help in these times and at the same time provide some support to my family. Thank you.

Sep 2019 respectively. I have met many young female drivers that supplement their family incomes by driving for both. The Lyft rideshare service provides an affordable and highly needed transportation option for senior citizens in my community. Zoom provides affordable trust line certified drivers and transportation for students and minor age passengers allowing their parents to meet the demands of their full-time jobs while providing much needed safe and reliable transportation for their children, to and from school and extracurricular activities after school as well.



Charles L.

Lyft
Palo Alto, CA



It brings me joy to be able to help out so many people

I am helping out my County of Solano by making deliveries to their home with such an uncertain time. Right now people over 65 are afraid to get food in their own since they are most vulnerable, but it brings me joy to be able to bring the food to them in the safest manner possible. As well as any other individual or family who may have a history of respiratory diseases and are less immune to COVID-19. It brings me joy to be able to help out so many people. As well I understand that it is very tiring to get food after long day work. With my help, I can bring the food to them just to prevent anything bad from happening due to being tired and driving which could cause accidents. As well as being a hard worker that I am I can get quite tired to go out and buy take out. I bring the food to the family or individual and help prevent more spread of COVID-19.



Margarita A.

DoorDash
Fairfield, CA





Jennifer C.
DoorDash
Concord, CA

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It's been a blessing being able to have such a flexible schedule

I am 30 years old and have lupus, and it makes it hard for me to keep a regular job. With having to mess up work days when I have flare-up or being late because I'm having trouble getting up in the morning. With Instacart and DoorDash, I'm able to make a schedule that will work with my lupus flare-ups or my not so good mornings. It's been a blessing being able to have such a flexible schedule with my lupus. Not having to be scared of getting fired because I have a lupus flare-up.



Priscilla T.
DoorDash, Instacart
San Jose, CA



It is very flexible with my school schedule and also my other job

Hello! I drive with DoorDash every day.

I enjoy bringing food to those that can't leave their homes

I am a 61 year old grandmother and I rely on my income from Lyft and Instacart to cover our expenses. I started driving for Lyft to understand how it works so that I could educate my 89 year old mother on how to use it. Without Lyft, she would not be able to get out and about at all. Public transportation is just too dangerous for a woman her age. I found that I enjoyed Lyft very much because of the wonderful people I constantly am meeting and quickly did it full-time. And Instacart has sustained us through the COVID crisis. I enjoy bringing food to those that can't leave their homes either because they are at a greater risk or because they have small children. Both services are invaluable to the people that utilize them.



Cynthia E.
Lyft, Instacart
San Rafael, CA

We are part of a community that brings food to people who cannot do so themselves

I along with other DoorDash drivers who deliver and pick up food for supplemental income are part of the community of workers who are working to keep things going both financially and economically. We are part of a community that brings food to people who cannot do so themselves. The income that we receive I feel only goes back to the community so I feel that everyone wins.



Arthur T.
DoorDash
Pacifica, CA

It is very flexible with my school schedule and also my other job, it pays my bills, feeds me, and keeps me on my feet while I am in school! Its great for me because I can work whenever I want to and whenever I am in need. I also feel as if I am doing a good deed for the people who order through DoorDash as well. Not only am I bringing people the food they need and deserve, but I am always cautious about how I handle the food. I make sure the containers don't touch any dirty surfaces, they go directly from the restaurant, into the DoorDash bag, and delivered right to the customers' door. During these hard times of the COVID-19, I have been consistently washing my hands, wearing a mask and gloves, and applying hand sanitizer when necessary to avoid spreading any germs there may be out there. I also have been practicing "noncontact deliveries" and leaving the customers' food where requested or on a clean surface near their front door. I am always in contact with the customer about any special needs with the order or with the delivery. Thank you to the community providing me with work, and I'll be happy to continue to safely deliver your orders! Have a nice day!

 **Juan W.**
DoorDash, Postmates
San Jose, CA

Allows me to do what I love

During this uncertain time, it has been an absolute pleasure to serve my community as an Instacart Shopper. The gratitude and appreciation from my customers, which include the elderly, pregnant women, and cancer patients, has been overwhelming. There are moments that I just sit in my car and just soak in the difference I am making. The little notes of thanks, the conversations through the windows (because customers want to keep me and themselves safe), the extra monetary gifts are all so appreciated and because of you, I can stay safe along with the warm smiles are what makes me grateful for the opportunity to be an Instacart Shopper.

Es un trabajo que puedo hacer en mi tiempo libre

Es un trabajo que puedo hacer en mi tiempo libre... de esta forma también ayudo aquellas personas que no pueden salir de sus casas en estos momentos de pandemia.

 **Mercedes S.**
DoorDash
Palo Alto, CA

Necesito este trabajo para seguir adelante

En estos momentos DoorDash es mi única fuente de ingreso, necesito este trabajo para seguir adelante y no terminar en la calle.

 **Fernando M.**
DoorDash
Oakland, CA

Many families are dependent on delivery services

During this critical time, many families are dependent on delivery services by DoorDash. The drivers are doing excellent service to the community and they really appreciate the services rendered by dashers. Thanks for DoorDash for helping the community and dashers. Long live DoorDash.

 **Vishnuvardhan G.**
DoorDash

instacart shopper. it gets me every time. I love doing Instacart because it allows me to do what I love - serve. Serving my community makes it possible to care for people I may have never otherwise met. It's been an amazing experience these last couple of months. To make a difference in my community is something I'm very proud to be a part of. I know it's hard to stay at home for so many people but as they do their part, and we do our part as Shoppers we can hopefully bring an end to COVID-19 much sooner. #proudtoserve



Dianna B.
Instacart
San Jose, CA

Fremont, CA



DoorDash is essential to all people

During these times DoorDash is essential to all people. I take this independent position very seriously. Not only because of our state of emergency but people who are disabled need DoorDash. Food is a human right as a taxpayer U.S. Citizen I urge you all civic leaders of our state to support food delivery via door Dash to help families and people with special needs.



Joaquin D.
DoorDash
Manteca, CA



DoorDash has helped me in many ways

DoorDash has helped me get out of being homeless I pay my own rent, my bills, my car payment, my insurance, you name it. I pay it all myself after my husband passed away. DoorDash has helped me in many ways, flexible hours able to pick up my kids from school, you name it DoorDash is number one.



Cristina G.
DoorDash
Antioch, CA



It's been a pleasure to help my community

As a driver, it's been a pleasure to help my community with transportation. I've helped young and old disabled and with service animals. This job gives me a sense of purpose and helps me meet great people.



Alexis F.
Lyft
San Francisco, CA

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I love being my own boss

I have been driving since June 2017. I needed to go back to work as we were drowning in debt. I loved the flexibility to work as little or as much as I wanted, when and whatever time I chose to do

Flexibility is important

I started driving with Lyft in efforts to have some sort of income and be available for my family. Flexibility is important because I want to be an active participant in my son's academic and athletic events. I am also seeking full-time employment, so having the ability to set my own schedule is allowing me to accomplish this goal. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to express my reason why I appreciate having an app-based driving schedule.



Tanya C.
Lyft
Oakland, CA

so. I had a 9 to 5 job for over 40 years. I love being my own boss. If I want to earn more it's up to me. This is absolutely great for retired seniors and like my son, my wife, my brother and sister who only need or want to enough to supplement our incomes. Do not take away flexibility. Thanks!



Lloyd M.
Uber
Oakland, CA



Flexibility is still important

I've been working for Instacart for about 3 years now. I started 6 months after I had my first child. The convenience of being able to create my own schedule and cancel if needed without the possibility of being fired, helped me tremendously, whenever babysitting became a problem. That same flexibility is still important to me because three years later, I'm still a single mother and can't afford child care. The extra income also helps a lot with California's rising cost of living. Maintaining a home on my own in the Bay Area is difficult at times because it seems as though no matter how much money I make, it is not enough. But with Instacart, I always have a cushion to support me when needed. Whether I need to do an order or two to get gas, or work all day to afford food for the week for my son and I, Instacart is always a reliable option without having to rely on the government for benefits. I would rather leave those benefits for those who are really in need. I have a full-time job working mostly overnight so that I can go to school during the day. It's helpful that I'm able to pick up on demand orders in between classes. I enjoy working as an independent contractor and would be devastated if this new law were set in stone. Taking away flexibility from Instacart would most likely result in me having to move to another state

Being in control

I'm a father of a 7-year-old. My wife works a lot and has a set schedule. I really need the flexibility that Uber and Lyft provide. Being in control of your own work schedule is of utmost importance to me.



Ivan P.
Uber, Lyft
Santa Rosa, CA

Great flexibility

The reason I drive for Uber is because of the great flexibility. I'm a nanny and I do Uber part-time which can help me to pay the bills. Uber allows me to pick the hours that I am able to work and make extra money while keeping my nanny job.



Limin L.
Uber
Alameda, CA



I rely on the flexibility

because it is just too expensive to afford living in California without a side hustle.



Kiara W.
Lyft
Vallejo, CA



Flexibility and being my own boss is everything

I closed my business to drive Uber a few years back. Flexibility and being my own boss is everything. I've been an independent contractor for the past 25 years and my life is built around being independent.



Steve B.
Uber, DoorDash, Postmates
Walnut Creek, CA

Without the flexibility, I wouldn't be able to give my students the love and care they deserve

I am a full-time teacher and I drive Lyft to supplement my income. I love what I do and without Lyft, I wouldn't be able to afford my apartment, to chip at my student loans. Sometimes my students don't eat much for days; being able to buy them some lunch once in a while is a gift in and of itself. Without the flexibility of Lyft, I wouldn't be able to give my students the love and care they deserve.



Hernan R.
Lyft
Oakland, CA

I drive for Lyft part-time to supplement my income in the non-profit sector and to secure a better retirement for myself. My full-time job is a labor of love and very demanding. I would not be able to have a second source of income if it involved scheduled hours. I rely on the flexibility that rideshare driving gives me to work when I am available on a day to day basis. Being able to have this extra stream of income, and being able to work when I can and want to, is making my life and the prospects for my future better. I enjoy driving and love the flexibility.



Cat R.
Lyft
Daly City, CA



I am TRULY grateful

I began driving for Lyft when my long term job ended. I'm older and was way past the panic mode. I pieced together what I could for income and just found work wherever I could. To make things even more interesting, I also got a large rent increase. We don't have rent control where I live. I started driving for Lyft to pay my rent and that's exactly what it does for me...I am able to drive when I want and if I need additional cash for something, I pick up an hour or two on my way home. Without Lyft, I honestly don't know what would happen to me. So many of us are living paycheck to paycheck in Silicon Valley and Lyft has been a godsend. It worries me that I might not always have the opportunity to drive since the laws are changing. I love the fact that my income is up to me and I can structure it around my other jobs...I am TRULY grateful to Lyft for the opportunity to have my side gig and take care of myself and my family all on my own.



Susan L.
Lyft
San Francisco, CA

Provides the income and flexibility

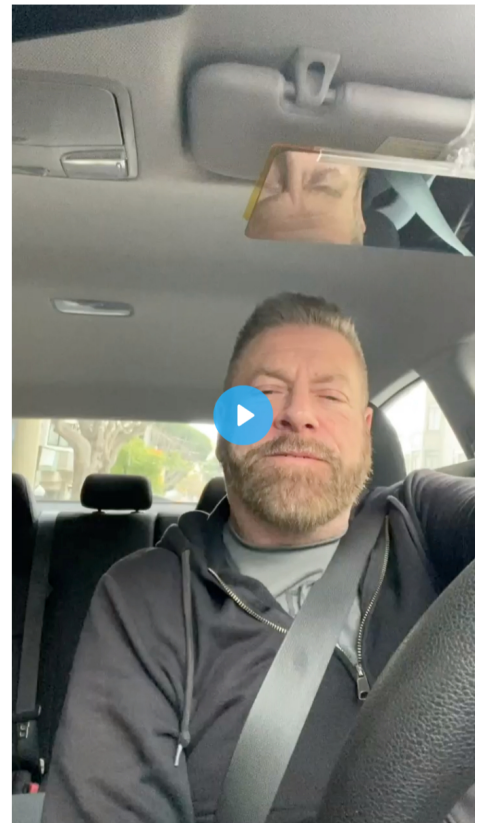
As a single mom, DoorDash provides the income and flexibility comparable to my previous, management position minus the stress and rigid work schedule. When you have a child who is young, in my case 16 months, I don't want to have to worry about calling out sick for doctor appointments and other things that come up in the first few years of a child's life. Doordashing has allowed me to work and earn good wages while he can be left with my mom after she gets off work instead of going to an expensive and non-trustworthy daycare center. I'm able to be there for my son and also earn money at the same time with no stress. It's so wonderful to be able to work when you want and not have stress, as being a single mom already has enough stress of its own. If California gets rid of this, I don't know how I will be able to spend time to nurture and love my son and work a full-time gig...Please support the ballot measure for us to keep flexible driving schedules.



Samm C.
DoorDash, Postmates
South San Francisco, CA



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James S.
Rideshare Driver
Brisbane, CA

I was able to make enough money to pay rent and my bills

I've been doing deliveries for a little over a month now and delivered over 400 deliveries. As the Coronavirus hit, my full-time job became part-time maybe 4 hours a week and thankfully Postmates and caviar helped me through this tough time. I was able to make enough money to pay rent and my bills.



Alex C.
Postmates
San Francisco, CA



I enjoy my job & am proud of being part of the effort to keep our society functionally

I am providing essential service in the form of food deliveries through DoorDash & Postmates. I receive a lot of heartfelt "thank you" & "be safe out there" from the many people in San Francisco I serve. I enjoy my job & am proud of being part of the effort to keep our society functionally during these chaotic & trying times due to the Covid-

There are people who are unable to drive themselves

There are people who are unable to drive themselves or even navigate through daily life. I've helped elderly, blind and handicapped who tell me our service is truly a blessing and having this option at their fingertips has made their lives so much safer, easier and worry-free. I'm happy to help.



Regina L.
Lyft
San Jose, CA

19 pandemic. Thank you for reading my story!



Mark H.
Doordash, Postmates
San Francisco, CA

The flexibility I have as being an independent contractor has allowed me to service my community

The flexibility I have as being an independent contractor has allowed me to service my community in time of need. By all of us working together we can survive this crisis.



Myron B.
Lyft
San Francisco, CA



I am able to ride with passengers who direly need to reach their destinations especially during current times

I am grateful to be a part of Lyft rideshare community especially in my local area Alameda/Oakland/Berkeley where I am able to ride with passengers who direly need to reach their destinations especially during current times where necessity is a priority. I am a part-time student seeking an MA degree in Science Engineering and Lyft provides the opportunity for me to have a reasonable schedule set accordingly with my course time frame and location as well as any unforeseen changes that often take place throughout the semester. Lyft further allows me to have an income that covers much of the day to day expenses including home expenses and personal necessities. It provides a fair income that matches my hours worked and the flexibility I need to proceed with my education. I am extremely grateful to Lyft and all other rideshare/delivery app base platforms that allows for the progression and success of millions of people dependent on a flexible work schedule as individual contractors.



I love my contractor status and my independent self reliance

Every day, when I'm ready to help people get around it makes me very happy. I have grandkids and my daughter often calls for help with her 3 kids. My wife owns a business and since we aren't young any longer she needs help once in a while. To keep myself strong and healthy I have to exercise, and a certain routine takes time. Most importantly I have to support myself and my lifestyle and ride share gives me that opportunity to do so. It gives me a chance to work when I can do it and for as long as I can do it. I don't have a manager, my passenger is my boss. I don't have to clock in or out. I love my contractor status and my independent self reliance. Thank you Uber and Lyft for giving me that opportunity.



George B.
Lyft
Oakland, CA



The flexibility of the Uber work allows me to continue my community-builders efforts

I am very much involved in civic work in my community, extending friendship to people and trying to build a more united community. I drive a few hours a week to supplement my income. The flexibility of the Uber work allows me to continue my community-builders efforts.



Jaleh K.
Uber
Irvine, CA



Without this income, I'd be forced to relocate

The flexible hours allow me to earn extra income around my full-time job that does not offer flexible scheduling. I live in one of the most expensive regions in the country and I'm raising 2 kids whose mother doesn't earn a lot. So, having this driving job with my own scheduling has been crucial to maintaining our already meager lifestyle. Without this income, I'd be forced to relocate away from family and friends. The flexibility allows me the time to spend with my kids, to pick up and drop off at school or take care of them if they become ill. This would be more difficult with a fixed schedule.



Dennis D.
Uber, Lyft
Santa Clara, CA



Gregory S.
Lyft
Redwood City, CA



These apps actually were a blessing in disguise

So I moved out to California about a year ago and was looking for a way to earn extra cash. I looked into DoorDash and Postmates and saw that they were paying really good so I decided to get involved. We're getting involved at first I was making roughly \$100 every two days because I was unfamiliar with the area. As months went by I was able to get a part-time job and meet people which allowed me to get out there and explore. Well getting this part-time job and exploring I was able to unlock new areas in California that allowed me to make an excess amount of money when using these app. If it was not for Postmates or DoorDash honestly I don't think I would still be able to say I'm doing good right now. These apps actually were a blessing in disguise and I don't think I would have ever found that out if I hadn't tried them. They've shown me new areas, I met wonderful people while doing deliveries and more importantly kept me secured.



Kevin K.
DoorDash, Postmates
Vacaville, CA





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