DEVELOPING POWER NSCA SPORT PERFORMANCE Complete Guide

Developing Power NSCA Sport Performance is a crucial aspect for athletes aiming to excel in their respective sports. Power, defined as the ability to generate force quickly, is a fundamental component that distinguishes elite performers from amateur athletes. The National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA) emphasizes the importance of structured, scientifically backed training programs to optimize power development. Whether your goal is to improve explosiveness for sprinting, jumping, or lifting, understanding how to develop power effectively is essential for achieving peak performance. This article explores the principles, training strategies, and practical applications recommended by the NSCA to enhance sport-specific power.

Understanding Power in Sport Performance

What Is Power?

Power is a combination of strength and speed, representing how quickly an athlete can generate force. Mathematically, it is expressed as:

- Power = Force x Velocity

This means that an athlete with high strength (force) and the ability to produce movement rapidly (velocity) will have superior power output. In sports, power is critical for actions such as jumping, sprinting, throwing, and explosive lifts.

The Role of Power in Athletic Success

Power influences multiple facets of athletic performance:

- Explosive Movements: Jumping for basketball or volleyball, sprinting in track, and striking in martial arts.
- Injury Prevention: Properly developed power can improve joint stability and movement mechanics.
- Training Efficiency: Enhances overall athletic capacity, allowing athletes to perform skills more effectively.

Principles of Power Development According to NSCA

Specificity

Training should mimic the movement patterns and energy systems used in the athlete?s sport. This means including exercises that replicate sport-specific actions.

Progressive Overload

Gradually increasing the intensity, volume, or complexity of exercises ensures continuous adaptation and power gains.

Proper Technique

Executing exercises with correct form minimizes injury risk and maximizes training effectiveness.

Recovery

Adequate rest between sessions allows muscles to recover and adapt, preventing overtraining.

Effective Training Strategies for Developing Power

Resistance Training Exercises

Power training primarily involves resistance exercises that focus on speed and force production:

- **Olympic Lifts:** Snatch, clean and jerk, which develop total-body explosiveness
- **Jump Squats:** Enhances lower-body power
- **Plyometric Drills:** Box jumps, depth jumps, bounding to improve fast stretch-shortening cycle responses
- **Medicine Ball Throws:** Overhead, rotational, or chest passes to develop explosive upper-body power
- **Deadlifts and Power Cleans:** Promote posterior chain strength and power

Training Variables

Adjusting training variables is vital for optimal power development:

- **Load:** Use loads between 30-70% of 1RM for explosive lifts

- **Repetition Speed:** Focus on moving the weight as quickly as possible during concentric phases
- **Sets and Reps:** Typically 3-5 sets of 3-8 reps for power exercises
- **Rest Intervals:** 2-5 minutes between sets to allow full recovery

Periodization

Implementing a periodized program?dividing training into phases such as hypertrophy, strength, and power?ensures continuous progression and peak performance at the right time.

Sample Power Development Program

Below is an example of a weekly training structure based on NSCA guidelines:

Week 1-4: Focus on Technique and Power

- Monday: Olympic lifts (snatch, clean and jerk) 3-5 sets of 3 reps
- Wednesday: Plyometric drills (box jumps, bounding) 3-4 sets of 8 reps
- Friday: Medicine ball throws and explosive squats 3-4 sets of 6 reps

Week 5-8: Increase Intensity

- Monday: Power cleans and snatch pulls, 4-5 sets of 3 reps
- Wednesday: Depth jumps, 4 sets of 6 reps
- Friday: Jump squats and medicine ball rotational throws, 4 sets of 8 reps

Adjust the volume and intensity according to progress and individual response.

Monitoring and Measuring Power Progress

Tests and Assessments

Regular testing helps track improvements:

- **Vertical Jump Test:** Measures explosive leg power
- **Broad Jump:** Assesses horizontal power
- **Medicine Ball Throw Distance:** Evaluates upper-body explosive strength
- **Sprint Times:** Track speed and acceleration

Using Data for Program Adjustment

Analyzing test results allows coaches and athletes to modify training variables, focus areas, and recovery strategies to maximize power development.

Nutrition and Recovery for Power Training

Nutrition

Adequate nutrition supports muscle repair and energy replenishment:

- Consume sufficient protein (1.2-2.0 g/kg body weight)
- Maintain carbohydrate intake for glycogen replenishment
- Stay hydrated to optimize performance and recovery

Recovery Strategies

Incorporate rest days, sleep, stretching, and foam rolling to facilitate recovery and reduce injury risk.

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Neglecting proper warm-up and cool-down routines
- Sacrificing technique for heavier loads
- Overtraining without adequate rest
- Ignoring sport-specific movement patterns
- Failing to progressively overload training stimuli

Conclusion

Developing power in sport performance requires a comprehensive, scientifically grounded approach that combines appropriate exercise selection, structured programming, and attention to recovery. The NSCA provides valuable guidelines emphasizing specificity, overload, and proper technique to optimize athlete performance. By integrating explosive lifts, plyometrics, and functional movements into training regimens, athletes can achieve significant improvements in their explosive capabilities. Remember, consistent assessment and adjustment are key to sustained progress. With dedication and strategic training, elevating your power levels can translate into enhanced performance across all facets of your sport.

Developing Power NSCA Sport Performance: Unlocking Athletic Potential Through Science and

Strategy

Developing power NSCA sport performance is a critical focus for athletes, coaches, and sport scientists dedicated to elevating athletic ability. Power, the combination of strength and speed, is often the differentiating factor in competitive sports, influencing outcomes in everything from sprinting and jumping to weightlifting and team sports. As the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA) emphasizes, optimizing power requires a systematic approach grounded in scientific principles, individualized programming, and meticulous execution. This article explores the multifaceted process of developing power within the context of NSCA sport performance, providing insights into training methodologies, assessment protocols, nutritional strategies, and injury prevention techniques.

Understanding Power in Sport Performance

The Definition and Importance of Power

Power is defined as the ability to generate force quickly. Mathematically, it is often expressed as:

Power = Force x Velocity

In sports, high power output enables athletes to execute explosive movements such as jumping, sprinting, and rapid changes of direction. It directly correlates with performance metrics like vertical leap height, sprint times, and the ability to overcome opponents physically.

Components of Power

Power development hinges on two primary components:

- Strength: The capacity to produce maximal force.
- Speed: The ability to produce force rapidly.

The interplay between these elements determines an athlete's overall power profile. Training must therefore focus on enhancing both aspects to maximize performance.

Scientific Foundations of Power Development

Neuromuscular Adaptations

Power training stimulates neuromuscular adaptations that improve the efficiency of muscle recruitment, synchronization, and firing rates. These adaptations lead to quicker, more forceful

muscle contractions essential for explosive movements.

Mechanical and Metabolic Factors

Developing power involves optimizing muscular architecture and metabolic pathways:

- Muscle Fiber Types: Fast-twitch fibers (Type II) are primary contributors to explosive power. Training can enhance their recruitment and functional capacity.
- Energy Systems: The phosphagen system provides immediate energy for high-intensity efforts, emphasizing the importance of training that targets this system.

Periodization and Load Management

Structuring training into phases?hypertrophy, strength, power?allows for systematic progression and peak performance. Proper periodization prevents overtraining and facilitates adaptation.

Training Methodologies for Power Development

Resistance Training

Resistance training forms the cornerstone of power development. The NSCA recommends specific approaches:

- Olympic Lifts and Derivatives: Movements like cleans, snatches, and jerks are highly effective for developing explosive power due to their rapid force production and triple extension mechanics.
- Plyometric Exercises: Exercises such as box jumps, depth jumps, and bounding improve stretch-shortening cycle efficiency.
- Contrast Training: Combining heavy resistance exercises with explosive movements enhances neuromuscular coordination and power output.

Velocity-Based Training

Utilizing technology to monitor movement velocity allows for real-time adjustments:

- Ensures training is performed at optimal velocities for power development.
- Prevents excessive fatigue, maintaining quality of movement.
- Facilitates individualized programming based on athlete response.

Explosive Training Protocols

Key principles include:

- Low to Moderate Repetitions: Typically 3-8 reps per set.
- High Intent to Explode: Focus on maximal acceleration.
- Adequate Rest Intervals: 2-5 minutes between sets to maintain high power output.

Assessing Power and Tracking Progress

Performance Tests

Regular assessments help monitor development:

- Vertical Jump Tests: Measures explosive leg power.
- Broad Jump: Evaluates horizontal power.
- Medicine Ball Throws: Assesses upper-body explosive strength.
- Sprint Tests: 10m, 20m sprints gauge acceleration and max velocity.

Using Technology for Precision

- Force Plates: Provide detailed data on force production and rate of force development.
- Motion Capture Systems: Analyze movement mechanics and technique.
- Velocity Sensors and Apps: Track bar speed during lifts to ensure training intensity and velocity targets are met.

Nutrition and Recovery for Power Optimization

Nutritional Strategies

Adequate nutrition supports training adaptations:

- Protein Intake: Essential for muscle repair and growth?recommendations of 1.6 to 2.2 grams per kg of body weight.
- Carbohydrates: Replenish glycogen stores vital for high-intensity efforts.
- Hydration: Maintains performance and prevents fatigue.

Supplementation

Evidence suggests targeted supplements like creatine monohydrate can enhance power output, especially during short, high-intensity efforts.

Recovery Protocols

Proper recovery ensures sustained progress:

- Sleep: 7-9 hours per night for optimal recovery.
- Active Recovery: Light activity to promote blood flow.
- Stretching and Mobility Work: Reduce injury risk and improve movement efficiency.

Injury Prevention and Safety Considerations

Proper Technique and Supervision

Ensuring correct movement mechanics reduces injury risk, especially during complex lifts like Olympic movements.

Progressive Overload

Gradually increasing training intensity and volume prevents overtraining and injury.

Warm-Up and Cool-Down

Dynamic warm-ups activate muscles and prepare the body, while cool-down routines facilitate recovery.

Integrating Power Training into a Comprehensive Sport Performance Program

Individualization

Tailoring programs based on athlete?s sport, position, age, and training history yields better results.

Periodization and Planning

Structured phases focus on different aspects?hypertrophy, strength, power?culminating in peak performance during competition.

Cross-Training and Complementary Modalities

Incorporating aerobic conditioning, flexibility, and sport-specific drills creates well-rounded athletes.

The Role of the NSCA in Power Development

The NSCA provides evidence-based guidelines and resources:

- Certifications: NSCA-CSCS certification emphasizes scientific training principles.
- Research and Publications: Journals and articles inform best practices.
- Workshops and Seminars: Ongoing education ensures practitioners stay current.

Conclusion: The Path to Peak Power

Developing power NSCA sport performance is a dynamic, multifaceted process rooted in science and tailored to individual needs. It involves understanding the physiological basis of power, employing effective training methodologies, assessing progress accurately, and ensuring proper nutrition and recovery. With a strategic approach, grounded in evidence-based practices, athletes can unlock their full explosive potential, gaining a competitive edge in their respective sports. As the field evolves, continued research and innovation will further refine techniques, making power development an ever-advancing frontier in sport performance enhancement.

QuestionAnswer What are the key principles of developing power in NSCA sport performance training? The key principles include specificity, progressive overload, proper technique, adequate recovery, and integrating various training modalities like plyometrics, Olympic lifts, and strength training to optimize power development. How does neuromuscular training enhance power development in athletes? Neuromuscular training improves the efficiency of muscle activation and coordination, leading to increased force production, quicker reaction times, and overall enhanced power output during sport-specific movements. What role does periodization play in developing power for athletes using NSCA guidelines? Periodization systematically varies training intensity and volume over time, allowing athletes to peak at the right moments, reduce injury risk, and maximize power gains through structured, progressive training phases. Which types of exercises are most effective for developing explosive power in sport performance? Exercises such as Olympic lifts (clean and jerk, snatch), plyometrics, medicine ball throws, and sprinting drills are highly effective for developing explosive power due to their high-velocity, dynamic nature. How important is recovery and nutrition in the process of developing power in NSCA-based training? Recovery and nutrition are crucial; proper rest allows muscles to repair and adapt, while adequate nutrition supplies the necessary nutrients for energy, muscle growth, and overall performance enhancement. What are common mistakes to avoid when designing a power development program based on NSCA principles? Common mistakes include neglecting proper technique, overtraining without adequate

recovery, ignoring individual athlete needs, and failing to incorporate a progressive overload approach. How can coaches assess an athlete's readiness to progress in power training programs? Assessment methods include performance tests (e.g., vertical jump, sprint times), monitoring fatigue levels, injury status, and ensuring proper technique and form before increasing training intensity or volume. What is the role of velocity-based training in developing power according to NSCA standards? Velocity-based training allows coaches to monitor movement speed, ensuring exercises are performed at optimal velocities for power development, enhancing training specificity and effectiveness. How does sport-specific training integrate into developing power for different athletic disciplines? Sport-specific training tailors power exercises to match the movement patterns, energy systems, and demands of the sport, thereby improving transferability of power gains to actual performance. What are the latest trends in developing power for sport performance according to NSCA research? Emerging trends include the use of wearable technology for real-time feedback, velocity-based training, integrating eccentric training, and combining traditional strength training with innovative modalities like blood flow restriction and neuromuscular electrical stimulation.

Related keywords: sports performance, athletic development, strength training, NSCA certification, performance enhancement, sports science, training programs, athletic coaching, fitness testing, conditioning programs

nsca performance training journal

Understanding the NSCA Performance Training Journal

nsca performance training journal is a highly regarded publication within the strength and conditioning community. Published by the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA), this journal serves as a vital resource for professionals, researchers, coaches, and students dedicated to improving athletic performance through science-based training methods. The journal offers a comprehensive platform for disseminating the latest research, practical applications, case studies, and expert insights in the field of performance training.

This article explores the significance of the NSCA Performance Training Journal, its content features, benefits for readers, and how it contributes to advancing the knowledge and practice of strength and conditioning professionals worldwide.

The Role of the NSCA Performance Training Journal in the Strength and Conditioning Community

Promoting Evidence-Based Practice

The NSCA Performance Training Journal emphasizes the importance of integrating scientific research into practical training protocols. It bridges the gap between academia and applied sports science, ensuring that practitioners stay informed about the latest developments.

Key contributions include:

- Presenting peer-reviewed research studies
- Analyzing emerging trends in training methods
- Offering critiques and discussions on new technologies

Supporting Continuing Education

For professionals seeking to maintain certifications or expand their expertise, the journal provides valuable continuing education resources. Many articles are accompanied by summaries, quizzes, or references aligned with NSCA certification programs.

Fostering Community and Knowledge Sharing

The journal acts as a hub for the strength and conditioning community, encouraging dialogue among practitioners worldwide. Through case studies and expert commentary, it promotes the exchange of ideas and best practices.

Content Highlights of the NSCA Performance Training Journal

Research Articles and Scientific Studies

The core of the journal comprises rigorous research articles that examine various aspects of performance training, such as:

- Resistance training protocols
- Plyometric and power development
- Speed and agility enhancement
- Injury prevention strategies
- Recovery and nutrition science

These articles are typically authored by leading academics and seasoned practitioners, ensuring credibility and relevance.

Practical Application and Training Tips

Beyond research, the journal offers actionable advice for coaches and trainers, including:

- Program design and periodization
- Exercise progressions and regressions
- Monitoring and assessment techniques
- Implementing new technology in training

Case Studies and Success Stories

Real-world examples from sports teams, individual athletes, and training facilities illustrate how scientific principles are applied successfully, providing readers with inspiration and ideas to adapt to their contexts.

Expert Columns and Opinion Pieces

Regular contributions from industry leaders provide insights into emerging trends, challenges in performance training, and future directions for the field.

Benefits of Reading the NSCA Performance Training Journal

Staying Current with Scientific Advances

Readers gain access to cutting-edge research and innovations, allowing them to implement the most effective and up-to-date training strategies.

Enhancing Professional Credibility

Knowledge gained from the journal supports evidence-based decision-making, which enhances the credibility and effectiveness of practitioners' programs.

Networking and Professional Development

Engaging with the journal's content encourages connection with a global community of professionals, fostering collaborations and career growth.

Improving Athlete Outcomes

Applying scientifically grounded training methods can lead to improved performance, reduced injury risk, and accelerated athlete development.

How to Access and Utilize the NSCA Performance Training Journal

Subscription and Membership Benefits

Most NSCA members receive the journal as part of their membership package, which includes:

- Online access to current and archived issues
- Downloadable PDFs for offline reading
- Notifications of upcoming editions and special issues

Non-members can also subscribe to individual issues or digital bundles.

Maximizing the Use of the Journal

To get the most out of the journal:

- Dedicate regular time for reading and note-taking
- Integrate new insights into your training programs
- Participate in NSCA webinars or conferences linked to journal topics
- Engage in discussions on social media or professional forums

Future Directions and Trends in the NSCA Performance Training Journal

Emerging Topics in Performance Science

The journal is increasingly focusing on innovative areas such as:

- Wearable technology and data analytics
- Recovery modalities and sleep science
- Athlete mental health and psychological resilience
- Adaptive training for special populations

Open Access and Digital Innovations

To broaden reach, the NSCA is exploring more open-access articles, multimedia content, and interactive features, making knowledge more accessible and engaging.

Conclusion: The Essential Resource for Strength and Conditioning Professionals

The **nsca performance training journal** stands as an essential resource for anyone committed to excellence in performance training. Its combination of scientific rigor, practical insights, and community engagement makes it a cornerstone publication in the field. Whether you're a coach striving to optimize athlete performance, a researcher investigating new training modalities, or a student entering the strength and conditioning industry, the NSCA Performance Training Journal offers invaluable guidance and inspiration.

By regularly engaging with its content, professionals can stay at the forefront of the field, apply the latest evidence-based practices, and contribute to the ongoing advancement of athletic performance and health. As the landscape of sports science evolves, the NSCA Performance Training Journal remains a trusted partner in the pursuit of excellence.

NSCA Performance Training Journal: A Comprehensive Review of Its Value and Impact

The NSCA Performance Training Journal stands as a cornerstone publication for strength and conditioning professionals, sports scientists, coaches, and athletic trainers committed to advancing their knowledge and practice. With its rich history rooted in evidence-based research, practical application, and a forward-thinking approach, this journal plays a pivotal role in shaping modern performance training paradigms. In this review, we will explore the journal?s origins, core features, content quality, target audience, and its significance within the broader sports science community.

Origins and Mission of the NSCA Performance Training Journal

The National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA)

Established in 1978, the NSCA has grown into a leading organization dedicated to advancing the field of strength and conditioning. Its mission emphasizes education, research, and the dissemination of best practices to enhance athletic performance and improve health outcomes.

Purpose of the Performance Training Journal

Launched as a specialized publication, the NSCA Performance Training Journal aims to:

- Bridge the gap between research findings and practical application
- Offer evidence-based insights tailored to practitioners
- Foster ongoing professional development
- Highlight innovative training methodologies and emerging trends

Core Features and Structure

Content Diversity

The journal features a wide array of content types, including:

- Original research articles
- Literature reviews
- Case studies
- Practical application guides
- Opinion pieces from leading experts
- Training program templates
- Industry news and updates

Regular Sections

The journal is organized into recurring sections that provide consistency and comprehensive coverage:

- Research in Brief: Summaries of recent scientific studies relevant to performance training
- Practical Perspectives: Real-world insights from practitioners implementing new techniques
- Technique Focus: Detailed breakdowns of exercises, coaching cues, and movement analysis
- Program Design: Strategies for constructing effective training plans tailored to various populations
- Emerging Trends: Exploration of cutting-edge topics like technology integration, recovery modalities, or nutrition

Content Quality and Scientific Rigor

Evidence-Based Approach

The NSCA Performance Training Journal maintains a strong commitment to scientific integrity:

- Peer-reviewed articles ensure credibility
- Emphasis on research validity, reproducibility, and statistical significance
- Critical appraisal of existing literature, highlighting gaps and future directions

Practical Relevance

While grounded in science, the journal prioritizes applicability:

- Clear, actionable recommendations
- Step-by-step guides for program implementation
- Case examples illustrating real-world challenges and solutions

Interdisciplinary Focus

The publication often integrates perspectives from:

- Exercise physiology
- biomechanics
- nutrition
- psychology
- injury prevention

This holistic approach enriches the content and supports comprehensive training strategies.

Target Audience and Community Engagement

Primary Readers

The journal primarily serves:

- Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialists (CSCS)
- Sports scientists
- Athletic trainers
- Coaches at various levels
- Exercise physiologists
- Physical therapists interested in performance training

Community and Networking

Beyond the pages, the NSCA fosters a vibrant community:

- Conferences and workshops
- Certification programs

- Online forums and webinars
- Social media engagement

These platforms allow practitioners to discuss journal insights, share experiences, and collaborate on research initiatives.

Significance and Impact in the Field

Knowledge Dissemination

The NSCA Performance Training Journal acts as a vital conduit for distributing the latest scientific discoveries to practitioners, ensuring that training practices evolve with emerging evidence.

Professional Development

Regular readership helps professionals:

- Stay current with innovations
- Enhance their skill set
- Meet continuing education requirements
- Obtain certifications and credentials

Influencing Practice and Policy

The journal?s insights often influence:

- Coaching philosophies
- Facility programming standards
- Policy development in sports organizations

Promoting Innovation

By spotlighting emerging technologies like wearable sensors, AI-driven analytics, and virtual training tools, the journal encourages practitioners to adopt innovative solutions.

Strengths of the NSCA Performance Training Journal

Comprehensive and Up-to-Date Content

The journal consistently provides timely information on:

- Scientific research
- Practical applications
- Industry trends

Quality of Contributors

Articles are authored by:

- Renowned researchers
- Experienced practitioners
- Industry thought leaders

This diversity ensures a well-rounded perspective.

Focus on Practical Implementation

The journal?s emphasis on translating science into practice makes it invaluable for on-the-ground professionals seeking actionable insights.

Resources and Supplements

Subscribers often benefit from:

- Downloadable training templates
- Video demonstrations
- Webinars and supplementary materials

Accessibility

While rooted in scientific rigor, the journal maintains clarity and accessibility, catering to both academics and practitioners.

Areas for Growth and Considerations

Digital Presence

Expanding online content, podcasts, and interactive features could further enhance engagement.

Diversity of Perspectives

Encouraging contributions from international experts and emerging voices can diversify insights.

Focus on Youth and Special Populations

Greater emphasis on training adaptations for youth, older adults, and special populations would broaden applicability.

Practical Application and How to Maximize Benefits

Subscribing and Regular Reading

Professionals should consider subscribing to stay informed about the latest developments.

Integrating Insights into Practice

Readers can:

- Implement new training methodologies
- Adjust programs based on current research
- Use evidence-based techniques to optimize athlete performance

Continuing Education

The journal can serve as a foundation for workshops, certifications, or academic pursuits.

Conclusion: Why the NSCA Performance Training Journal Matters

In an era where sports science is rapidly evolving, the NSCA Performance Training Journal remains an essential resource for practitioners dedicated to excellence. Its blend of scientific rigor, practical relevance, and community engagement makes it a standout publication in the field of performance training. Whether you?re a seasoned coach, a researcher, or an aspiring professional, regularly engaging with this journal can elevate your understanding, inform your practice, and ultimately enhance athlete outcomes.

Investing in this publication not only supports your professional growth but also contributes to the broader mission of advancing safe, effective, and innovative performance training practices

worldwide.

QuestionAnswer What is the NSCA Performance Training Journal? The NSCA Performance Training Journal is a publication by the National Strength and Conditioning Association that features research, training protocols, and practical applications for strength and conditioning professionals. How can the NSCA Performance Training Journal benefit sports performance coaches? It provides evidence-based insights, innovative training techniques, and case studies that help coaches design effective programs to enhance athlete performance and reduce injury risk. Is the NSCA Performance Training Journal suitable for beginners in strength training? While it primarily targets professionals, the journal offers valuable foundational knowledge that can benefit beginners seeking to understand advanced training concepts. How often is the NSCA Performance Training Journal published? The journal is published periodically, typically quarterly, providing the latest research and trends in strength and conditioning. Can I access the NSCA Performance Training Journal digitally? Yes, members of the NSCA can access the journal online through the NSCA's digital platform, allowing for convenient access to the latest issues. Does the NSCA Performance Training Journal include practical workout programs? Yes, it features practical training programs, exercise progressions, and programming tips tailored for different sports and training goals. How does the NSCA Performance Training Journal stay relevant to current training trends? It regularly incorporates the latest research, expert opinions, and real-world case studies to ensure content aligns with evolving practices in sports performance and strength training.

Related keywords: NSCA, performance training, strength and conditioning, sports science, athletic training, training journal, NSCA journal, performance enhancement, fitness research, exercise science

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