

# Dental therapist

A dental therapist does some of the more straightforward work undertaken by a dentist.



## Working life

More dental surgeries have dental therapists working for them to do routine dental work. As a therapist, you'll have independence without the full responsibility of running a practice. You can also provide treatment in other parts of the community, such as schools and care homes.

Health education would be an important part of your role such as offering advice to patients on looking after their oral health. You'll also carry out a range of procedures including:

- scaling and polishing
- applying materials to teeth such as fluoride and fissure sealants
- taking dental x-rays
- taking impressions of teeth
- undertaking routine dental fixes of baby and permanent teeth
- putting in crowns
- extracting teeth

## Annette Matthews

### Dental therapist and hygienist

My days vary, depending which practices I am working in. I have busy days which include back-to-back restorative dentistry and there are days when I focus on prevention and dental hygiene.

[Read Annette's story](#) <sup>[1]</sup>

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Health education would be an important part of your role such as offering advice to patients on looking after their oral health. You'll also carry out a range of procedures including:

- scaling and polishing
- applying materials to teeth such as fluoride and fissure sealants
- taking dental x-rays
- taking impressions of teeth
- undertaking routine dental fixes of baby and permanent teeth
- putting in crowns
- extracting teeth

Dental therapists can also develop additional skills including:

- carrying out tooth whitening
- removing sutures after a dentist has checked the wound

You'll treat a range of patients with different treatment needs including those who:

Dental therapists may treat patients who have high treatment needs.

- are dentally anxious
- have learning or physical disabilities
- have high levels of untreated decay
- are unable to access regular dental care in the general dental service

## Entry requirements

To practise as a dental therapist, you must obtain a diploma or degree in dental therapy and be registered with the [General Dental Council](#) [2].

You'll need five GCSE subjects at grade 4-7 or A to C, plus two A-levels or a recognised qualification in dental nursing. You may also be required to have some experience of dental nursing before taking the course.

## Must have skills

You will patience and excellent communication and interpersonal skills. You'll need empathy and be caring approach along with proficient, highly technical clinical skills. You'll need to be confident to work on your own and be able to put even the youngest of patients at ease. Good time management and organisational skills are essential, along with attention to health and safety procedures. At all times, a dental therapist needs to be mindful of the need for patient confidentiality.

## Training and development

The diploma in dental therapy course takes about 27 months, depending on the dental hospital at which you study. Some dental schools offer part time courses for dental hygienists wishing to qualify as dental therapists.

Subjects studied include:

- preventive dentistry
- dental health education
- dental pathology
- simple restorative procedures for both deciduous and permanent teeth
- the extraction of deciduous teeth (previously known as baby teeth)
- radiography and pharmacology

If you are studying dental therapy at level 5 or 6 you could be eligible to receive at least £5,000 a year towards your studies while at university. Your personal circumstances may mean you could receive more. And the good news? You'll never have to pay it back. [Find out more.](#) <sup>[3]</sup>

## Career development

You'll be expected to keep up to date with the latest techniques and developments, including best practice. Your professional development will be identified through performance reviews and will be part of your mandatory requirements for General Dental Council register.

With experience, you can progress to become a practice manager or move into research. You could move into teaching roles or become an orthodontic therapist.

## Pay and benefits

Dental therapists may be self-employed or employed directly by a dental practice so your working hours and pay will vary but some evening or weekend work may be required.

If you work for the the NHS in a hospital or community clinic, your starting salary might be at bands 5 or 6 of the [Agenda for Change](#) <sup>[4]</sup> pay scale. You'll typically work 37.5 hours a week.

### • Find your course to become a dental therapist

Region	Type of qualification	Full or part time
- Any - ▼	- Any - ▼	Search <input type="text"/> ▼

Displaying 26 - 28 of 28 matches

## Oral Health Science

Glasgow Caledonian University

[View course](#) <sup>[5]</sup> Opens in a new window

- Qualification
  - BSc
- Study mode
  - Full-time
- Duration of the course
  - 3 years
- Leading to a career in

- Dental hygiene or therapy
- Contact details
  - [studentenquiries@gcu.ac.uk](mailto:studentenquiries@gcu.ac.uk) <sup>[6]</sup>
  - 0141 331 8630
- Region
  - Scotland
- Admissions address
  - Cowcaddens Road
  - Glasgow
  - G4 0BA

## Dental hygiene DipHE

Bangor University

[View course](#) <sup>[7]</sup> Opens in a new window

- Study mode
  - Full-time
- Duration of the course
  - 2 years
- Leading to a career in
  - Dental hygiene or therapy
- Contact details
  - [admissions@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@bangor.ac.uk) <sup>[8]</sup>
  - +44 (0) 1248351151
- Region
  - Wales
- Admissions address
  - Bangor,
  - Gwynedd,
  - LL57 2DG,
  - UK

## Oral health science BSc

University of Dundee

[View course](#) <sup>[9]</sup> Opens in a new window

- Qualification
  - BSc
- Study mode
  - Full-time
- Duration of the course
  - 3 years
- Leading to a career in
  - Dental hygiene or therapy
- Contact details
  - +44 (0)1382 383838
- Region

Scotland  
Admissions address  
University of Dundee  
Nethergate  
Dundee  
DD1 4HN  
Scotland, UK

○

## • **Live vacancies**

### Find a vacancy

Enter your location or postcode

Show results within

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#### ○ **Dental Therapist**

Newmarket, CB8 7BT

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Primary Care Careers

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Therapist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[10]</sup>

#### ○ **Community Dental Fellow (Therapist) \*\* with fully funded PG Cert \*\***

Boston, PE21 8RU

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Community Dental Services CIC

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Community Dental Fellow \(Therapist\) \\*\\* with fully](#)

funded PG Cert \*\* job (opens in a new window) [11]

- **Dental Nurse**

Bracknell, RG12 2UT

Salary:

£14.82

Type:

Bank

Employer:

NHS Professionals Limited

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Nurse job (opens in a new window) [12]

- **Dental Nurse**

Pontypridd, CF37 1LB

Salary:

£26928.00 to £29551.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Nurse job (opens in a new window) [13]

- **Dental Technician**

Bristol, BS2 1LY

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust (UHBW)

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Technician job (opens in a new window) [14]

- **Dental Officer**

Carlton, Nottingham, NG4 3DQ

Salary:

£50512.00 to £75767.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Community Dental Services CIC

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Officer job (opens in a new window) [15]

- **Dental Officer**

Gloucester, GL1 2DB

Salary:

£50512.00 to £75767.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Officer job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[16]</sup>

- **Dental Technician**

Bristol, BS12LX

Salary:

£30805.00 to £35116.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University of Bristol

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Technician job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[17]</sup>

- **Dental Nurse**

Liverpool, L12 2AP

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Nurse job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[18]</sup>

- **Dental Nurse**

Bradford, BD18 3LD

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Bradford District Care NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Nurse job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[19]</sup>

- **Dental Associate**

Frinton on Sea, CO13 0AR

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Primary Care Careers

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Associate job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[20]</sup>

- **Dental Officer**

Wellingborough, NN8 1LP

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Northamptonshire Healthcare Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Officer job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[21]</sup>

- **Dental Practitioner**

Beverley, HU17 7BZ

Salary:

£50512.00 to £75767.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

City Health Care Partnership CIC

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Practitioner job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[22]</sup>

- **Dental Nurse**

Bradford, BD18 3LD

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Bradford District Care NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Nurse job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[23]</sup>

- **Dental Nurse**

Bath, BA1 3NG

Salary:

£26530.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Nurse job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[24]</sup>

- **Clinical Dental Director, Buckinghamshire Priority Dental Service**

Milton Keynes, MK6 5NG

Salary:

£94007.00 to £108038.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Dental Director, Buckinghamshire Priority Dental Service job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[25]</sup>

- **Dental Nurse - Worcester**

Worcester, WR1 1AA

Salary:

£275.00

Type:

Bank

Employer:

18 Week Support Limited

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Nurse - Worcester job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

<sup>[26]</sup>

- **Registered Dental Nurse**

Liverpool, L3 5PS

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Registered Dental Nurse job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

<sup>[27]</sup>

- **Senior Dental Nurse**

Ashton-Under-Lyne, OL6 9RW

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Dental Nurse job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[28]</sup>

- **Community Dental Nurse**

Bridlington, YO16 4QP

Salary:

£24071.00 to £25674.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

City Health Care Partnership CIC

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Community Dental Nurse job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

<sup>[29]</sup>

- **Dental Nurse Specialist**

Thornton Heath, CR7 7YE

Salary:

£34521.00 to £41956.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Croydon Health Services NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Nurse Specialist job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

<sup>[30]</sup>

- **Registered Dental Nurse**

Warwick, CV34 5AE

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

South Warwickshire University NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Registered Dental Nurse job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

<sup>[31]</sup>

- **Senior Dental Nurse**

Manchester, M21 9NJ

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Dental Nurse job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[32]</sup>

- **Registered Dental Nurse**

317 04 Newcastle Community Dental, NE4 6BT

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Registered Dental Nurse job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

<sup>[33]</sup>

- **Senior Dental Officer**

Cowes, PO31 7ER

Salary:

£78573.00 to £91903.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Dental Officer job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[34]</sup>

- **Registered Dental Nurse**

Liverpool, L3 5PS

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Registered Dental Nurse job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

<sup>[35]</sup>

- **Registered Dental Nurse**

Liverpool, L3 5PS

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Registered Dental Nurse job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[36]

- **Qualified Dental Nurse**

Manchester, M239LT

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Qualified Dental Nurse job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[37]

- **Dental Nurse - Telford**

Telford, TF1 1AA

Salary:

£275.00

Type:

Bank

Employer:

18 Week Support Limited

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Nurse - Telford job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [38]

- **Dental Administrative Assistant**

Newtown, SY16 1EG

Salary:

£23970.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Powys Teaching Health Board

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Administrative Assistant job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[window](#) <sup>[39]</sup>

- **Trainee Dental Technician (XR02)**

Leeds, LS2 9LU

Salary:

£23615.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Leeds Teaching Hospitals

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trainee Dental Technician \(XR02\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[40]</sup>

- **Dental Nurse – Mobile Services**

Suffolk, IP2 8AL

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Community Dental Services CIC

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Nurse – Mobile Services job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[41]</sup>

- **Dental Nurse - Maxillofacial Department**

Harrogate, HG2 7SX

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Nurse - Maxillofacial Department job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[42]</sup>

- **Dental Receptionist/Support Worker**

Hull, HU9 2LJ

Salary:

£24169.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

City Health Care Partnership CIC

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Receptionist/Support Worker job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[43]</sup>

- **Entry Level Dental Nurse**

Bradford District, BD7 3EG

Salary:

£24625.00 to £25674.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Bradford District Care NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Entry Level Dental Nurse job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

<sup>[44]</sup>

- **Band 4 Civilian Dental Nurse**

Tidworth, SP9 7BQ

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Ministry of Defence (Defence Medical Services)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Band 4 Civilian Dental Nurse job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[45]</sup>

- **Band 5 Senior Dental Nurse**

Birmingham, B5 7EG

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS FT

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Band 5 Senior Dental Nurse job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[46]</sup>

- **Band 5 Civilian Dental Hygienist**

Aylesbury, HP22 5PG

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Ministry of Defence (Defence Medical Services)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Band 5 Civilian Dental Hygienist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[47]</sup>

- **Training Programme Director - Dental Core**

Liverpool, L3 4BL

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Secondment

Employer:

NHS England

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Training Programme Director - Dental Core job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[48]</sup>

- **Band 5 Civilian Dental Hygienist**

Chippenham, SN15 4PZ

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Ministry of Defence (Defence Medical Services)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Band 5 Civilian Dental Hygienist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[49]</sup>

- **Dental Foundation Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery**

Harrow, HA1 3UJ

Salary:

£41750.00 to £54468.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Foundation Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[50]</sup>

- **Band 5 Civilian Dental Hygienist**

Warminster, BA12 0DJ

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Ministry of Defence (Defence Medical Services)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Band 5 Civilian Dental Hygienist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[51]</sup>

- **Band 5 Civilian Dental Hygienist (CDH)**

RMB Chivenor, EX31 1AZ

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Ministry of Defence (Defence Medical Services)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Band 5 Civilian Dental Hygienist \(CDH\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[52]</sup>

- **Advanced Clinical Dental Nurse – Mobile Services**

Suffolk, IP2 8AL

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Community Dental Services CIC

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Advanced Clinical Dental Nurse – Mobile Services job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[53]</sup>

- **Band 5 Civilian Dental Hygienist (CDH)**

Hampshire, RG29 1QT

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Ministry of Defence (Defence Medical Services)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Band 5 Civilian Dental Hygienist \(CDH\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[54]</sup>

- **Head of Children's Dental Service Clinical Lead**

Guernsey, GY4 6UU

Salary:

£99741.00 to £112397.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

States of Guernsey

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Head of Children's Dental Service Clinical Lead job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[55]</sup>

- **Dentally Qual Med Student, Oral Surgery (3 posts)**

Worcester, WR51DD

Salary:

£49909.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dentally Qual Med Student, Oral Surgery \(3 posts\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[56]</sup>

- **Nurse Specialist for ENT, Dental and Maxillofacial Services**

London, WC1N 3JH

Salary:

£44806.00 to £53133.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nurse Specialist for ENT, Dental and Maxillofacial Services job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[57]</sup>

- **Deputy General Manager, Main Neuro and Dental Radiology**

London, SE5 9RS

Salary:

£70387.00 to £80465.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Deputy General Manager, Main Neuro and Dental Radiology job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[58]</sup>

- **Registered Dental Nurse Link Grade Band 4-5**

Oxford, OX39DU

Salary:

£26530.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Registered Dental Nurse Link Grade Band 4-5 job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[59]</sup>

- **Band A Salaried Dentist - Vauxhall PDS/Community Dental Service**

Liverpool, L5 8XR

Salary:

£50512.00 to £75767.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Band A Salaried Dentist - Vauxhall PDS/Community Dental Service job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[60]</sup>

- **Community Dental Fellow (Dentist) \*\* with fully funded PG Cert \*\***

Clifton, Nottingham, NG11 8EW

Salary:

£50512.00 to £75767.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Community Dental Services CIC

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Community Dental Fellow \(Dentist\) \\*\\* with fully funded PG Cert \\*\\* job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[61]</sup>

- **CBT Therapist/High Intensity Therapist**

County Wide, GL3 4AW

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust  
[Apply now on NHS Jobs for CBT Therapist/High Intensity Therapist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[62]</sup>

- **Psychological Therapist (Cognitive Behavioural Therapist)**

Birmingham, B29 6JB

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Psychological Therapist \(Cognitive Behavioural Therapist\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[63]</sup>

- **Senior Speech and Language Therapist/ Occupational Therapist**

home, TN25 4AZ

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Speech and Language Therapist/ Occupational Therapist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[64]</sup>

- **Psychotherapist, Psychologist Systemic family Therapist, CBT Therapist**

Dartford, DA1 2EN

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

NELFT North East London Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Psychotherapist, Psychologist Systemic family Therapist, CBT Therapist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[65]</sup>

- **Occupational Therapist**

Hemel Hempstead, HP39BF  
Stevenage, SG1 2ST

Salary:

£37035.00 to £40476.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Hertfordshire County Council

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Occupational Therapist job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[66]

- **Occupational Therapist**

Stafford, ST19 9QT

Salary:

£27982.50 to £35958.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Active Care Group

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Occupational Therapist job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[67]

- **Occupational Therapist**

Littlehampton, BN17 7QU

Salary:

£37338.00 to £39405.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Occupational Therapist job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[68]

- **Occupational Therapist**

Kettering, NN16 8UZ

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Kettering General Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Occupational Therapist job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

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