

DRESSAGE TESTS NOVICE 27 Updated Version

Dressage Tests Novice 27: A Comprehensive Guide to Mastering This Essential Equestrian Test

If you're an aspiring dressage rider or a horse enthusiast looking to advance your skills, understanding the intricacies of the Dressage Tests Novice 27 is essential. This particular test is a key stepping stone for riders competing at the novice level, helping develop fundamental skills in precision, harmony, and control. In this article, we'll explore everything you need to know about Dressage Tests Novice 27, including its structure, scoring, tips for success, and how to prepare effectively.

Understanding Dressage Tests Novice 27

What is Dressage Tests Novice 27?

Dressage Tests Novice 27 is a standardized dressage test used in competitions designed for novice-level riders and their horses. The test is recognized by various dressage organizations and often serves as a qualifying or progression test for riders moving beyond introductory levels. The number "27" typically indicates the specific test number within a series, often associated with a particular governing body or competition level.

This test emphasizes fundamental movements such as circles, transitions, and simple lateral work, all performed at a walk and trot. The goal is to demonstrate the horse's responsiveness, balance, and the rider's ability to execute movements with precision and harmony.

Key Objectives of the Test

- Develop a harmonious partnership between horse and rider.
- Demonstrate control and flexibility through basic movements.
- Improve accuracy and rhythm.
- Assess the horse's obedience and suppleness.
- Provide a foundation for higher-level dressage tests.

Structure of Dressage Tests Novice 27

Test Layout and Movements

Dressage Tests Novice 27 generally follow a set pattern around a marked arena, measuring 20m x 60m or 20m x 40m depending on the competition rules. The test includes a series of predefined movements that the rider and horse execute in sequence.

Typical movements include:

- Entering at A and Halt, Salute
- Walk on a long rein
- Transition to trot
- Working trot circles (e.g., 10m or 15m diameter)
- Simple lateral movements like leg yield or shoulder-in
- Transitions between walk and trot
- Serpentine or figure-eight patterns
- Exit at the final marker, finishing with a salute

Note that the exact sequence and movements may vary slightly depending on the governing body or specific test version.

Timing and Scoring

- The entire test typically lasts between 4-6 minutes.
- Judges score each movement on a scale from 0 (poor) to 10 (excellent).
- Penalties are given for errors such as over- or under-rotation, incorrect transitions, or deviations from the pattern.
- The final score is an accumulated total, with the highest possible score being 200 points in many formats.

Preparing for Dressage Tests Novice 27

Training Tips

To excel in Dressage Tests Novice 27, consistent practice and strategic preparation are vital:

- **Master the Basics:** Ensure your horse responds well to transitions and movements at the walk and trot.
- **Practice Specific Movements:** Focus on circles, transitions, and lateral work that are featured in the test.
- **Use a Mirror or Video:** Analyze your performance to identify areas for improvement.

- **Work with a Qualified Coach:** Get professional feedback to refine your technique.
- **Simulate the Test:** Run through the entire pattern multiple times to build confidence and consistency.

Challenges to Anticipate

- Maintaining rhythm and balance throughout the test.
- Executing accurate transitions without hesitation.
- Keeping the horse relaxed and responsive under pressure.
- Navigating tight circles and lateral movements smoothly.

Scoring and Improving Your Performance

Understanding Judge Feedback

Judges provide valuable insights through scores and comments that highlight strengths and areas needing improvement. Pay attention to:

- Overall impression
- Gaits and impulsion
- Transitions
- Accuracy of movements
- Posture and effectiveness of the rider

Strategies for Higher Scores

- Focus on the quality of gaits, aiming for smoothness and cadence.
- Maintain consistent rhythm and tempo.
- Use subtle aids to communicate clearly with your horse.
- Practice transitions until they are seamless.
- Keep your posture upright but relaxed, and stay calm.

Key Equipment and Arena Setup

Essential Tack and Attire

- Well-fitted bridle and saddle appropriate for the horse.

- Clean, comfortable riding attire adhering to competition standards.
- Number bib for identification.
- Spurs or whips only if permitted.

Arena Preparation

- Ensure the arena surface is suitable for safe riding.
- Mark the points (A, B, C, D, E, F, K, M, and H) clearly.
- Place cones or markers for specific movements if required.

Additional Resources and Support

- Official Dressage Test Sheets: Obtain copies of the specific Novice 27 test for practice.
- Video Tutorials: Many online platforms offer walkthroughs of the test.
- Dressage Clinics: Attend clinics to receive professional critique.
- Dressage Forums and Communities: Connect with fellow riders for tips and encouragement.

Conclusion

Mastering Dressage Tests Novice 27 is a rewarding journey that lays a solid foundation for progressing in the sport of dressage. By understanding the test's structure, practicing diligently, and focusing on harmony with your horse, you'll develop the skills necessary to perform confidently and earn high marks. Remember, patience and consistency are key?every ride brings you closer to achieving your dressage goals. Whether you're competing locally or aiming for higher levels, a thorough preparation for Novice 27 will serve you well in your equestrian journey.

Dressage Tests Novice 27: A Comprehensive Guide to Mastering the Basics and Excelling in Your First Competitive Test

Embarking on your dressage journey often begins with understanding the intricacies of your test. For riders preparing for the Dressage Tests Novice 27, this particular test offers an excellent opportunity to demonstrate fundamental riding skills, communication with your horse, and your ability to perform a series of precise movements. Whether you're a newcomer eager to make a good impression or a seasoned rider refining your foundation, mastering the Dressage Tests Novice 27 is a crucial step toward progressing in dressage. In this comprehensive guide, we'll break down every aspect of the test, offering insights, tips, and detailed analysis to help you perform confidently and correctly.

What is the Dressage Tests Novice 27?

The Dressage Tests Novice 27 is a standardized dressage test often used at introductory levels in competitions. It is designed to assess a rider's ability to execute basic dressage movements with correctness, rhythm, and harmony. This test provides a balanced mix of fundamental exercises that serve as building blocks for more advanced dressage.

Key characteristics of the Novice 27 test include:

- Emphasis on walk and trot work
- Basic transitions between paces
- Straightness and bend
- Accurate circles and figures
- Proper positioning and aids

Knowing what to expect from the test helps riders prepare mentally and physically, ensuring they can focus on executing each movement with precision.

Understanding the Test Structure

The Basic Layout

The Novice 27 test is typically performed over a marked arena, often 20x40 meters or 20x60 meters, depending on the level and competition guidelines. The test comprises a series of movements and transitions, each performed at specified points in the arena.

Typical Movements Included

- Halt and salute
- Walk and trot work in straight lines
- Simple and volte circles
- Transitions within and between paces
- Changes of rein
- Basic figures such as serpentines and diagonals

Timing and Scoring

Each movement is scored on a scale of 0-10, with deductions for errors such as loss of balance, incorrect transitions, or poor positioning. The overall score reflects the rider's harmony, accuracy, and effectiveness of communication with the horse.

Step-by-Step Breakdown of the Novice 27 Test

- Starting the Test: Halt and Salute

- Positioning: Approach the arena at a walk, halt smoothly at the designated point, and salute the judge confidently.

- Tips: Maintain a straight line, keep your horse steady, and ensure your posture signals readiness.

- Walk on a Long Rein

- Transition smoothly into a walk, maintaining a steady rhythm.

- Keep your hands low and steady, allowing your horse to stretch forward comfortably.

- Basic Walk and Trot Transitions

- Perform controlled transitions between walk and trot at designated points.

- Focus on clarity and promptness, avoiding rushing or dragging.

- Circles and Figures

- Execute circles of specified diameters (commonly 10-15 meters) with accuracy.

- Maintain consistent bend and rhythm throughout.

- Diagonals and Straight Lines

- Ride straight diagonals and straight sections of the arena with precision.

- Keep your horse straight and attentive.

- Changes of Rein and Figures

- Perform simple changes of rein at designated points.
- Maintain balance and bend throughout.

- Final Transitions and Halt

- Conclude with a smooth transition back to walk, then halt at the designated point.
- Salute the judge confidently to finish.

Critical Elements to Focus On

A. Accuracy

- Precise execution of figures, circles, and transitions.
- Following the arena markers and planned route.

B. Rhythm and Pace

- Consistent tempo in walk and trot.
- Smooth transitions without hesitation or rushing.

C. Impulsion and Connection

- Maintaining energy without tension.
- Light contact with steady, elastic aids.

D. Position and Aids

- Correct riding position: upright, relaxed, and balanced.
- Clear, gentle aids communicated effectively.

E. Horse's Gait and Behavior

- Relaxed, attentive, and responsive horse.
- Maintaining rhythm and straightness.

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Incorrect Transitions: Rushing or delaying transitions can lead to score deductions.
- Loss of Straightness: Deviating from the line reduces precision.
- Poor Circles: Unequal or misshapen circles show lack of control.
- Over/Under bending: Bending too much or too little affects balance.
- Uneven Gaits: Rushing or slowing down disrupts rhythm.
- Rushing the Test: Keeping calm and composed is essential.

Tips for Success

Practice Regularly

- Rehearse the test movements in parts before combining them.
- Use video recordings to analyze your riding.

Focus on Fundamentals

- Prioritize correct basic riding skills over complex movements.
- Ensure your horse is comfortable and responsive.

Mock Tests

- Conduct simulated competitions to build confidence.
- Practice under similar conditions to the actual event.

Work on Transitions

- Smooth, controlled transitions are key to scoring well.
- Practice transitions at home and in lessons.

Seek Expert Advice

- Work with a dressage instructor to refine your technique.
- Get feedback on your position, aids, and timing.

Additional Resources

- Official Dressage Test Sheets: Review the actual test pattern to familiarize yourself.
- Video Demonstrations: Watch professional riders perform the Novice 27 test.
- Dressage Clinics: Participate in clinics focusing on fundamental movements.
- Books and Guides: Invest in dressage manuals that explain basic principles.

Final Thoughts

Mastering the Dressage Tests Novice 27 is an essential milestone for any aspiring dressage rider. It encapsulates core principles of good riding—accuracy, harmony, and confidence—and lays the groundwork for more advanced work in the future. By breaking down the test into manageable parts, practicing diligently, and maintaining a calm, focused mindset, riders can approach their test with assurance and perform at their best.

Remember, every test is an opportunity to learn and improve. Celebrate your progress, analyze your performance objectively, and enjoy the journey of developing a deeper connection with your horse through dressage. Whether you're aiming for your first competition or simply seeking to refine your skills, the Dressage Tests Novice 27 serves as a perfect platform to showcase your dedication and love for the sport.

Question What are the key movements included in the Dressage Test Novice 27? The Dressage Test Novice 27 typically includes movements such as walk and Trot circles, transitions between paces, and simple lateral movements like leg yield, designed to assess the horse's basic obedience and balance. **Answer** How can I best prepare my horse for the Novice 27 dressage test? Consistent training focusing on transitions, circles, and lateral movements, along with regular schooling sessions to improve obedience and relaxation, will help prepare your horse for the Novice 27 test. What are common mistakes riders make during the Novice 27 dressage test? Common mistakes include inconsistent transitions, poor bend or circles, and lack of clarity in movements. Ensuring smooth transitions and correct positioning can help avoid these issues. Are there specific scoring tips for excelling in the Novice 27 test? Yes, focus on accuracy, straightness, and clarity of movements. Maintaining a steady rhythm and ensuring correct transitions will maximize your score. What level of experience is recommended before attempting the Novice 27 dressage test? Riders should have a solid foundation in basic dressage skills, including walk, trot, canter, and simple transitions, typically at a beginner to intermediate level. How long does it usually take to train for the Novice 27 dressage test? Training duration varies depending on the horse and rider's experience, but typically, several months of consistent practice are needed to confidently perform the test. Are there specific warm-up routines recommended before performing the Novice 27 test? A warm-up focusing on relaxation, transitions, and light circles helps prepare the horse. Keeping the warm-up calm and focused ensures readiness for the test. Where can I find official resources or videos to

learn the Novice 27 dressage test? Official dressage organizations and online platforms like the USEF or FEI websites often provide the test diagrams, videos, and guidelines to help riders learn and practice the Novice 27 test.

Related keywords: dressage tests, novice 27, equestrian dressage, dressage test rules, training level dressage, dressage scoring, horse training, dressage patterns, riding competitions, equestrian events

Novice 27 Dressage Test Sheet

novice 27 dressage test sheet is an essential tool for riders, trainers, and judges involved in the equestrian discipline of dressage. Designed specifically for the Novice 27 test, this sheet provides a comprehensive framework to evaluate performance, ensure consistency, and facilitate progress tracking. Whether you are a beginner rider preparing for your first competition or an experienced trainer coaching students, understanding how to utilize the Novice 27 dressage test sheet effectively can significantly impact outcomes and learning experiences. This article explores the structure, key components, tips for use, and benefits of the Novice 27 dressage test sheet, all optimized for clarity and SEO.

Understanding the Novice 27 Dressage Test Sheet

What Is the Novice 27 Dressage Test?

The Novice 27 dressage test is a standardized test designed for novice-level riders and horses. It emphasizes fundamental movements and exercises that demonstrate basic control, rhythm, and harmony between horse and rider. The test typically involves simple patterns, transitions, and figures that assess the rider's ability to communicate effectively with their mount.

Purpose of the Dressage Test Sheet

The test sheet serves multiple purposes:

- **Assessment:** Provides a detailed evaluation of performance.
- **Feedback:** Offers constructive feedback for improvement.
- **Scoring:** Facilitates fair and consistent scoring during competitions.
- **Progress Tracking:** Helps riders monitor their development over time.

Key Components of the Novice 27 Dressage Test Sheet

1. Test Details and Basic Information

This section includes:

- Rider's name
- Horse's name
- Date of the test
- Location
- Judge's name
- Test number or level (Novice 27)

2. Movement List and Description

The test sheet outlines each movement or exercise to be performed, such as:

- Straight line transitions
- Voltes or circles
- Transitions within the gaits
- Figures like serpentines or simple diagonals

Each movement corresponds to a specific point on the sheet for detailed evaluation.

3. Scoring Criteria

Each movement is scored on:

- Execution (accuracy, smoothness)
- Gaits (rhythm, tempo)
- Frame/Position (correct rider posture)
- Transitions (smoothness, control)
- Overall Impression (cohesiveness, harmony)

Scores are typically given on a scale (e.g., 0-10 or 1-10), with space for judges to note comments.

4. Comments and Feedback Section

This area allows judges to provide qualitative feedback and specific recommendations for rider improvement.

5. Final Score and Percentage

Summarizes the overall performance with:

- Total points achieved
- Percentage score
- Qualitative remarks (e.g., "Good rhythm," "Needs more consistency in transitions")

How to Use the Novice 27 Dressage Test Sheet Effectively

Preparation Before the Test

- Review the Test: Know the movements thoroughly.
- Practice Exercises: Rehearse each part of the test.
- Warm-up Properly: Prepare the horse physically and mentally.
- Set Up the Test Area: Ensure markings and arena dimensions are correct.

During the Test

- Stay Calm and Focused: Maintain composure to execute movements accurately.
- Follow the Test Pattern: Stick to the prescribed pattern and transitions.
- Use the Test Sheet: Keep the sheet accessible to check movements and note observations if allowed.

Post-Test Analysis

- Review Scores: Understand strengths and weaknesses.
- Read Comments Carefully: Take note of feedback for improvement.
- Track Progress: Use the scores over multiple tests to chart development.

Benefits of Using the Novice 27 Dressage Test Sheet

1. Promotes Consistency and Fair Judging

A standardized test sheet ensures all riders are evaluated on the same criteria, promoting fairness and consistency across competitions.

2. Enhances Rider Learning

Detailed feedback helps riders understand what to focus on, fostering targeted practice and skill development.

3. Facilitates Trainer Support

Trainers can use the test sheet to identify recurring issues and tailor training programs accordingly.

4. Encourages Goal Setting

Riders can set specific goals based on scores and comments, motivating continuous improvement.

Tips for Optimizing Your Use of the Novice 27 Dressage Test Sheet

- **Familiarize Yourself with the Test:** Know each movement to reduce surprises during the test.
- **Practice in a Similar Environment:** Replicate competition conditions for better performance.
- **Record Your Tests:** Use videos alongside the test sheet for comprehensive review.
- **Seek Feedback:** Discuss your scores and comments with trainers for clarity and guidance.
- **Set Incremental Goals:** Use scores to set achievable targets for future tests.

Customizing Your Novice 27 Dressage Test Sheet

Personalization Tips

- Add specific notes tailored to your riding style or horse's needs.
- Incorporate a section for warm-up notes or mental preparation.
- Use color-coding to highlight particular areas for improvement.

Digital vs. Paper Sheets

- Digital sheets offer convenience, easy sharing, and record-keeping.
- Paper sheets can be customized with handwritten notes and are handy during tests.

Where to Find or Create a Novice 27 Dressage Test Sheet

Official Sources

- Equine organizations often provide standardized test sheets on their websites.
- Contact your local riding clubs or dressage associations for resources.

Creating Your Own Sheet

- Use spreadsheet or word processing software.
- Structure the sheet based on the key components outlined above.
- Include spaces for scores, comments, and overall evaluation.

Conclusion

The **novice 27 dressage test sheet** is a vital component in the journey of dressage riders at the novice level. It not only facilitates fair and consistent judging but also acts as a powerful learning tool that guides riders toward mastery of fundamental movements and the development of a harmonious partnership with their horse. By understanding its structure, utilizing it effectively, and customizing it to individual needs, riders and trainers can maximize their progress and achieve their competitive goals. Whether you are preparing for your first competition or aiming to improve your scores, integrating the Novice 27 dressage test sheet into your training routine is a strategic step toward success in the elegant art of dressage.

A Comprehensive Guide to the Novice 27 Dressage Test Sheet: Understanding, Preparing, and Excelling

If you're new to dressage competitions, one of the first hurdles you'll face is understanding the test sheet ? specifically, the Novice 27 dressage test sheet. This document is more than just a list of movements; it's a roadmap that guides both rider and horse through a series of precise exercises designed to demonstrate obedience, suppleness, and harmony. Mastering the nuances of this test sheet can significantly improve your performance, confidence, and overall success in dressage competitions.

In this guide, we'll break down the Novice 27 dressage test sheet step-by-step, offering insights into what each movement entails, how to prepare for it, common pitfalls to avoid, and tips for achieving the best marks possible. Whether you're just starting out or looking to refine your approach, this comprehensive overview will serve as your go-to resource.

Understanding the Novice 27 Dressage Test Sheet

What is the Novice 27 Test?

The Novice 27 dressage test is a standardized test used in many introductory dressage competitions. It's designed to assess fundamental skills such as straightness, transitions, circles, and basic lateral movements. The test sheet itself lists the specific movements, their order, and the criteria judges use to score each segment.

Why is it Important?

Knowing the test sheet inside and out allows riders to:

- Memorize the sequence of movements
- Understand what the judge expects in each segment
- Identify areas to focus training
- Reduce mistakes and improve overall performance

Breaking Down the Test Sheet: A Step-by-Step Guide

- The Starting Point: Entering the Arena

Movement: Halt at X, salute the judge, and proceed at walk.

- Preparation: Practice a smooth, square halt and a neat salute. Remember, the initial impression sets the tone.

- Tips: Maintain attention and calmness, ensuring your horse is responsive and steady.

- Basic Walk and Trot Transitions

Movements: Transitions within the walk and trot.

- Purpose: Demonstrate control and responsiveness.
- Preparation: Practice smooth, prompt transitions on your own and in training sessions.
- Judge's focus: Clarity and accuracy of transitions.

- Circles and Loops

Movements: Several circles at designated sizes (e.g., 10m, 15m), often at B, E, or other points.

- Purpose: Assess your ability to control your horse's bend and roundness.
- Preparation: Practice consistent circle sizes and maintaining a steady tempo.
- Tips: Use your inside leg to maintain bend and your outside rein to control the circle.

- Transitions Between Gaits

Movements: Walk-trot, trot-walk, and trot-canter transitions.

- Purpose: Show your horse's responsiveness and your own riding finesse.
- Preparation: Practice clean, balanced transitions with minimal fuss.
- Common pitfalls: Rushing or delaying transitions.

- Serpentine and Figures of Eight

Movements: Repeating serpentine or figure-of-eight patterns within the arena.

- Purpose: Demonstrate agility and control.
- Preparation: Practice maintaining consistent bend and rhythm throughout the pattern.
- Tips: Use your seat and legs to guide smoothly through the pattern.

- Changes of Direction and Rein Checks

Movements: Changes of rein at designated points.

- Purpose: Show your ability to control your horse and change direction smoothly.
- Preparation: Practice leading your horse on the bit and responding promptly to rein aids.
- Tips: Keep your aids clear and consistent.

- Final Movements and Halt

Movements: Final halt at X, salute, and leave the arena.

- Preparation: Practice a confident, square halt and a neat salute.
- Tips: Maintain your position and keep your horse calm until the test concludes.

Common Elements and Scoring Criteria

Understanding the core aspects judges assess can help you focus your training:

- Accuracy: Following the prescribed pattern and movements precisely.
- Rhythm and Tempo: Maintaining a consistent gait throughout.
- Suppleness and Flexibility: The horse's ability to bend and move freely.
- Impulsion and Engagement: Forward energy and carrying power.
- Transitions: Clean, controlled changes between gaits and within gaits.
- Straightness: Moving straight along the lines and through circles.

Preparing for the Novice 27 Dressage Test

Training Tips

- Master the Movements Individually: Break down each element and perfect it before combining.
- Simulate Test Conditions: Practice in an arena similar in size and environment to competition.
- Focus on Transitions: They are often the key to high scores.
- Work on Circles and Figures: Consistent size and shape are vital.
- Use Video Feedback: Record your rides to analyze your position, your horse's movement, and areas for improvement.
- Stay Calm and Confident: Your attitude influences your horse's performance.

Practical Checklist for Test Day

- Comfortable, clean attire and tack.
- Well-fitted, clean horse gear.
- Water and essentials for the horse.
- A copy of the test sheet with key points highlighted.
- Practice warm-up routines to get your horse ready.

Tips for Excelling on the Day

- Familiarize Yourself with the Test Sheet: Memorize or have a mental note of the sequence.

- Arrive Early: Allow ample time for warm-up and mental preparation.
- Remain Relaxed: Deep breaths and positive visualization can help.
- Be Prepared for Mistakes: Keep your composure, and if errors occur, continue confidently.
- Focus on the Big Picture: Harmony and partnership are more important than perfection.

Conclusion

Mastering the Novice 27 dressage test sheet requires understanding each movement's purpose, practicing diligently, and approaching the test with confidence. By dissecting the test into manageable segments, focusing on foundational skills, and maintaining a positive attitude, novice riders can achieve excellent results and enjoy the journey of developing their riding and their horse's training.

Remember, dressage is as much about the partnership between horse and rider as it is about the movements themselves. Use this guide as a foundation, keep practicing, and enjoy every step of your dressage journey!

Question What is the Novice 27 dressage test sheet used for? The Novice 27 dressage test sheet is used to evaluate a rider's performance and accuracy during the Novice 27 dressage test, providing a detailed score and feedback for improvement. Where can I find the official Novice 27 dressage test sheet? Official Novice 27 dressage test sheets are typically available from national equestrian organizations, dressage associations, or through your riding club's resources. How is the Novice 27 dressage test scored? The test is scored based on various criteria such as rhythm, suppleness, accuracy, and harmony, with points deducted for errors or deviations from the prescribed movements. What are common mistakes to avoid on the Novice 27 dressage test sheet? Common mistakes include incorrect transitions, deviations from the prescribed pattern, loss of rhythm, and poor connection or balance. How can I prepare my horse for the Novice 27 dressage test to score well on the sheet? Consistent training focusing on transitions, accuracy, and suppleness, along with practicing the test pattern regularly, can help improve your performance and scores. Are there specific tips for filling out the Novice 27 dressage test sheet correctly? Yes, ensure you accurately mark each movement, note any errors or faults, and provide clear comments where necessary to reflect the performance accurately. Can I use the Novice 27 dressage test sheet for practice before competitions? Absolutely, practicing with the test sheet helps riders familiarize themselves with the movements and scoring criteria, leading to better performance in competitions. What do the symbols and markings on the Novice 27 dressage test sheet mean? Symbols indicate specific movements or faults, while markings reflect scores, errors, and comments that provide feedback on each part of the test. Is the Novice 27 dressage test sheet suitable for beginners? Yes, it is designed for novice riders, providing a structured way to assess fundamental dressage skills and track progress. How often should I review my Novice 27 dressage test sheet to improve my riding? Regularly reviewing your test sheets after each ride helps identify areas for improvement and track progress over time.

Related keywords: dressage test sheet, novice dressage, 27 test, dressage scoring, horse riding tests, dressage competition, riding test form, dressage score sheet, equestrian test, dressage training

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