PLASTIC FREE HOW I KICKED THE PLASTIC HABIT AND H Textbook

plastic free how i kicked the plastic habit and h

In recent years, the movement towards a plastic-free lifestyle has gained significant momentum. Many individuals are seeking ways to reduce their plastic footprint, motivated by concerns about environmental degradation, wildlife harm, and personal health. I was no different. My journey toward a plastic-free lifestyle began with small steps and gradually evolved into a committed lifestyle change. In this article, I will share my story of how I successfully kicked the plastic habit, the challenges I faced, practical tips I used, and the positive impact it has had on my life and the environment.

Understanding the Plastic Problem

Before diving into my journey, it?s important to understand why reducing plastic use is crucial.

The Environmental Impact of Plastic

- Pollution: Plastic waste is one of the most persistent pollutants in oceans, rivers, and landscapes.
- Wildlife Harm: Animals often ingest plastic debris or become entangled, leading to injury or death.
- Microplastics: Degradation of plastic creates microplastics, which contaminate water sources and enter the food chain.
- Non-biodegradable: Most plastics take hundreds of years to decompose, lingering in the environment long after disposal.

Personal Motivation for Going Plastic-Free

My motivation stemmed from a desire to:

- Reduce my ecological footprint
- Protect marine life and wildlife
- Minimize exposure to potentially harmful chemicals in plastics
- Live more mindfully and sustainably

My Journey to a Plastic-Free Life

Embarking on this journey was both exciting and challenging. It required a shift in mindset, habits, and shopping routines.

Initial Steps and Challenges

- Awareness: I started by tracking my plastic use, noticing how often I relied on plastic packaging, bottles, and bags.
- Difficulty in Finding Alternatives: In the beginning, it was hard to find plastic-free options, especially for everyday essentials.
- Convenience vs. Sustainability: I faced the dilemma of choosing convenience over eco-friendliness.

Despite these hurdles, I committed to making gradual changes.

Strategies I Used to Reduce Plastic Use

- **Switching to Reusable Bags and Containers**

- Always carry cloth or jute bags for shopping.
- Use glass or stainless steel containers instead of plastic ones for storage.

- **Choosing Bulk and Package-Free Products**

- Buy grains, nuts, and spices in bulk from stores that offer loose products.
- Use refill stations for household cleaners and personal care products.

- **Opting for Plastic-Free Personal Care Items**

- Switch to bar soaps, shampoo bars, and toothpaste tablets.
- Use bamboo toothbrushes and metal razors.

- **Using Sustainable Alternatives**

- Replace plastic water bottles with stainless steel or glass bottles.
- Use beeswax wraps instead of plastic wrap for food storage.

- **Making Homemade Products**

- Prepare homemade cleaning solutions to avoid plastic bottles.
- Cook meals from scratch to reduce packaged foods.

Practical Tips for Living Plastic-Free

Transitioning to a plastic-free lifestyle is a gradual process. Here are some practical tips that can help you along the way:

1. Educate Yourself and Plan Ahead

- Read about plastic pollution and sustainable living.
- Make a list of plastic items you use daily.
- Research local stores that support plastic-free shopping.

2. Start Small

- Replace one plastic item at a time.
- Focus on high-impact areas like shopping bags, bottles, and packaging.

3. Shop Locally and Support Sustainable Brands

- Buy from farmers? markets or local producers.
- Support companies committed to eco-friendly packaging.

4. Embrace Minimalism

- Reduce unnecessary purchases.
- Opt for quality over quantity, decreasing waste.

5. Build a Support Network

- Join local or online communities focused on zero waste and plastic-free living.
- Share tips, recipes, and motivation.

Benefits I Experienced After Going Plastic-Free

Making conscious choices to reduce plastic consumption has brought numerous benefits:

Environmental Benefits

- Reduced plastic waste in my community.
- Contributing to marine conservation efforts.
- Decreased pollution footprint.

Personal Benefits

- Improved health by avoiding plastics with harmful chemicals like BPA.
- Enhanced mindfulness about consumption habits.
- Increased sense of accomplishment and connection to nature.

Community and Social Impact

- Inspired friends and family to consider their plastic use.
- Participated in local clean-up drives and awareness campaigns.

Overcoming Challenges and Staying Committed

Transitioning to a plastic-free lifestyle isn?t always smooth sailing. Common challenges include:

- Availability of Alternatives: Not all stores stock plastic-free options.
- Cost: Some eco-friendly products can be more expensive initially.
- Time Investment: Preparing homemade goods takes time and effort.
- Social Situations: Navigating plastic use in social settings or travel.

To stay committed:

- Remind myself of the environmental impact.
- Celebrate small victories.
- Keep learning and adapting.

Final Thoughts: Living Plastic-Free is a Journey

My experience demonstrates that kicking the plastic habit is achievable with patience, persistence, and conscious choices. Each small step adds up to make a significant difference. If you?re considering adopting a plastic-free lifestyle, start today?educate yourself, plan, and take manageable steps. Remember, even minor changes contribute to a healthier planet and a more sustainable future.

By sharing my journey, I hope to inspire others to reflect on their plastic consumption and take action. Together, we can reduce plastic pollution and foster a more sustainable world for ourselves and future generations.

Plastic Free: How I Kicked the Plastic Habit and Embraced a Sustainable Lifestyle

In recent years, the movement toward plastic free living has gained significant momentum, driven by growing awareness of environmental issues and the devastating impact of plastic pollution on our planet. I, like many others, found myself overwhelmed by the sheer amount of plastic waste I was generating daily, from single-use bottles to packaging that never seemed to end. This is my personal journey of how I transitioned to a plastic free lifestyle, the challenges I faced, and the practical strategies I adopted to make a meaningful difference.

Understanding the Plastic Crisis

The Scope of Plastic Pollution

Plastic pollution is one of the most pressing environmental challenges of our time. Every year, over 300 million tons of plastic are produced globally, with a significant portion ending up in oceans, rivers, and landscapes. Marine life suffers tremendously from ingesting or becoming entangled in plastic debris, while microplastics have infiltrated our food chain, affecting human health as well.

Why Going Plastic Free Matters

Choosing to live plastic free isn't just about reducing clutter; it's about actively participating in the fight against environmental degradation. By minimizing plastic use, we reduce pollution, conserve resources, and support sustainable practices. It?s a personal commitment that also sends a message to corporations and policymakers about consumer demand for eco-friendly products.

My Journey to a Plastic-Free Lifestyle

Recognizing the Need for Change

The turning point came when I attended a beach cleanup event and saw firsthand the amount of plastic waste that washed ashore. Witnessing the impact of my own plastic consumption was an

eye-opener. I realized that if I wanted to contribute to a healthier planet, I needed to reevaluate my habits and make conscious changes.

Setting Realistic Goals

Transitioning to a plastic free lifestyle doesn?t happen overnight. I set achievable goals, such as:

- Eliminating single-use plastic bottles.
- Reducing reliance on packaged foods.
- Switching to reusable alternatives.

By breaking down the larger goal into manageable steps, I kept myself motivated and avoided feeling overwhelmed.

Practical Strategies for Living Plastic-Free

- Conduct a Plastic Audit

Start by assessing your current plastic consumption. Keep a journal for a week, noting all plastic items you use, from packaging to household products. This awareness helps identify areas where you can make the most impactful changes.

- Switch to Reusables

Invest in high-quality reusable items:

- Water bottles: Stainless steel or glass bottles.
- Shopping bags: Durable cloth or tote bags.
- Food containers: Glass or stainless steel for leftovers and meal prep.
- Straws and cutlery: Metal or bamboo alternatives.
- Coffee cups: Reusable cups with lids.

- Embrace Package-Free and Bulk Shopping

- Buy in bulk: Use your own containers for grains, nuts, and dried goods.

- Visit farmers' markets: Bring your own produce bags.
- Choose unpackaged produce: Opt for items sold without plastic wrapping.
- Use zero-waste stores: These specialty shops often allow you to fill your own containers.

- Rethink Personal Care and Household Products

- Switch to bar soaps and shampoos: These often come with minimal or no packaging.
- Use refillable cleaning bottles: Fill with eco-friendly cleaning solutions.
- Choose plastic-free dental products: Bamboo toothbrushes and toothpaste tablets.

- Be Mindful of Clothing Choices

- Avoid fast fashion: Choose durable, ethically-made clothing.
- Opt for natural fibers: Avoid synthetic fabrics that shed microplastics.
- Wash synthetic clothes carefully: Use microfiber catchers to prevent plastic microfibers from polluting waterways.

- Educate and Involve Others

Share your journey with friends and family. Encourage them to adopt small, sustainable habits. Community involvement amplifies your impact and creates a supportive environment.

Overcoming Challenges in a Plastic-Free Lifestyle

Dealing with Convenience and Cost

Switching to plastic free options can sometimes be less convenient and initially more expensive. Over time, however, many reusable items prove to be cost-effective and more practical.

Handling Limited Access to Alternatives

Not everyone lives near zero-waste stores or markets. To navigate this:

- Use online retailers for eco-friendly products.
- Get creative with DIY solutions for household items.

- Join local community groups focused on sustainability.

Staying Motivated

Remember that every small action counts. Celebrate your progress, and don't be discouraged by setbacks. The journey toward a plastic free lifestyle is continuous, not perfect.

The Benefits Beyond Reducing Plastic Waste

Environmental Impact

- Less plastic pollution in oceans and landscapes.
- Reduced microplastic contamination in ecosystems.
- Conservation of resources like water and fossil fuels used in plastic production.

Personal Well-being

- Healthier eating habits with less packaged processed foods.
- Increased mindfulness about consumption.
- Sense of empowerment from making eco-conscious choices.

Community and Global Impact

- Inspiring others to adopt sustainable habits.
- Supporting brands that prioritize eco-friendly packaging.
- Contributing to broader systemic change toward sustainability.

Final Reflections: Living as a Plastic-Free Advocate

My journey to kick the plastic habit has been transformative. It?s about more than just swapping out products; it?s about cultivating a mindset of respect for the environment and making intentional choices every day. While it requires effort, patience, and sometimes sacrifice, the rewards?both personal and planetary?are well worth it.

If you?re considering making the switch, start small. Evaluate your habits, set realistic goals, and gradually replace plastic items with sustainable alternatives. Remember, collective small actions can lead to significant change. Every plastic-free choice is a step toward a cleaner, healthier planet for future generations.

Embark on your own plastic-free journey today?your planet will thank you!

QuestionAnswer What inspired you to start your journey towards a plastic-free lifestyle? I was motivated by environmental concerns and witnessing the pollution caused by plastic waste, which inspired me to make more sustainable choices and reduce my plastic footprint. What are some effective tips for kicking the plastic habit and reducing plastic use daily? Some effective tips include using reusable bags, bottles, and containers; avoiding single-use plastics; shopping in bulk; and choosing products with minimal or plastic-free packaging. How did your habits change after deciding to go plastic-free, and what challenges did you face? I started carrying reusable items everywhere and became more mindful of my purchases. Challenges included finding plastic-free alternatives and adjusting to new routines, but these became easier over time with planning. Can you share a memorable moment or success story from your plastic-free journey? One memorable moment was participating in a community cleanup event, realizing the impact of collective effort and inspiring others to adopt eco-friendly habits. What advice would you give to someone just starting their plastic-free journey? Start small, be patient with yourself, and focus on progress rather than perfection. Educate yourself about alternatives and join communities for support and motivation.

Related keywords: plastic free, reduce plastic waste, zero waste lifestyle, sustainable living, eco-friendly habits, plastic free tips, environmental conservation, plastic reduction journey, eco conscious choices, waste minimization

Habit change workbook

habit change workbook: Your Ultimate Guide to Transforming Behaviors and Achieving Goals

In today?s fast-paced world, many individuals seek effective tools to help them break bad habits and cultivate positive ones. A well-structured habit change workbook serves as a powerful resource, guiding you through the process of understanding, modifying, and maintaining habits that align with your personal goals. Whether you aim to improve health, boost productivity, or develop new skills, a habit change workbook provides the framework, motivation, and accountability necessary for sustainable change.

What Is a Habit Change Workbook?

A habit change workbook is a specially designed workbook that offers structured exercises, reflections, and strategies to facilitate behavior change. It acts as a personal coach, helping users identify habits, recognize triggers, establish new routines, and track progress over time.

Key Features of a Habit Change Workbook

- Guided exercises for self-awareness
- Goal-setting templates
- Habit tracking charts
- Strategies for overcoming obstacles
- Reflection prompts to reinforce learning

Why Use a Habit Change Workbook?

Using a dedicated workbook enhances your chances of success by providing structure and accountability. Here are some compelling reasons to incorporate a habit change workbook into your journey:

1. Clear Pathway to Change

A workbook breaks down complex behavior change processes into manageable steps, making it easier to follow and implement.

2. Increased Self-Awareness

Exercises encourage introspection, helping you understand the root causes of your habits and emotional triggers.

3. Motivation and Accountability

Regular check-ins and progress logs boost motivation and hold you accountable for your commitments.

4. Skill Development

Learn evidence-based techniques such as habit stacking, visualization, and reward systems to reinforce positive behaviors.

5. Long-term Sustainability

By establishing routines and reflecting on progress, a workbook fosters lasting habits rather than temporary changes.

How to Use a Habit Change Workbook Effectively

Maximizing the benefits of your habit change workbook requires intentionality and consistency. Here?s a step-by-step guide:

1. Define Your Goals Clearly

Before diving into exercises, specify what habits you want to change. Use SMART criteria:

- **Specific:** Clearly state the habit you want to change or develop.
- **Measurable:** Determine how you will track progress.
- **Achievable:** Set realistic expectations.
- **Relevant:** Ensure the habit aligns with your values.
- **Time-bound:** Set a deadline or timeframe.

2. Conduct a Habit Audit

Identify current behaviors, triggers, and consequences. Use journal prompts to explore:

- When and where does the habit occur?
- What emotions or situations prompt this behavior?
- What benefits do you associate with the habit?

3. Design an Action Plan

Create practical steps to replace or modify habits:

- Choose a substitute behavior or healthier alternative.
- Implement cue-routine-reward cycles consciously.
- Set mini-goals for gradual change.

4. Establish a Routine

Consistency is key. Use your workbook to:

- Schedule specific times for new behaviors.
- Integrate habits into existing routines (habit stacking).
- Use visual cues to reinforce routines.

5. Track Your Progress

Regularly update habit trackers, noting successes and setbacks. Reflect on:

- What worked well?
- What challenges did you face?
- What adjustments are necessary?

6. Celebrate Milestones

Acknowledge achievements to boost motivation. Use your workbook to plan rewards or positive affirmations.

Key Components of an Effective Habit Change Workbook

To be truly impactful, a habit change workbook should include specific sections that guide you through each phase of change:

1. Goal-Setting Pages

Templates to articulate your goals clearly, breaking them into actionable steps.

2. Habit Tracking Charts

Visual tools to monitor daily, weekly, or monthly progress, such as checkboxes or graphs.

3. Reflection Prompts

Questions that encourage introspection, like:

- What triggers my bad habits?
- What feelings or thoughts are associated?
- How do I feel after practicing my new habits?

4. Strategy Worksheets

Exercises like:

- Identifying obstacles and brainstorming solutions
- Habit stacking plans
- Reward systems

5. Motivational Quotes and Affirmations

Inspiring words to keep you committed on tough days.

Popular Techniques Included in Habit Change Workbooks

Many workbooks incorporate evidence-based techniques proven to support habit formation:

1. Habit Stacking

Link new habits to existing routines, e.g., after brushing teeth, do five minutes of stretching.

2. Implementation Intentions

Pre-plan specific actions in response to cues, such as ?When I feel stressed, I take three deep breaths.?

3. Visualization

Mentally imagine successfully performing the new habit to reinforce motivation.

4. Reward Systems

Create small rewards to reinforce positive behavior, building intrinsic motivation.

5. Accountability Partners

Share goals with friends or coaches to add external accountability.

Choosing the Right Habit Change Workbook for You

With numerous options available, selecting a workbook tailored to your needs maximizes your success:

Consider the Following Factors

- **Focus Area:** Health, productivity, mindfulness, etc.
- **Format:** Printable PDF, digital app, or physical book.
- **Support Features:** Does it include guided prompts, coaching, or community?
- **Personal Style:** Do you prefer visual layouts, detailed exercises, or minimalistic design?

Conclusion: Your Path to Lasting Change

Embarking on a habit change journey requires commitment, reflection, and strategic planning. A well-crafted habit change workbook is more than just a journal?it?s your personal roadmap, accountability partner, and motivator all rolled into one. By systematically identifying habits, setting clear goals, tracking progress, and reflecting on your experiences, you create a solid foundation for sustainable change. Remember, consistency and patience are key. Use your workbook regularly, celebrate small wins, and stay adaptable. Over time, these small steps accumulate into transformative life changes, empowering you to live your best, healthiest, and most productive life.

Takeaway Tips for Maximizing Your Habit Change Workbook Experience:

- Dedicate a specific time each day or week for workbook exercises.
- Be honest and compassionate with yourself during reflections.
- Adjust your goals as needed; flexibility fosters resilience.
- Seek support from friends, family, or support groups.
- Celebrate progress, not perfection.

Start your habit change journey today by choosing or creating a workbook that resonates with your goals. With dedication and the right tools, lasting change is within your reach.

Habit Change Workbook: Your Ultimate Guide to Transforming Behaviors and Achieving Goals

In the pursuit of personal growth, productivity, and well-being, few tools are as impactful as a well-designed habit change workbook. Whether you're aiming to break a bad habit, cultivate a new positive one, or simply streamline your daily routines, a dedicated workbook can serve as a roadmap, accountability partner, and reflection journal rolled into one. This article provides an in-depth review of what makes an effective habit change workbook, explores key features to look for, and offers expert insights into how to maximize its potential.

Understanding the Power of Habit Change Workbooks

Habits shape our lives?often in ways we don't immediately recognize. The routine of waking up, exercising, working, eating, and relaxing forms the fabric of daily existence. When these routines align with our goals, they propel us forward; when they don't, they can hinder our progress. A habit

change workbook is a structured tool that guides individuals through the complex process of altering behaviors systematically.

Why Use a Habit Change Workbook?

- Structured Approach: Unlike free-form journaling or vague intentions, workbooks provide step-by-step guidance.
- Accountability: Regular prompts and tracking foster consistency.
- Self-awareness: Reflective exercises help uncover underlying motivations and barriers.
- Motivation Boost: Visual progress and milestones keep motivation high.
- Skill Development: Teaches strategies grounded in behavioral psychology, such as cues, routines, and rewards.

Key Components of an Effective Habit Change Workbook

A comprehensive habit change workbook should encompass various features that facilitate learning, practice, and reflection. Here?s an in-depth look at the essential components:

1. Clear Goal Setting

Before embarking on any behavior change, clarity around goals is paramount. The workbook should include exercises that help users define specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART) goals.

Features to look for:

- Prompts to identify what habit to change or develop.
- Questions to clarify why the goal matters.
- Space to set a timeline for achieving milestones.
- Visualization exercises to imagine success.

Expert Tip: Encourage users to start with small, manageable goals to prevent overwhelm and build confidence.

2. Habit Formation Frameworks

Effective workbooks incorporate proven models like the cue-routine-reward cycle, which explains how habits form and persist.

Includes:

- Worksheets that identify existing cues triggering the habit.
- Space to analyze routines and routines? triggers.
- Reflection on rewards and how they reinforce behavior.
- Strategies to modify cues or rewards to facilitate change.

Practical Application: For example, if the goal is to exercise more, the workbook might prompt users to identify what triggers their workout (e.g., after waking up), the routine (doing stretches or a workout), and the reward (feeling energized).

3. Tracking and Monitoring Tools

Progress tracking is vital for sustaining motivation and identifying patterns.

Features include:

- Daily or weekly checklists.
- Habit trackers with visual calendars or charts.
- Sections for recording successes, setbacks, and insights.
- Reminders or prompts for regular check-ins.

Benefit: Visual progress fosters a sense of achievement and highlights consistency over time.

4. Reflection and Insight Exercises

Reflection deepens understanding of personal triggers and obstacles.

Includes prompts such as:

- What barriers did I encounter today?
- How did I feel during the process?
- What strategies worked well?
- What can I improve?

Expert Insight: Incorporate mindfulness or journaling prompts to enhance self-awareness.

5. Education on Behavioral Psychology

An effective workbook educates users about the science behind habits, providing context and empowering them with knowledge.

Topics covered:

- The habit loop (cue, routine, reward).
- The importance of consistency.
- How to leverage motivation and willpower.
- Strategies to prevent relapse.

Tip: Including case studies or success stories can motivate and inspire.

6. Support and Accountability Structures

Change is challenging; support mechanisms make a difference.

Features include:

- Worksheets to identify accountability partners.
- Space to set up reward systems.
- Tips for seeking social support.
- Suggestions for overcoming setbacks.

Design and Usability: Factors to Consider

The efficacy of a habit change workbook is significantly influenced by its design. An ideal product should be user-friendly, engaging, and adaptable.

1. Visual Appeal and Layout

- Clean, organized pages prevent overwhelm.
- Use of color-coding or icons to differentiate sections.
- Ample whitespace for writing and reflection.
- Inspirational quotes or motivational images.

2. Flexibility and Personalization

- Sections that allow customization based on individual goals.
- Modular structure to focus on different habits as needed.
- Adaptable timelines and steps.

3. Digital vs. Paper Formats

- Digital workbooks (PDFs, apps) offer portability and interactive features.
- Paper-based workbooks provide tactile engagement and reduce screen time.
- Consider personal preferences and lifestyle when choosing.

Popular Habit Change Workbooks on the Market

While there are many options available, some stand out due to their comprehensive approach and positive user feedback.

- The Power of Habit Workbook by Charles Duhigg

Based on Duhigg?s groundbreaking research, this workbook emphasizes understanding the science of habits and applying it practically.

- Atomic Habits Companion Journal

Inspired by James Clear?s principles, this journal promotes small habits, identity shifts, and consistent tracking.

- The Habit Tracker & Journal by Tiny Changes

A minimalist yet effective tool focusing on daily tracking and reflection, perfect for beginners.

- Mindful Habit Formation by Lisa Smith

Integrates mindfulness practices with habit development, emphasizing emotional awareness and self-compassion.

How to Maximize the Effectiveness of Your Habit Change Workbook

Selecting a workbook is just the first step. To truly benefit, users should consider the following strategies:

1. Commit Regularly

Consistency is key. Dedicate specific times daily or weekly for workbook exercises.

2. Be Honest and Reflective

Authentic self-assessment fosters meaningful change. Avoid sugar-coating setbacks.

3. Celebrate Small Wins

Recognize progress, no matter how minor, to boost motivation.

4. Adjust Goals as Needed

Flexibility allows for realistic expectations and prevents discouragement.

5. Seek Support

Share goals with friends or join community groups for accountability.

6. Combine with Other Strategies

Use complementary tools like meditation, coaching, or physical activity.

Conclusion: The Transformative Potential of a Habit Change Workbook

A well-crafted habit change workbook is more than just a collection of worksheets; it's a comprehensive guide that facilitates self-discovery, accountability, and sustained behavior change. By integrating goal-setting, behavioral frameworks, tracking tools, and reflection exercises, these workbooks empower individuals to take control of their habits and, ultimately, their lives.

Choosing the right workbook tailored to personal needs and committing to consistent use can unlock new levels of productivity, health, and happiness. Remember, lasting change doesn't happen overnight?it's a process, and a good workbook is your steady companion along the way.

Embrace the journey of transformation today with the right tools, and watch as small habits lead to extraordinary life changes.

QuestionAnswer What is a habit change workbook and how can it help me? A habit change workbook is a guided tool designed to help you identify, analyze, and modify your habits. It provides exercises, prompts, and strategies to support sustainable behavior change, making it easier to achieve your personal goals. How do I effectively use a habit change workbook to build new habits? Start by setting clear, specific goals and using the workbook to track your progress, identify triggers, and reflect on challenges. Consistently review your entries, celebrate small wins, and adjust your strategies as needed for lasting change. Can a habit change workbook help with breaking bad habits? Yes, a habit change workbook often includes techniques such as habit stacking, cue identification, and replacement strategies that are effective in breaking bad habits and replacing them with healthier alternatives. Are there digital or printable habit change workbooks available online? Absolutely! Many digital and printable habit change workbooks are available on platforms like Amazon, Etsy, and personal development websites. Choose one that aligns with your goals and preferred style of journaling or tracking. How long does it typically take to see results using a habit change workbook? Results vary depending on the habit and individual consistency, but most people start noticing changes within 21 to 30 days of regular use. Persistence and regular reflection are key to long-term success.

Related keywords: habit formation, behavior change, self-improvement, productivity workbook, goal setting, action planner, mindset shift, daily routines, personal development, habit tracking

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