



# **CENTRAL ONTARIO REGION**

**Supplement to**

**Canadian Pony Club Dressage Rules**

Revised May 2017

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**INTRODUCTION**

*The following is the Central Ontario Region Supplement to the current Canadian Pony Club National Dressage Rules  
All Competitors are responsible for having their own rulebooks and being familiar with them!*

Dressage is the basis of athleticism in a horse, regardless of discipline. Strictly speaking, the word means “training.” Originally applied to the training of a warhorse, it has been applied to all forms of horsemanship throughout the ages. The objective of the Canadian Pony Club in dressage is the education of the rider and a confident, relaxed horse happy in its work.

**PROGRESSIVE STAGES OF EFFICIENCY**

(More information is available in the Canadian Pony Club Dressage Rules)

The following tests are grouped in progressive stages, ranging from very junior beginners to senior Pony Club standards. The later tests in each group are slightly more difficult than the first ones. It is hoped that organizers of events will choose tests that are appropriate to the age and ability of expected competitors.

Levels of Competition Test Freestyle Levels (More information is available in the Canadian Pony Club Dressage Rules) unless otherwise indicated below, tests can be Equestrian Canada or CADORA approved tests.

| Levels of Competition    | Test    |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Entry (CPC Tests)        | 1&2     |
| Starter (CPC Tests)      | 1&2     |
| Pre-Training (CPC Tests) | 1&2     |
| Training Level           | 1, 2, 3 |
| First Level              | 1, 2, 3 |
| Second Level             | 1, 2, 3 |
| Third Level              | 1, 2, 3 |
| Fourth Level             | 1, 2, 3 |

| Specialty Classes         |
|---------------------------|
| Freestyles                |
| Starter (CPC Test)        |
| Pre-Training (CPC Test)   |
| Training (CPC Test)       |
| First Level               |
| Second Level              |
| Third Level               |
| Fourth Level              |
| Pas de Deux (CPC test)    |
| Drill Team Starter (CPC)  |
| Drill Team Training (CPC) |
| Prix Caprilli             |

Please reference the National Dressage Rules for further information relating to progressive Stages of Proficiency including FEI Levels for Developing Riders.

## **1. RULES GOVERNING REGIONAL COMPETITIONS**

### **1.1 Application**

For all Central Ontario Region Dressage shows, the Canadian Pony Club Dressage Rules and this supplement apply from the moment a horse and/or competitor arrive on the show rounds of a Regional Qualifier or a Regional Final.

### **1.2 CPC National Rules**

Should any situation occur that is not covered in these rules, then CPC National Rules apply. If not covered in the National rules, then refer to the Equestrian Canada rulebook.

### **1.3 Send Results to Dressage Chair**

The Regional Chair for Dressage must be provided with a copy of all the show results within seven (7) days of the competition. This will be a copy of the master scoring list and will include all the individual marks. There will be a \$20.00/day penalty for show organizers for each day after the 7th day.

### **1.4 No stallions**

No Stallions are allowed at any Central Ontario Region activities, regardless of the rider's age.

### **1.5 Shared Horses**

1.5.1 A horse/pony may be shared by a maximum of 2 riders in each class of both the Entry and Starter Divisions only. (i.e., One rider may ride Entry, Test 1 and Test 2. A second rider may also ride the Entry, Test 1 and Test 2 with the same horse/pony.) THIS RULE IS ONLY FOR THE ENTRY AND STARTER LEVELS.

1.5.2 Above the Entry and Starter levels (pre-training and above), a horse/pony may be ridden by 2 riders but may not cross over levels/divisions with one rider (i.e., Rider A rides at the lower level, Rider B rides one level higher). The horse/pony may still only enter a maximum of 4 technical tests and a freestyle. Therefore, only one of these riders may ride the Freestyle, at the technical level of that rider.

### **1.6 Queries**

1.6.1 The Branch District Commissioner, delegated Branch Official, Regional Official or delegated Regional Official are the only authorized representatives at a Regional Show, who can raise a query.

1.6.2 Queries must be addressed ONLY to the Show Organizer or Show Steward.

1.6.3 Queries must not be raised directly by the rider, parent or coach to the Show organizers, or other officials. In the event that the District Commissioner is a parent or a coach of the rider for which a query is being made, they must declare their relationship with the rider for this purpose.

1.6.4 Only authorized personnel are allowed in the scoring area. If a rider, parent or coach, etc., does enter the scoring area s/he will be given a warning. If s/he enters a second time the rider will be eliminated from the competition.

### **1.7 Objections**

1.7.1 Only the Branch District Commissioner or delegated Branch representative may lodge an objection (protest) with the Show Secretary.

1.7.2 Objections must be made to the Show Secretary of the competition in writing and accompanied by a deposit of \$50, no later than half an hour (30 minutes) after the occurrence which gave rise to the objection, or where marks are concerned, the objection must be made within one (1) hour of the issue of such marks. The deposit is forfeit unless the objection is upheld.

1.7.3 The decision of the Ground Jury will be final (see Sec. 3.4).

## **1.8 Execution and Judging**

1.8.1 All Pony Club Qualifiers and Finals will use EC qualified Judges at either the “r” or Basic levels. Learner Judges may be used where they are assisting one of the above Judges. A recorded judge is permitted to judge up to and including First Level. A Basic judge is permitted to judge up to and including Second Level, and with a guest card Third and Fourth Levels, as well.

1.8.2 Any Regional Qualifier or Regional Final will each use a different Dressage Judge during a single season. Please consult EC Rules regarding Judges

## **1.9 Safety/Tack Check**

(\* See National Rules for Saddlery and Equipment \*)

1.9.1 All Pony Club riders must report to the PRE-RIDE TACK Safety Steward prior to entering the warm up ring to check girths, armband, pins, etc. This is a mandatory check. Riders may be asked to dismount to check helmets prior to entering the warm up area. (Note: There will also be an official POST RIDE TACK Show Steward CHECK IMMEDIATELY after the test.)

## **1.10 Conflict of Interest**

1.10.1 It is recognized that many of the show volunteers are parents, friends and coaches. The Canadian Pony Club National Dressage Rules set out guidelines to assist, parents, coaches and show officials, to avoid and/or declare potential conflicts of interest.

1.10.2 Show Volunteers in positions of influence, such as scribe, score-keeper or show organizer will declare a conflict where their child, club member or student is involved and ensure that another volunteer acts in the official capacity for these positions, where the volunteer's personal interest could be perceived to be in conflict. If there is any doubt or concern in this area, please inquire with the Regional Dressage Chair prior to the show or the Show Steward/Ground Jury during the show. It is advised that the scoring is done by 2 persons, each from a different branch. Scorers and Scribes will conduct themselves in a professional manner maintaining confidentiality at all times both during and following the competition.

1.10.3 Volunteers acting in their official capacity as part of the show committee or show official, should never approach the Judge or scoring area either prior, during or following a class or the scoring of a test involving a rider with whom they may be seen to have a conflict of interest concerning (i.e. their child, their branch member or their student). In these cases, the official capacity that they occupy concerning the show, should be designated to another volunteer during these key periods of time.

## **2. SCORING FOR REGIONAL QUALIFIERS AND FINALS**

### **2.1 Scores less than 40%**

Any competitor receiving a score less than 40% shall be eliminated from the class (as per National Rules).

### **2.2 Scores less than 50%**

Any score less than 50% on any technical test is not eligible for the class placing or awards, (as per National Rules)

### **2.3 Technical Tests Per Division**

Regional Qualifiers and Finals must offer two technical tests in each division. If division Champion and Reserve Champion ribbons are being awarded, the average of the two technical tests determines the Champion and Reserve Champion for each division.

### **2.4 Minimum Scores for Champion & Reserve**

No score under 50% may be considered. An average score over 58% in the two technical tests is required to be named Champion and an average score over 56% to be named Reserve Champion at Regional Qualifiers, (as per National Rules).

### **2.5 Ties**

- 2.5.1 Should a tie occur at a Dressage Competition, the competitor achieving the highest marks in the General Impression/Collective Marks is declared the winner.
- 2.5.2 If the tie still exists, they shall remain tied. The next placing shall be omitted. (i.e., if tied for third, the next placing shall be for fifth, not fourth place)

## **3. FIRST AID**

### **3.1 Provision of Qualified Person**

Regional Pony Club sanctioned shows must provide as a minimum, someone qualified with a valid first aid certificate with CPR, to be on site at all times. Show organizers must also ensure this person either comes equipped with a human first aid kit, or that the organizers supply the first aid person with such a kit. This person may not be assigned any other duties during the show and must be readily available at all times. The show organizers should also notify the local emergency department that a Regional Pony Club show is to be held and the date(s) and time of the show.

## **4. DEFINITIONS OF SHOW PERSONNEL (Refer to CPC National Dressage Rules)**

### **4.1 Judges**

- 4.1.1 A recorded judge is permitted to judge up to and including First Level; a Basic judge is permitted to judge up to and including Second Level, and with a guest card Third and Fourth Levels, as well.

### **4.2 Show Officials**

- 4.2.1 This term is applied to those individuals who may affect the outcome of a class. This term applies to Judges, Show Organizer / Manager/ Chair / President, Show Steward and Show Veterinarian.

**4.3 Show Steward**

4.3.1 The Show Steward shall ensure a fair competition that respects the CPC principles of character, loyalty and sportsmanship. The Show Steward also is responsible for the official tack check performed on exiting the ring at regional qualifiers. The Show Steward also performs an official tack check before entering the ring at the Regional Finals. For details, please refer to the CPC National Dressage Rules.

**4.4 Ground Jury**

4.4.1 This is a group of officials that is responsible for various decisions. This group shall consist of three individuals chosen from the panel of Judges, the Show Organizer, the Show Steward and/or the Show Veterinarian. At least one Judge must be a member of the Ground Jury.

**4.5 Safety Officer**

4.5.1 This individual is responsible for a safety plan for the facility and competition. The individual tasked with this role may not perform any other role during the day, must be available throughout the competition and may not leave the competition grounds. Please see National Rules for a full description. This job includes preparatory work prior to the competition, (i.e. Ensure show office has list of contacts for vet and farrier and other Emergency contacts in the area.). This position is responsible for all incident reports.

**4.6 Safety Check Steward**

4.6.1 Safety Check Stewards are required at Regional Qualifiers and Finals. They can be any qualified individual who is responsible for maintaining safe behaviour and checking on safe equipment in the warm-up and schooling areas. The Safety Steward has the responsibility of checking tack for the purpose of safety, not for compliance with respect to the rules of the competition. This individual may require that competitors prove their helmets meet the required standard, but MUST do so while the competitor is dismounted.

**5. ORGANIZING A SHOW****5.4 Organizers Handbook**

An Organizers handbook exists in the CPC National Dressage rule book, to assist show organizers.

**5.5 On-Call Vet and Blacksmith**

The show organizers should arrange for a vet (on call) and a blacksmith (on call). The show organizers should make sure these are close by and be aware of their call-out procedure.

**6. RULES FOR REGIONAL DRESSAGE FINALS**

(For a complete set of Rules governing Finals, please see the CPC National Dressage Rules)

**6.1 Objectives**

6.1.1 To provide opportunity for all riders interested in Dressage to compete with each other and to encourage a high standard of riding.

6.1.2 The CENTRAL ONTARIO REGIONAL DRESSAGE FINALS will be conducted under the rules of CANADIAN PONY CLUB unless otherwise stated.



## 6.2 Rules

- 6.2.1 This show will follow a Championship format.
- 6.2.2 All tests must be ridden from memory. (No Callers allowed.)
- 6.2.3 Competitors must be dressed in show attire for acceptance of awards and may be asked to be mounted.
- ~~6.2.4 WHIPS ARE NOT ALLOWED at Dressage Finals.~~ Repealed as per National Dressage Rules, section 5.5.3.1
- 6.2.5 The gate MUST be closed prior to the start of the dressage test. A Gate person must be available for all Regional Finals.
- 6.2.6 A current copy of Central Ontario Regional Dressage rules, Canadian Pony Club National Dressage rules and Equestrian Canada rules MUST be available at the Show Secretary desk at all times. A copy of the rules must be made available to the scorers and the Show Steward.
- 6.2.7 For Regional Finals to be considered a Championship show, the official tack check (for legal tack as per CPC Dressage Rules) must be conducted by the Show Steward before the class. Central Ontario will also hold an additional tack check, for legal tack, following the class. Either tack check may disqualify a competitor. The show prize list MUST clearly state that the “official” tack check is taking place before the class.
- 6.2.8 Having received the official tack check, the competitor may not leave the immediate vicinity of the Show Steward before entering the class. Should a competitor leave the vicinity of the warm up area, they must re-present themselves to both the Safety Steward and Show Steward for another tack check.
- 6.2.9 Failure to appear at the pre-ride Safety or the post-ride Tack Check or in the case of a Regional Final, the official pre-ride Tack Check, will be cause for elimination.

## 6.3 Qualification Eligibility Requirements

- 6.3.1 Competition is open to individuals and teams within the branches of the region at the ‘D’, ‘C’ and ‘A/B’ levels.
- 6.3.2 A horse rider combination must have attended at least one (1) Pony Club qualifying show and have attained a score of a minimum of 55% in at least two (2) qualifying tests in order to qualify for COR Dressage Regional Finals.
- 6.3.3 For higher levels that have not been offered at the Pony Club Qualifier shows, applicants must qualify to attend Regional Finals by submitting copies of tests from EC permit shows for these Levels to the regional dressage chairperson. The rider and horse combination must have achieved a minimum of 55% in at least two (2) qualifying tests in order to qualify for COR Dressage Regional Finals.

## 6.4 The Competition

- 6.4.1 Each individual rider must ride two technical tests at a level/division. If a single horse and rider combination has qualified at two levels/divisions the rider must declare which level/division he or she will compete at for the championships. Once declared, this level stands for the competition and for all Regional Dressage Awards for that horse and rider

combination.

- 6.4.2 Freestyle classes require at least one Freestyle score from a Pony Club qualifier in order to enter a Freestyle at the COR finals. See National dressage rules. These classes carry no points towards Champion or Reserve.
- 6.4.3 Freestyle, Pas de Deux and Drill competitors must provide their music one-hour prior to start of class, labeled with the rider/horse name and cued to start. Show Organizers will specify in the Entry package the format desired for music at their show. Competitors should familiarize themselves with the entry package and ensure that they have their music available in the appropriate format and also have a backup media available. The competitor must be prepared to supply someone to start their music in the event that a show does not have a volunteer for this function.
- 6.4.4 Riders will ride in the order of draw and times are to be available to entrants 2 days (48 hours) prior to Finals.
- 6.4.5 Time sheets are to be posted and a copy to be given to Steward/Tack Check/Gate & Judges. The Judges' copy will not have rider names, ONLY RIDER NUMBERS.
- 6.4.6 Should any changes occur in the time schedule through withdrawal of a competitor, the next competitor shall not be forced to go before his/her scheduled time. S/he may go if they wish to when asked.
- 6.4.7 Judges will be allowed a 10-minute break every hour or 15 minutes every 2 hours. Allow 5 minutes between new tests. A judge must be given a 45 minute lunch break. A judge cannot be required to officiate more than 8 hours in one day, nor be required to stay on the show grounds for more than 10 hours in one day. Remember to check the current EC rulebook for guidelines with Judges. If a rider is riding more than one test, make sure there is no conflict by allowing as much time as possible between tests, a minimum of 20 minutes. Try to start and end the day with those that travel the least distance.
- 6.4.8 Times must be carefully regulated so that a rider has sufficient time for warm up and test to immediately follow.
- 6.4.9 A turnout score sheet is provided at the end of this supplement. Each box is to be marked out of a potential 10 points. Verbal definition of the score is as per CPC testing (sufficient = 6.5). A Pony Club Tester is best to judge turnout. To ensure fairness, the same judge must mark any one entire class. Two boxes have a coefficient of x2, which must be taken into account. The sub total is calculated out of the total possible 100 points. Simple division by 10 yields a mark out of 10.

## **6.5 Regional Final Awards Presentations**

- 6.5.1 Ribbons will be awarded to 6th place for all levels of individual competition (or more if the numbers of entries should warrant this). Championship and Reserve ribbons, medals and/or trophies may be awarded to Champion and Reserve of each level of competition.
- 6.5.2 Horse and rider combinations from Entry through Training level are only eligible for the Champion honor, once at any given level, (i.e., A horse – rider combination that has achieved Champion at any given level is no longer eligible for this award at a Regional Final). Horse rider combinations from First level onward are eligible for the Champion

honor twice at any given level above First level at a Regional Final.

## 6.6 Teams

- 6.6.1 A Team competition may be offered.
- 6.6.2 Teams will consist of 4 (four) horse and rider combinations (with the best three scores to count) or a minimum of 3 (three) horse and rider combinations (with all three scores to count). Scores from the individual competition will be used as team scores. All team members must be qualified for the finals. All team scores will be calculated using the sliding scale. (See National scale for team competitions.)
- 6.6.3 Team members must be designated prior to the start of competition. Teams may be put together from any Individual competitors who do not have enough other competitors from their branch and who wish to ride on a mixed team. Branches may enter more than one team. The organizing committee will designate teams made up of Individual riders only when a Branch is unable to field a full team. ALL riders are judged as individuals.
- 6.6.4 If a team member wishes to ride two horses in the competition the member must declare the horse and rider combination for the first team. The second horse must not be declared for the same team.
- 6.6.5 Teams may be made up of any number of D's, C's or B's but may not have more than one A member on their team.
- 6.6.6 Teams will be awarded ribbons to 6th place (or more if number of entries should warrant this).

## 6.7 Tests

### 6.7.1 Tests for Competition at Regional Finals

| Level \ Division | Test \ Level | Level \ Division | Test \ Level |
|------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|
| Entry            | 1 & 2        | First Level      | 2 & 3        |
| Starter          | 1 & 2        | Second Level     | 2 & 3        |
| Pre-Training     | 1 & 2        | Third Level      | 2 & 3        |
| Training         | 2 & 3        | Fourth Level     | 2 & 3        |

- 6.7.2 Children, Pony, Junior FEI, Prix St. George, & Grand Prix MAY be offered as required at the discretion of the show organizers.
- 6.7.3 Starter, Pre-Training, Training, First/Second/Third/Fourth Levels Freestyles and Drills are separate divisions. When entries are made, horse/pony and riders name must appear on the entry form.
- 6.7.4 Horse substitutions may only be made when accompanied by a doctor or veterinarian's certificate of illness or unsoundness. Substitutions will only be accepted in team competitions. If a substitution is allowed, this combination will not be eligible for year-end awards.
- 6.7.5 Mystery Test – For rules governing this, please refer to the National Dressage Rules

**6.8 Judges**

- 6.8.1 It is required that at Regional Finals, all judges be qualified EC dressage judges.
- 6.8.2 This Judge(s) cannot have judged a Pony Club Qualifier during the current year.
- 6.8.3 A recorded judge is permitted to judge up to and including First Level.
- 6.8.4 A Basic judge is permitted to judge up to and including Second Level, and with a guest card Third and Fourth Levels, as well.

**7. CENTRAL ONTARIO REGION YEAR-END DRESSAGE AWARDS**

**7.1** The Regional Dressage Chair will record all of the scores from the COR Qualifiers and Dressage Finals. It is the responsibility of the show organizers to forward the scores from their shows to the Regional Dressage Chair within 7 days of their show closing. Regional Dressage Awards are offered at each of the levels listed in 7.3.

**7.2 Requirements for Eligibility**

- 7.2.1 Points are accumulated on a per horse/rider combination basis and can only be earned by participating in designated Regional Dressage qualifiers and the Regional Dressage Finals as listed on the Central Ontario Region Official Schedule.
- 7.2.2 Points are accumulated on a per horse/rider combination basis.
- 7.2.3 The four (4) highest scores from a minimum of two judges from one level/division will be used. Maximum of two (2) tests from one judge.
- 7.2.4 Two (2) of the four (4) tests must be from Finals and the remaining scores from at least 1 Pony Club Qualifying show. If only one of these tests is from Finals, then this rider will place below those with two qualifying scores from Finals. The rider with the highest average of the four tests will determine the champion and reserve.
- 7.2.5 Freestyles will be based on an average of two tests. The scores must average 50% or above.
- 7.2.6 Horse and rider combinations will qualify for year-end awards at one level only, according to the highest level declared for Regional Finals.
- 7.2.7 Horse and rider combinations from Entry through Training level are only eligible for the Champion honor, once at any given level, (i.e., A horse – rider combination that has achieved Champion from Entry through Training level is no longer eligible for this year-end award). Horse rider combinations from First level onward are eligible for the Champion honor twice at any given level above First level for year-end purposes.
- 7.2.8 At higher levels that are not offered at Regional Pony Club qualifiers, applicants must submit copies of tests from EC permit shows for these Levels to the Regional Dressage Chairperson.

### 7.3 Division of Regional Year-End Awards

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| CPC Entry  | First Level  |
| CPC Starter  | Second Level |
| CPC Pre-Training   | Third Level  |
| Training Level   | Fourth Level |
| Freestyles:  |              |
| Starter, Training, First, Second, Third, & Fourth Levels |              |
| Pas de Deux  |              |

7.3.1 Awards may be presented to Pony Club competitors riding levels that were not available at Pony Club Competitions providing the competitor is a Central Ontario Pony Club member in good standing.

## 8. NATIONAL DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

(See CPC National Dressage Rules for details)

### 8.1 Eligibility

ALL members of age 12 years and over, at January 1<sup>st</sup>, riding at levels from Training and above are eligible to attend Nationals. (Please refer to National Rules).

### 8.2 Drill Teams & Pas de Deux Teams Submit Video

Drill teams and Pas de Deux teams may submit a video tape or DVD of their performance at Regional Finals to be entered to the National Dressage Chair to be judged in a National competition. See CPC National Dressage Rules for details.

### 8.3 Chosen Candidates – Reply within 4 Weeks

The region will choose 1 candidate and 1 alternate at each level from Training and above, in the event that the first person chosen is not able to attend. Riders will have 4 weeks to decide if they are able to accept the position (i.e., that they are available for the date, can arrange finances, etc.). A candidate who backs out after having accepted the position for reasons other than medical will need to follow the entire procedure to qualify in a subsequent year.

### 8.4 Candidate Responsibility (Costs)

Candidates are responsible for all competition, entry, meal, accommodation and travel fees to and from the competition. Fees will depend on the hosting region's program.

### 8.5 Criteria

Qualifying candidates to the CPC National Dressage Championships must meet the following criteria:

- a) The competitor must have an minimum average of 58% for the two technical tests used to qualify for the National Dressage Championships.
- c) Training level and all levels above are open to all members D1 level and above
- d) Candidates must have competed at the Regional Finals in the qualifying year.

**8.6 More than 1 Horse**

Candidates who have participated in more than one horse and rider combination at Regional Finals must declare which of the horse and rider combinations or levels they would like to have considered for the COR National Dressage Team.

**8.7 Candidates are COR Ambassadors**

Candidates must be members in good standing who will be good ambassadors when representing the region. Letters of reference may be requested.

**8.8 Selection Committee**

A committee of at least 3 members from the regional executive will review and choose the best candidate to represent the region and an alternate at each level. Note: When hosting the event the region may choose additional candidates who meet the criteria. To assist the committee in making their decision the following criteria will be scored:

| Scores from Regional Finals |                | Maximum Pts | Example       |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|
| Technical Test 1            | Pts=%/100*35   | 35          | 60.5% = 21.18 |
| Technical Test 2            | Pts=%/100*35   | 35          | 62.0% = 21.7  |
| Mystery Test                | Pts=%/100*20   | 20          | 59.4%=11.88   |
| Turn-out                    | Pts. out of 10 | 10          | 8.55          |
| Total Points                |                | 100 pts     | 63.31         |

### CPC CHAMPIONSHIPS RIDER TURNOUT SCORE SHEET

Each Category is scored out of 10 marks according to CPC Testing Procedure with 6.5=Sufficient

| Rider No. | Hair (x 2) | Boots (x 2) | Clothing | Medical Armband | Pony Club Pin | P.C. Crest | Gloves | Horse Overall | Rider Total (/100) | OFFICE USE Rider Total /10 |
|-----------|------------|-------------|----------|-----------------|---------------|------------|--------|---------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Example   | 7 x 2=14   | 8 x 2=16    | 8        | 10              | 10            | 10         | 9      | 8.5           | 85.5               | 8.55                       |
|           |            |             |          |                 |               |            |        |               |                    |                            |
|           |            |             |          |                 |               |            |        |               |                    |                            |
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