

BBF and Bursting

Catching the Moment
Before It's Gone



What This Session Covers

- What BBF Is
- Why Burst Mode Exists
- How They Work Together
- Real-world examples
- Practical exercises

“This is a practical session.
No jargon for the sake of it.
Just tools you can use the
moment you walk out.”



The Problem BBF Solves

- Half-press focusing is slow, fiddly, and unreliable.

“Half-pressing the shutter is like asking the camera to think and shoot at the same time.

And like most of us, it can’t multitask.”



What Back-Button Focus Actually Does

It moves focusing to a separate button.

- Focus with your thumb.
- Shoot with your finger.

“Two jobs, two buttons. Suddenly the camera behaves like a tool, not a toddler.”



Why This Matters

- No more refocusing every shot
- No more hunting when the subject moves
- No more missed moments

“Once you’ve tried it, going back feels like trying to type with boxing gloves.”



BBF Gives You Three Superpowers

- **Focus Lock**
- **Continuous Tracking**
- **Instant Switching**

“These three are the heart of BBF.

They turn your camera into a responsive partner rather than a hesitant observer.”



Example: Photographing a Dog

- **With half-press:** chaos.
- **With BBF:** focus once, track, shoot freely.

“Dogs don’t wait for photographers.

BBF means you don’t need them to.”



Example: Street Photography

- Pre-focus on a zone.
- Wait for the moment.
- Shoot instantly.

“This is how you catch gestures, glances, and those tiny human stories.”



How to Set Up BBF (DSLR & Mirrorless)

- Assign AF-ON to back button
- Disable shutter-button AF
- Set AF-C / Continuous AF
- Press BBF to set then release to fix the setting.

“Three steps. Five minutes.
Lifetime upgrade.”

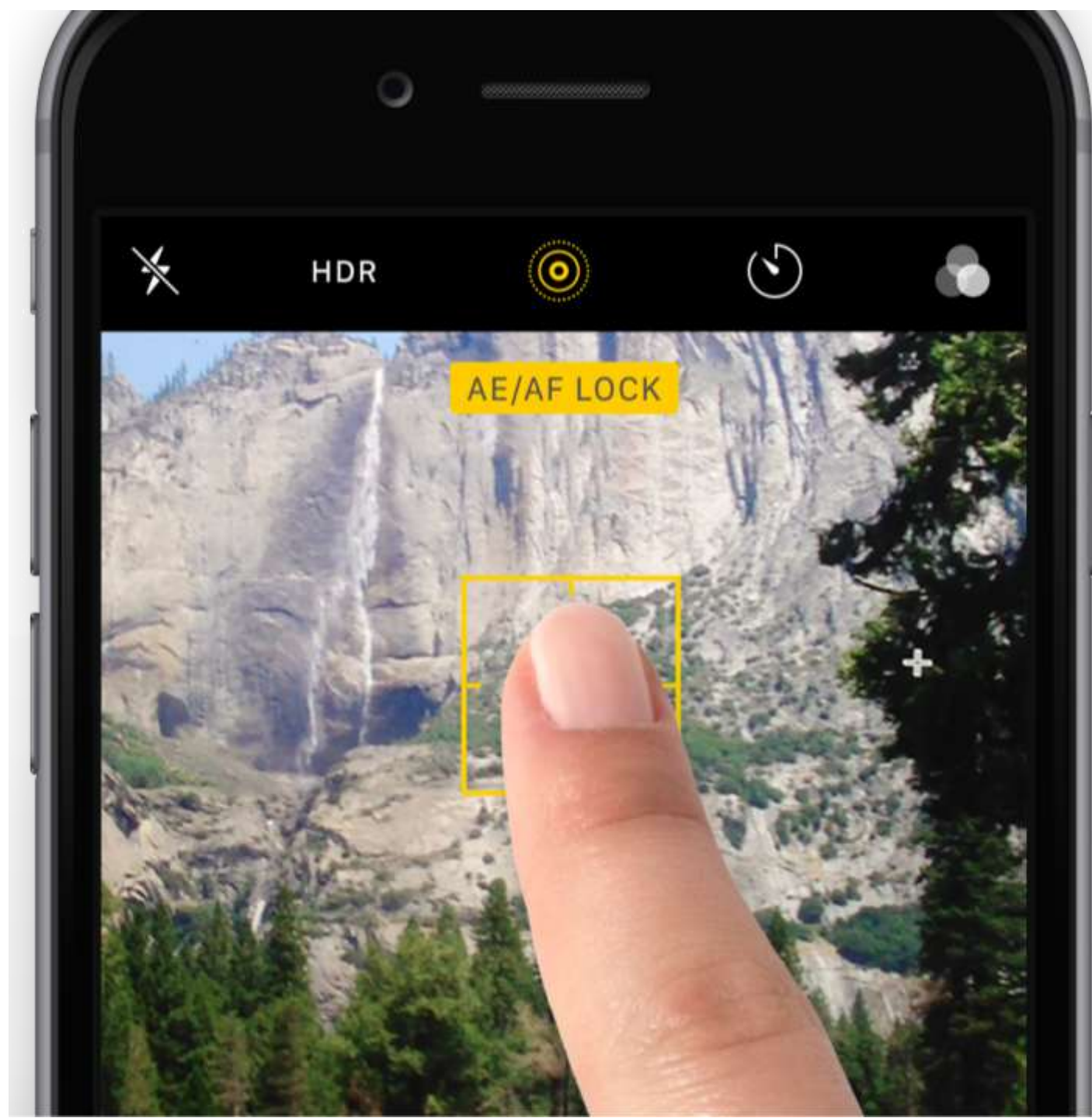


BBF on Smartphones

Some smartphones simulate BBF using:

- **Tap-to-lock focus**
- **Tracking AF**
- **Pro/Manual apps**

“SmartPhones don’t have a back button, but they do have tricks.”



A quick disclaimer
Not All Older Cameras Have
The AF-ON Button Available



- **Part 2 — Burst Mode: Capturing the In-Between**

What Burst Mode Really Is

A rapid sequence of frames capturing micro-movements.



“Burst mode isn’t about taking lots of photos.
It’s about capturing the *transition*.”

Why Human Timing Isn't Enough

- We react at around **0.2 seconds**.
- Life moves faster.

“By the time you press the shutter,
the moment has already happened.
Burst mode rewinds time.”





The Magic of Micro-Motion

- A blink
- A hand gesture
- A turning head
- A foot leaving the ground

“These are the moments that make photos feel alive.”



Example: Bird Taking Off

One press →
10 frames →
one perfect wing position.

“You don’t choose the moment.
You choose the sequence.
The moment reveals itself.”



Example: People in Motion

- Walking,
- laughing,
- turning,
- interacting.

“Burst mode is brilliant for natural human behaviour — the stuff that never repeats.”



Part 3
BBF + Burst
Together



Why They're a Perfect Pair

BBF = focus stays locked
Burst = timing is guaranteed

“BBF holds the moment steady.
Burst captures the moment unfolding.”



The Workflow

- Pre-focus with BBF
- Track the subject
- Fire a short burst
- Select the best frame

“It’s a rhythm.

Thumb, track, click-click-click.”



When to Use This Combo

- Wildlife
- Street
- Kids
- Pets
- Sports
- Everyday life

“Anything that moves
— even slightly
— benefits.”



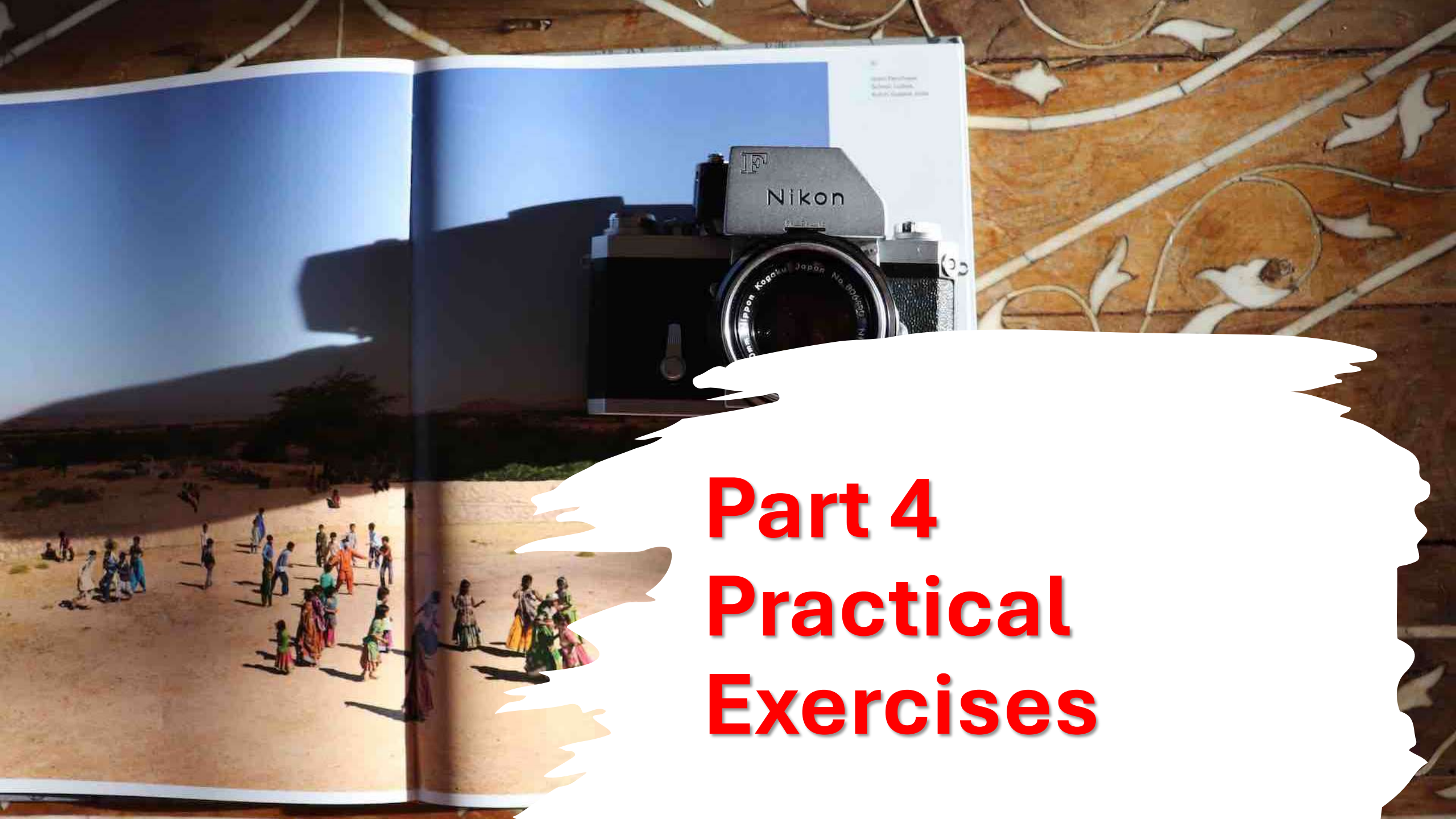
When NOT to Use It

- Landscapes
- Still life
- Long exposures

“Burst mode is for movement.

BBF is still useful, but burst isn’t.”





Part 4

Practical

Exercises

Exercise 1: The Page Turn

- Photograph someone turning a page.
- Aim for the moment the page lifts.

“This teaches micro-timing.”



Exercise 2: The Coffee Cup

Capture the moment the cup touches the table.

“Simple movements are the best teachers.”



Exercise 3: The Passing Stranger

- Pre-focus on a spot.
- Wait.
- Burst as someone walks through.

“This is classic street craft.”



Exercise 4: The Bird Hop

- Focus on a branch.
- Wait for movement.
- Short burst.

“Wildlife without the stress.”



Part 5

**KEY
TAKEAWAYS**

The Big Three Lessons

- **BBF gives control**
- **Burst captures transitions**
- **Together they catch the uncachable**



Closing Thought

“Photography isn’t about pressing the button at the right time.

It’s about giving yourself the *chance* to catch the right time.”

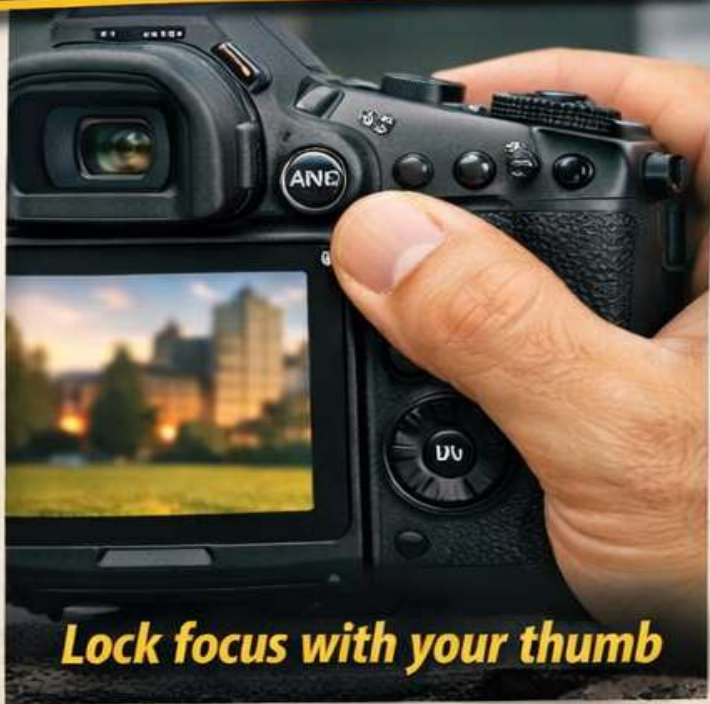
“And these two tools
— BBF and Burst —
give you that chance.”



BBF + Burst in 3 Steps

Fastest, clearest, zero jargon

1. Thumb = Focus



Lock focus with your thumb

2. Finger = Shoot



Press to take the shot

3. Short Burst ≈ Best Moment



Capture the perfect shot!

Why this works: It's the whole technique in three pictures. Everyone gets it instantly!

BBF + Burst – When to Use It

Think “why” before you shoot

Moving



Movement needs timing.

Changing



When the scene won't stay still.

Unpredictable



Burst catches the unexpected.

Human



Expressions in an instant.

Alive



Life moves fast.

Why this works: BBF + Burst isn't a technical trick — it's a moment-catching tool.

**Thanks for watching
BBF is so easy to use,
but so under-used.**

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