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Lifetime Insurance

For Cats & Dogs

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INTRODUCTION TO YOUR ITCH INSURE POLICY

This policy booklet provides **you** with the Terms and Conditions for Itch Insure Lifetime Cover which meet the demands and needs of a person who wishes to ensure that the veterinary costs of their **pet** are met now and in the future.

The Terms and Conditions provide **you** with the details of **your pet's** cover and form part of **your** insurance contract together with **your certificate of insurance** and any future endorsement documents. **Your certificate of insurance** is the personalised document which shows the type of policy **you** have and the **maximum benefits**, **excess** and any special conditions and exclusions that apply to the cover **you** have selected.

It is important to read these Terms and Conditions alongside **your certificate** of insurance so that **you** know what **your** insurance does and doesn't cover and understand the requirements for making a claim. If any of the information contained in **your certificate of insurance** is incorrect please contact **us** straight away so that **we** can update **your** policy record.

Your policy is sold, underwritten and administered by Pinnacle Insurance plc.

All sections of this policy apply to **your pet**, except in the case of a cat where the Third Party Liability cover - Section 4H - is not included.

This policy uses words and phrases that have specific meanings. **You** will find these explained in Section 2 - Definitions. Defined words are shown in **bold** wherever they appear. The singular shall include the plural and vice versa.

Itch Insure Hub

You can **submit**, **track** and **manage** vet fee **claims** as well as make changes to your policy by logging into the **Itch Insure Hub**



itchpet.com/insure-hub

If you've got any questions or need more information, don't hesitate to get in touch. We're all ears.





Prefer to send us a letter?

Address it to the relevant department and we'll take it from there

Customer Service Department
Claims Department
Customer Relations Department
Itch Insure
Pinnacle House
A1 Barnet Way
Borehamwood
Hertfordshire WD6 2XX

Itch Vet Clinic

Don't forget you have free, 24/7 unlimited access to the Itch Vet Clinic.

Vets, nurses, behaviourists, counsellers, nutritionists - all on hand with a friendly listening ear, exactly when you need them. And don't worry, it doesn't count as a claim.

Available on video, live chat and by phone with no appointment necessary.





IN AN EMERGENCY, please seek immediate local veterinary assistance. If you don't know the nearest vet or if it is out of hours, the **Itch Vet Clinic** team can help you find one.

Section 2 - Definitions

Accidental Injury means a sudden and unforeseen injury which is the result of an identifiable and known cause or event during the **policy year**. This includes any **symptoms**, whether or not diagnosed.

Certificate of Insurance means the personalised document issued by **us** which sets out the details of **your** cover, and which should be read in conjunction with the terms and conditions of the policy.

Complementary Treatment means hydrotherapy, osteopathy, massage and healing, laser treatment, electrical muscle stimulation, acupuncture or chiropractic **treatment**.

Condition(s) means any **illness** or **accidental injury** whether or not it results in a diagnosis. There will be **conditions** that will fall in the following categories:

- 1. **Bilateral Condition(s)** means any **condition** affecting right and left sides or paired organs or body parts of **your pet** such as (but not limited to) ears, eyes, cruciate ligaments, hips and patellae, where there is an underlying cause;
- Recurring Condition(s) means any previous illness or any symptoms relating to that illness or a previous accidental injury or any symptoms relating to that accidental injury that may come back or that your pet is prone to, no matter how many times this comes back or how many areas of the body are affected;
- 3. Related Condition(s) means if a number of illnesses, accidental injuries or symptoms are:
 - (a) diagnosed as one illness or accidental injury; or
 - (b) caused by, related to, or result from another illness, accidental injury or symptom.

When applying a maximum benefit or exclusion, we will consider bilateral conditions, recurring conditions or related conditions as one condition.

Excess(es) means the contribution **you** are required to pay as part of each **vet fees** claim and may be a defined amount (e.g. $\pounds 100$) or a defined amount and a percentage contribution (e.g. 20%). The excess applicable for **your** current **policy year** is shown in **your certificate of insurance**. **You** should note that when **your pet** reaches a certain age this excess is likely to change. This change and the age when it applies for **your pet** is shown on **your certificate of insurance** and **you** will be informed of the change at least one year before it is applied.

Family means your spouse, civil partner, partner of the same or opposite sex with whom you currently live, children, parents, or other relatives who normally live with you.

Illness means physical disease, sickness, abnormality, infection or failure which is not caused by an **accidental injury**. This includes any **symptoms**, whether or not diagnosed.

Itch Insure Hub means the online platform itchpet.com/insure-hub where you can manage your policy and submit and track claims.

Itch Vet Clinic means the helpline operated by Vetsdirect Limited.

Market Value means the cost for an animal of the same age, breed, pedigree, sex and breeding ability as your pet.

Maximum Benefit means the most we will pay in respect of any element of cover as set out in your certificate of insurance.

Microchipping Legal Requirements means The Microchipping of Dogs (England) Regulations 2015 (as amended or replaced) and the, or any, equivalent legislation applying in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland providing for the compulsory microchipping of dogs.

Pet means the cat or dog named and described on the certificate of insurance.

PETS means Pet Travel Scheme, the United Kingdom Government scheme, administered by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) allowing **you** to take **your pet** abroad to certain specific countries and re-enter the United Kingdom without the need for **your pet** to go into quarantine provided certain criteria have been adhered to. The scheme is also known as the **PETS**.

Policy Year means the 12 month period shown on your certificate of insurance during which your premium and benefit levels are guaranteed. However, if there is a change to your circumstances (specifically notified by you) or correction to your pet's details, it may be necessary to alter your premium during that 12 month period.

Premium(s) means the monthly payment payable by you in respect of this insurance.

Start Date means the date on which your pet first becomes covered under this policy as shown on your certificate of insurance.

Symptom(s) means a change in your pet's normal healthy state, its bodily functions or behaviour.

Travel Documents means the Pet Passport, PETS Certificate and/or Certificate for treatment against parasites issued for your pet under the terms of the PETS.

Treatment(s) means any examination, consultation, advice, tests, X-rays, medication, surgery, nursing and care provided by a vet, veterinary practice or member of an approved professional organisation following your vet's instruction, which we deem necessary in line with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons code of professional conduct up to the limits set out in your certificate of insurance. We may telephone your vet to confirm that treatment was appropriate for the particular condition.

Vet means:

- in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man, a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, actively working as a veterinary surgeon or holding a veterinary degree approved by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons; or
- 2. outside the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man, a veterinary surgeon who is registered and actively working in a country covered by the **PETS**.

Vet Fees means fees charged to provide treatment for a condition.

We, Us, Our means Pinnacle Insurance plc (Company number 1007798) which is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority (Financial Services Register number 110866) and its registered office address is at Pinnacle House, A1 Barnet Way, Borehamwood, Hertfordshire WD6 2XX.

You, Your, Yourself means the person named in the certificate of insurance who is responsible for your pet. Joint policyholders are not permitted. If your pet is owned by more than one person you must select one to be the policyholder.

Section 3 - Eligibility and Cover Limits

You can insure **your pet** from 8 weeks of age. The upper limit to start a new policy for most breeds of dogs is their 8th birthday. For some breeds of dogs it is their 5th birthday. For cats, the upper age limit is their 10th birthday. Once **your pet** is insured cover can continue beyond these upper age limits subject to the terms and conditions of this policy.

The maximum benefits payable under this policy per policy year are shown in your certificate of insurance.

Section 4 - Your Insurance Cover

A. Veterinary Fees

What we will pay

We will reimburse you the cost of any treatment your pet has received for a condition(s), up to the limits set out in your certificate of insurance. We may call your vet to confirm the treatment was appropriate for the particular condition. If we believe these fees and/or treatment are excessive, we will negotiate with your vet on your behalf and we may ask you to seek an alternative vet for future treatment. Otherwise we may not be able to pay future claims.

What you pay

You are required to pay the excess as shown on your certificate of insurance.

What you are covered for:

- vet fees up to the maximum benefit stated on your certificate of insurance;
- any herbal or homeopathic treatment your vet recommends;
- any complementary and physiotherapy treatment your vet recommends up to the limits specified on your certificate of insurance;
- the cost of having your pet put to sleep (euthanasia) if recommended by or agreed with your vet;
- 25% of the cost of a clinical diet for your pet for a maximum period of 6 months per condition, provided it is recommended by your vet for a treatable condition other than for obesity/weight loss;
- 6. the cost of **treatment** for a dental **condition** and any **related conditions**, <u>provided</u>:
 - (a) there is a history of annual check-ups (or if not annual as recommended by your vet) and evidence that any advice given has been followed within 6 months; and
 - (b) the treatment is to relieve suffering due to illness;

We will not pay for:

- any condition or symptom, or anything related to it, that you were aware of or has been noted and/or investigated by a vet, before this policy started;
- any excluded condition stated on your certificate of insurance;
- 3. the cost of any treatment for any illness which occurs or shows symptoms within 14 days of the start date; This exclusion will not apply if you have switched to Itch Insure from another insurer and have had continuous cover for your pet for at least 14 days with your previous insurer before your policy start date. If this is the case, we will ask for evidence of your previous policy.

This exclusion will not apply if **you** have switched to Itch Insure from another insurer and have had continuous cover for **your pet** for at least 14 days with your previous insurer before **your** policy **start date**. If this is the case, **we** will ask for evidence of **your** previous policy.

 any treatment for accidental injury or poisoning which occurs or shows symptoms within 3 days of the start date;

This exclusion will not apply if **you** have switched to Itch Insure from another insurer and have had continuous cover for **your pet** for at least 14 days with **your** previous insurer before **your** policy **start date**. If this is the case, **we** will ask for evidence of **your** previous policy.

- 5. the excess;
- any amount more than the maximum benefit as set out in your certificate of insurance;
- house calls, any extra cost for out of hours treatment, or ambulance fees, regardless of your personal circumstances, unless your vet confirms that moving your pet or waiting until normal surgery hours would either endanger its life or significantly worsen the condition;
- costs relating to routine or investigative tests, unless they are undertaken as part of treatment for a condition covered under this policy
- any routine and preventative treatments, vaccinations, cosmetic dentistry, cosmetic surgery, cleaning and descaling of teeth, spaying, castration, routine removal of dew claws, parasite control treatments, grooming and nail clipping;
- any complications arising from cosmetic treatments or where your vet confirms the treatment was not necessary;

A. Veterinary Fees Continued

What you are covered for:

- the cost of dental treatment as a result of an accidental injury;
- ongoing treatment of a condition providing the policy remains in force, subject to the "We will not pay for" section; and
- the cost of any treatment your pet has received in any country included in the PETS as part of the benefit described under the section 4 I (a).

We will not pay for:

- the cost of treatment for a dental condition and any related conditions, <u>unless</u>:
 - (a) there is a history of annual check-ups (or if not annual, as recommended by your vet) and evidence that any advice given has been followed within 6 months; and
 - (b) the treatment is to relieve suffering due to illness;
- any treatment related to deciduous teeth if your pet is over 16 weeks of age at the start date;
- any treatment related to retained testes if your pet is over 16 weeks of age at the start date;
- the cost of any food except as set out in in point 5 "What you are covered for";
- 15. the cost of any post mortem examination;
- any treatment for an illness that is preventable by vaccination and you failed to vaccinate as recommended by your vet;
- 17. the cost of any treatment for fleas except where this is used to treat a skin condition, in which case we will pay the cost of one flea treatment;
- any treatment related to pregnancy, giving birth or breeding and any complications thereof;
- any post operative or convalescent treatment which your vet confirms you could have provided in your home yourself;
- any organ or stem cell transplants and any related treatment, limb prostheses including any vet treatment needed to fit the prosthesis. This does not apply to the cost of replacing hip, knee and/or elbow joints;
- the cost of surgical items that can be used more than once;
- 22. travelling expenses;
- claims resulting from your dog being involved in a fight where your dog has a history of treatment following fighting;
- 24. any treatment following a fight between two or more of your pets or where one of the pets involved is residing at your address but belongs to a member of your family or anyone else living with you on a permanent or temporary basis;
- any fees charged by your vet for completing claim forms;
- any fees charged by your vet for referral to another vet;
- any claims for treatment not supported by a receipt endorsed with the address and telephone number of the veterinary surgery providing treatment.

B. Death from accident or illness

What we will pay

We will reimburse you the price you paid for your pet up to the maximum benefit, if it passes away during the policy year.

We will pay this benefit in addition to any treatment costs already paid to treat your pet.

If you have no formal proof of payment, we will pay you whichever is the lower value of the amount you disclosed at the time of your application for cover or the market value (up to the maximum benefit). If you did not pay for your pet, we will pay you the market value.

We will not pay:

- if your pet passes away as a result of an accidental injury or poisoning which occurs or shows symptoms within 3 days of the start date;*
- if your pet passes away as a result of an illness which occurs or shows symptoms within 14 days of the start date;*
- if your pet passes away due to any condition or symptom, or anything related to it, that you were aware of or has been noted and/or investigated by a vet, before the start date;
- 4. more than the **maximum benefit**;
- if death results from an illness in any cat aged 10 years or over or any dog aged 8 years or over. For some breeds of dogs, we will not pay if it is 5 years or over. If your dog is one of these breeds this will be highlighted on your certificate of insurance;
- for the cost of your pet where a decision is made to put the pet to sleep (unless the vet confirms it was not humane to keep your pet alive); or
- any cost for death resulting from pregnancy, giving birth or breeding.

C. Cremation or cemetery burial

What we will pay

We will pay you up to £200 for the cost of cremation or cemetery burial if your pet passes away or is put to sleep by a vet as a result of an accidental injury or illness.

We will not pay:

If **your pet** dies due to an **accidental injury** or **illness** not covered under the Death From Accident or Illness benefit.

We completely understand how difficult it is to lose a **pet**, they are family after all. If **you'd** like to talk to someone about **your** loss, please call the **Itch Vet Clinic** on **0333 443 4333** for a fully confidential chat. **Our** bereavement specialists are always here for **you** with a kind listening ear and plenty of support.

D. Finding your pet

What we will pay

We will reimburse **you** for any local advertising expenses, rewards and other costs **you** have had to pay to help recover **your pet** after it is stolen or strays during the **policy year**, up to the **maximum benefit**.

We will not pay:

- if your pet is stolen or strays within 14 days of the start date;*
- any reward not supported by a signed receipt giving the name, address and telephone number of the person who found and returned your pet to you;
- any reward to a family member;
- any reward to the person who was caring for your pet when it was lost or stolen;
- any costs for services provided by another person, company, organisation or pet detective other than producing posters and leaflets for local advertising and communicating the loss on the internet and social media; or
- if your dog is not microchipped in accordance with the applicable microchipping legal requirements in force at the time of any claim (save where this is certified as not being required including for reasons of animal health).

^{*} This exclusion will not apply if **you** have switched to Itch Insure from another insurer and have had continuous cover for **your pet** for at least 14 days with **your** previous insurer before **your** policy **start date**. If this is the case, **we** will ask for evidence of **your** previous policy.

E. Theft and straying

What we will pay

We will reimburse you the price you paid for your pet up to the **maximum benefit**, if during the **policy year your pet** is stolen or strays and is not recovered within 30 days.

If you have no formal proof of payment, we will pay you whichever is the lower value of the amount you disclosed at the time of your application for cover or the market value (up to the maximum benefit). If you did not pay for your pet, we will pay you the market value.

What you need to do

As soon as **you** find out **your pet** is missing, **you** must report this to the **vet** which is closest to where **your pet** went missing, local rescue centre or local authority warden.

If **your pet** is found after **we** have paid **you**, **you** must repay **us** all the money **you** received. We may take legal action to recover the money if **you** fail to repay **us**.

F. Your hospitalisation and boarding fees

What we will pay

We will reimburse your kennel or cattery fees that you have had to pay up to the maximum benefit, if during the policy year:

- you or a member of your family is ill or injured and have to spend more than 48 hours in hospital; and
- your pet stays in a licensed kennel or cattery while you are hospitalised.

Alternatively, if **you** ask someone who is not living with **you** to look after **your pet** while **you** are in hospital, **we** will pay a daily rate of £15, subject to the **maximum benefit**.

G. Holiday cancellation

What we will pay

We will reimburse you the cost of any lost travel and accommodation expenses up to the maximum benefit, if during the policy year you or any member of your family cancel your holiday less than 7 days before you were due to leave or you come home early, because your pet goes missing while you are away or your vet advises your pet needs life-saving treatment.

We will not pay:

- 1. if **your pet** is stolen or strays within 14 days of the **start** date.*
- if your dog is not microchipped in accordance with the applicable microchipping legal requirements in force at the time of any claim (save where this is certified as not being required including for reasons of animal health).

We will not pay any costs resulting from your hospitalisation:

- 1. for alcoholism, drug abuse, self-inflicted injuries, pregnancy or giving birth; or
- 2. for an **illness** or **accidental injury** first occurring or showing **symptoms** before the **start date**; or
- 3. for an **illness** first occurring or showing **symptoms** within 14 days of the **start date**.*

We will not pay:

- 1. costs for anyone else who was on holiday with **you** other than members of **your family**;
- if you cancel your holiday or come home early because your pet needs treatment which your vet confirms is not life-saving;
- if you cancel your holiday or come home early because your pet needs treatment arising from:
 - (a) a condition which occurs or shows symptoms before the start date;
 - (b) a **condition** which occurs or shows **symptoms** within 14 days of the **start date**; *
- 4. if **you** booked **your** holiday less than 28 days before **you** were due to leave; or
- 5. if **you** can claim these expenses back from any other source e.g. travel insurance.

^{*} This exclusion will not apply if **you** have switched to Itch Insure from another insurer and have had continuous cover for **your pet** for at least 14 days with **your** previous insurer before **your** policy **start date**. If this is the case, **we** will ask for evidence of **your** previous policy.

This cover does not apply if you are already insured under any other home contents or liability policy, unless the cover provided by that policy has been exhausted.

You must provide us with details of any other insurances which may provide cover for the accidental damage to property or **accidental injury** or death of another person, which has given rise to **your** claim. We will then contact the other insurer(s) to determine who will handle **your** claim and **our** liability for any compensation, costs and expenses, which will be determined by reference to the cover provided under each of the relevant policies.

Please note that for this section of cover only (Section 4 H. Third Party Liability), references to **we/us/our** refer to Pinnacle Insurance plc and/or their nominated claims handler Ageas Insurance Limited (Company Reg. No. 354568). Registered in England and Wales. Registered Office: Ageas House, Hampshire Corporate Park, Templars Way, Eastleigh, Hampshire SO53 3YA. Ageas Insurance Limited is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority, Financial Services Register No. 202039.

What we will pay

If **your pet** causes an **accidental injury** or death to anyone or damages anyone's property during the **policy year** and **you** are legally responsible, **we** will pay up to the **maximum benefit** for:

- any compensation and legal costs awarded by a court for their accidental injury, death or damage to their property; and
- 2. the legal costs of defending a claim.

If more than one person is injured, dies or has their property damaged, **we** will pay compensation and legal costs awarded by a court and the legal costs of defending a claim until the **maximum benefit** is reached.

If someone else is looking after **your pet** when the **accidental injury**, death or damage occurs, **we** will pay provided that:

- 1. you asked them to look after your pet;
- you did not agree to pay them to look after your pet;
- the accidental injury, death or damage was not to them, their spouse, civil partner of the same or opposite sex, children, parents or any other relative or their property; and
- you are not aware that your pet has previously caused any accidental injury, death or damage.

What you pay

The first £250 of any compensation or costs for property which has been damaged.

We will not pay:

- compensation or legal costs if the injured person, person who has died or owner of the damaged property:
 - (a) is you, your spouse, civil partner, partner of the same or opposite sex, children, parents or another relative;
 - (b) lives in **your** home;
 - (c) works for or with you; or
 - (d) was looking after **your pet** with **your** permission;
- if you or someone listed above is looking after the property or holding it in trust;
- the first £250 of any compensation or costs for property which has been damaged;
- for any claim if you are legally responsible for the injury, death or damage only because of an agreement or contract you have entered into;
- 5. for any claim:
 - (a) arising as a result of your profession, occupation or business, or that of your spouse, civil partner, partner of the same or opposite sex, children, parents or other relatives who normally live with you; or
 - (b) resulting from any incident that happens at your place of work or that of your spouse, civil partner, partner of the same or opposite sex, children, parents or other relatives who normally live with you;
- for any claim occurring on premises licensed for the sale of alcohol where your pet lives or is kept;
- 7. for any claim arising outside the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man;
- any fines or penalties imposed on you from criminal proceedings including any amount a court requires you to pay to punish you or to try to stop the same circumstances that led to the incident happening again or because you have caused someone distress, embarrassment or humiliation; or
- 9. any claim if your pet has accidentally injured or caused the death of another person or damaged someone else's property if it subsequently comes to light that when you bought or renewed the policy you failed to disclose that your pet had previously shown any aggressive behaviour towards another person or animal.

Other Dogs

If another dog was involved with **your pet** when injuring or killing another person or when damaging another person's property, **we** will only pay for the damage, injury or death caused by **your** dog insured under this policy. If the other dog is **your** uninsured dog, or belongs to someone else, **you** or the other owner will have to pay for the share of the compensation and costs arising from the **accidental injury**, death or accidental property damage **your** uninsured dog or their dog caused.

Conditions

- You must notify us immediately of any injury, death or damage you become aware of which may lead to a claim under this Section 4 H (Third Party Liability). You must give us any assistance we request (including providing us with any information and/or documents that are relevant to your claim, at your expense) and follow any instructions we give you. We may choose to take over any complaint or legal action against you, in your name and at our expense.
- 2. Do not admit that **your pet** was at fault or offer to make payments to anyone unless **you** have received written instructions from **us** to do so.
- 3. Do not give anybody information or help them claim against **you** unless **you** have received instructions from **us** to do so.
- 4. Do not answer letters from people who may claim against **you**, or who are acting for people who may claim against **you**. **You** must pass all correspondence to **us**.
- Do not incur any legal costs relating to a claim under this Section 4 H (Third Party Liability) we will arrange for legal representation if applicable.
- 6. In some circumstances, following a claim for Third Party Liability or an incident involving your pet which is relevant to that element of cover, it may be necessary to exclude your pet from part or all of the Third Party Liability cover from your next policy review. If this should happen we will advise you in writing in accordance with Section 5 D 4 (b) and adjust your premium accordingly.

I. Travelling abroad with your pet

You are covered for the following benefits whilst travelling in any of the countries included in the **PETS**, subject to you complying with all the requirements of the **PETS**.

(a) Overseas extension of vet fees cover

What we will pay

We will reimburse you the cost of any treatment your pet has received in any country included in the PETS (England) Order 1999 (as amended, supplemented or re-enacted) during the policy year. Any payment forms part of your vet fees benefit and is subject to the maximum benefit for vet fees and the exclusions listed under "We will not pay for" in section 4 A.

You are covered for a maximum of 90 days in any **policy year** whilst in any of the countries included in the **PETS**, subject to **you** complying with all the requirements of the **PETS**.

(b) Quarantine costs

What we will pay

We will pay you up to the limits specified on your certificate of insurance for quarantine costs:

- and other costs incurred in getting new travel documents for your pet, should your pet's microchip of ISO Standard 11784 or Annex A to ISO Standard 11785 fail;
- due to an illness despite your compliance with all the required regulations of the PETS;
- 3. due to **your pet's travel documents** being lost or stolen.

We will not pay for:

- any costs associated with complying with the requirements of the PETS;
- claims arising outside the designated PETS countries, the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man;
- any claims for treatment not supported by a receipt endorsed with the address and telephone number of the veterinary surgery providing treatment; or
- 4. any claim for Third Party Liability outside the United Kingdom, the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands.

We will not pay any costs resulting from:

- the microchip not having been checked and found to be functioning properly before your departure on any trip;
- 2. any costs arising from any **condition** of which **you** were aware before the start of any trip; or
- 3. anything mentioned in Section 5 A General Exclusions.

(c) Loss of pet travel documents

What we will pay

We will pay **you** up to £250 towards the cost of replacement **travel documents** should the originals become lost, stolen or destroyed during a trip.

- When the travel documents are left unattended they must be kept in your locked accommodation or in the locked boot, covered luggage area or glove compartment of a locked vehicle.
- If the travel documents are lost or stolen, within 24 hours of discovering them missing, you must report the incident to the police and obtain a police report. If the loss or theft occurred on a ship, aircraft, train or coach you must report the loss to the operator and obtain a report.

(d) Emergency expenses abroad

What we will pay

We will pay you up to the limits specified on your certificate of insurance for any of the following incurred by you outside the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man during a trip:

- additional accommodation and repatriation costs and expenses of you and your pet if your pet needs emergency vet treatment and as a result of this you miss your scheduled departure to the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man;
- additional travel and accommodation costs and expenses if your pet becomes lost during a trip, whilst you try to find your pet before your scheduled return date to the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man;
- if your pet passes away, the cost of returning your pet's body home or the cost of dealing with your pet's remains in an agreed country;
- additional accommodation expenses while obtaining duplicate pet travel documents should they become lost, stolen or destroyed during a trip, and
- additional costs to travel home if the time in getting duplicate travel documents has caused you to miss your scheduled travel arrangements back to your home.

We will not pay any costs resulting from:

- any loss, theft or destruction that occurs prior to the start of your trip;
- any claim where the loss, theft or destruction of the travel documents is not reported to the issuing vet within 24 hours of discovery; or
- 3. anything mentioned in Section 5 A General Exclusions.

We will not pay any costs:

- 1. resulting from anything mentioned in Section 5 A General Exclusions;
- resulting from claims arising outside the designated PETS countries, the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man;
- resulting from an injury that happens or an illness first showing symptoms before the start of your trip;
- 4. that can be reclaimed from anywhere else;
- unless a vet has certified your pet is too ill to travel home the same way it travelled abroad;
- unless a vet has certified your pet is too ill to travel home on the scheduled date of departure;
- 7. if your trip was made to get treatment abroad;
- for more than 14 days' accommodation costs and more than £30 for each day's accommodation;
- for the cost of a coffin, casket or other container for your pet's remains;
- 10. for the cost of food;
- not supported by all relevant receipts and evidence of amounts you have paid;
- where you have not notified the Police as soon as you became aware that your pet is missing;
- 13. not supported by a relevant Police report where **your pet** is missing; or
- 14. if a claim has not been submitted within one year of the date **your pet** returns home.

Section 5

General Exclusions, Rights & Responsibilities and General Conditions

A. General Exclusions

We will not pay for:

- any other costs that are indirectly caused by the event which led to your claim, unless specifically stated in this policy;
- any claim arising from a malicious or intentional act, wilful injury, or gross negligence by you or any member of your family or anyone else living with you on a permanent or temporary basis;
- 3. your pet worrying or chasing livestock;
- 4. any pet less than 8 weeks old;
- 5. any claim arising where **your** dog has been used as a guard dog, gun dog, farm dog, emergency rescue dog or as a dog used for racing or for security purposes;
- 6. any dog that is required to be registered under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 and/or the Dogs (Muzzling) regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991 or any amendments, or any American Bull Dog, American Bully, American Indian Dog, American Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, Bandog, Boerboel, Bully Kutta, Canary Dog, Cane Corso, Czechoslovakian Wolfdog, Dingo, Dogo Argentino, Dogue Brasileros, Fila Brasileiro, Gull Dong, Husky Wolf Hybrid, Irish Staffordshire Blue Bull Terrier, Irish Staffordshire Bull Terrier, Japanese Tosa, Pit Bull Terrier, Saarlooswolfhound, Tosa, Tosa Inu, Wolf Hybrid, Wolfdog, or any dog crossbred with any of these breeds;
- 7. any loss if you breach the United Kingdom animal health or importation legislation;
- any claims arising as a result of war, civil war, hostilities (whether war be declared or not), violence for any political, religious or ideological reason, terrorist activity, revolution, civil unrest or any similar event;
- 9. any claims arising from radiation, nuclear explosion or radioactive contamination;
- 10. any claims arising from air, water or soil pollution;
- 11. any claim arising from pressure waves from supersonic aircraft;
- the costs and compensation for euthanasia of your pet under a court order or the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act 1869 or following its destruction for the protection of livestock;
- 13. any claim which your vet confirms has arisen as a result of you not taking reasonable care of your pet.

B. Your rights and responsibilities

- 1. You must take your pet for regular annual check-ups (or as otherwise recommended by your vet) and vaccinations with licensed products as recommended by your vet.
- You must respond honestly to any request for information we make when you take out cover under this policy, or apply to vary your cover under this policy. In the event that any statement of fact you make is untrue or misleading, this may affect the validity of your policy, any claims previously paid by us, and whether you can make any subsequent claim.
- 3. If you have legal rights against another person in relation to your claim, we may take legal action against them in your name and at our expense. You must give us all the help that you can and provide any documents that we ask for.
- 4. You must pay your premium in full and on time to remain covered.
- 5. You must check your certificate of insurance on receipt and return it to us for correction if you find any mistakes.
- 6. You must keep to the conditions of the policy.
- 7. You must never make any claim you know is false or dishonest.
- 8. If you wish to cancel your policy, please contact us as set out in Section 1.
- If you fail to carry out these responsibilities, we may reduce or refuse to pay any claim you may make.

C. Our rights and responsibilities

- 1. We will assess all claims fairly, reasonably and promptly against the information you provide and the terms of the policy.
- 2. When **you** claim, if **you** have other insurance cover under which **you** can claim, **you** must notify **us** of the other insurer and give **us** authority to contact them to discuss how **we** apportion liability for the claim.

For Third Party Liability claims the cover under this policy only applies if the cover provided to **you** under any other home contents or liability policy has been exhausted.

3. We may need to see **your pet's** records from any **vet** who has treated it and any other information about **your pet** before **your** claim is paid. If the **vet** charges for this information, **you** will have to pay.

- 4. We may need to arrange for a representative to visit **you** and **your pet** if **we** feel **we** need further information to properly validate **your** claim.
- As explained in Section 4 H "Conditions" 6, it may be necessary for us to exclude your pet from part or all of the Third Party Liability cover when we next review your policy. If this should happen we will advise you in writing and adjust your premium accordingly.

D. Contract of insurance

- 1. This is an annually renewable policy which **you** pay in monthly instalments. The contract of insurance between **you** and **us** consists of the policy terms and conditions, **your certificate of insurance** and any endorsements.
- 2. Your cover under this policy will end on the earliest of the following:
 - (a) the date your pet passes away;
 - (b) the date you fail to pay the premium when due;
 - (c) the date **you** or **we** cancel **your** cover subject to the terms and conditions of this policy.
- 3. (a) If **we** make any claim payments as a result of dishonesty or deceitful behaviour by **you** (or by someone acting on **your** behalf), then:
 - we may stop making further payments and may seek to recover from you any sums paid by us in respect of any dishonest claim;
 - we may terminate the contract with effect from the time of the behaviour which may affect other claims; and
 - if we terminate the contract, we may refuse to pay any claims occurring after the time of the dishonest or deceitful claim.
 - (b) If we terminate the contract under this section, we will not return any of the premiums paid by you.
 - (c) These provisions will not affect any valid claim occurring before the dishonest claim.

4. Premiums

(a) The undiscounted premium for this policy is fixed for 12 months and reviewed annually on the anniversary of the policy start date. We may offer discounts based on the products you have with Itch. Details of the discounts and how they are applied are provided in the on-line sales journey, your welcome and renewal packs and other communications. You must continue to pay the full premium even when you are making a claim under this policy to ensure that cover continues in respect of any further treatment provided or costs incurred. Claims can only be considered in respect of treatment provided or costs incurred during the period for which premium has been paid.

If there is a change to **your** circumstances or correction to **your pet's** details, **we** may be required to alter **your** premium during the 12 month period.

- (b) Each year, at least three weeks before the current **policy year** is due to end, we will send a renewal notice by **your** chosen method of contact setting out the new policy terms and conditions and **premium** for the next **policy year**. If **you** have already given **your** consent for **us** to collect the **premium**, **your** payment will continue to be taken using **your** designated bank account unless **you** instruct **us** otherwise. **Your** cover under this policy will continue as long as **you** pay the **premium** whenever your **premiums** are reviewed. When reviewing **your** premiums, we will consider any future impact to one or more of the following:
 - changes due to new information arising from our own experience suggesting that our future claims experience is likely to be better or worse than previously assumed. This information includes changes to the number and types of claims we expect to pay or changes to the average expected amount paid per claim;
 - changes due to new information arising from external sources such as general industry, population or reinsurer experience suggesting that **our** future claims experience is likely to be better or worse than previously assumed. This includes information on the cost of veterinary **treatments** (which may vary depending upon **your** location) and general information about the breed of **your pet**;
 - changes to your circumstances such as the age of your pet, your claims history or any change to your address;
 - 4. relevant changes to **our** previous assumptions in relation to:
 - (a) expenses related to providing the insurance;
 - (b) policy lapse rates which means the average time policies are held;
 - (c) interest rates;
 - (d) tax rates;
 - (e) the cost of any legal or regulatory requirements;
- (c) Any changes to your premium we make will not:
 - be made as a result of any reason other than changes in the assumptions mentioned in Section 5 D 4 (b) above; or
 - 2. be made to recover any previous losses.

- (d) As a result of the premium review, your premium may go up, stay the same or go down, and there is no limit to the amount of any change.
- (e) If we change your premium and you do not wish to continue your cover you should contact us to cancel. You can cancel at any time as set out in Section 5 D 6 below.
- (f) You must continue to pay the premium when you are making a claim under this policy to ensure that cover can continue in respect of any further treatment provided or costs incurred. Claims can only be considered in respect of treatment provided or costs incurred during the period for which premium has been paid.

5. Terms and Conditions

- (a) The terms and conditions of this policy are fixed for 12 months and reviewed annually on the anniversary of the policy start date. Each year, at least three weeks before the current policy year is due to end, we will send a renewal notice as outlined in section 5 D 4 (b) above and this will include your new Terms and Conditions.
- (b) We may vary or waive the terms and conditions of this policy to reflect changes in the assumptions set out in Section 5 D 4 (b) above which we use to design and price your cover. Such changes may have the effect of increasing or reducing the cover previously provided under this policy.
- (c) We may make changes to your policy terms and conditions on each anniversary of the start date of your policy. When changing your terms and conditions we will consider any future impact of changes in one or more assumptions due to the reasons set out in Section 5 D 4 (b) above.
- (d) In addition, we may also vary or waive your terms and conditions to:
 - 1. improve your cover;
 - 2. comply with any applicable laws or regulations;
 - 3. reflect any changes to taxation;
 - 4. correct any typographical or formatting errors; or
 - 5. provide additional clarity to the existing terms and conditions.
- (e) Any changes to your terms and conditions will not:
 - be made as a result of any reason other than changes in the assumptions mentioned in Section 5 D 4 (b) or for the reasons set out in Section 5 D 5 (d) above; or
 - 2. be made to recover any previous losses.
- (f) If **your policy** is varied and **you** do not wish to continue **your** cover **you** should contact **us** to cancel. **You** can cancel at any time as set out in Section 5 D 6 below.

6. Your Right to Cancel

Within the "cooling off period"

if **you** decide **you** do not want the cover and wish to cancel **your** policy, **you** can do so within 14 days of either the **start date** or the date **you** receive these policy documents, whichever is later (the "cooling off period"). **You** will receive a full refund of any **premium you** have paid provided no claim has been made under the terms of this policy. If **you** have made a claim, no refund of **premium** will be payable.

Outside the "cooling off period"

If **you** cancel **your** policy after the initial 14 day cooling off period, **we** will cancel **your** policy and not collect the future monthly payments due for the remainder of the current period of insurance. If **you** cancel **your** policy because **your pet** has died, been stolen or has strayed, and **you** claim for this, **we** will not deduct any further monthly payments for the remainder of the current period of insurance.

However, if **you** have been paid a claim during this **policy year** then **we** will deduct any outstanding monthly payments for the current period of insurance from **your** final settlement claim.

If, at renewal, **your premium** changes and/or **your** terms and conditions are varied and **you** do not wish to continue **your** cover **you** should contact **us** to cancel. **You** can cancel on the terms set out above. Any cancellation, as a result of such changes, will take effect at the end of the period for which **you** have already paid **your premium**.

All cancellation requests should be made by calling **us** on 0344 801 2171 or in writing to:

Customer Services Department Itch Insure Pinnacle House A1 Barnet Way Borehamwood Hertfordshire WD6 2XX

7. Our Right to Cancel

- (a) We may cancel **your** insurance cover immediately where:
 - you deliberately tell us something which is untrue or misleading in response to any question we ask you when you take out cover under this policy, or apply to vary your cover under this policy (or we can demonstrate from the relevant circumstances that you did not take reasonable care to ensure the statements you made to us were true);
 - you unintentionally tell us something which is untrue or misleading in response to any question we ask you when you take out cover under this policy or apply to vary your cover which, if correctly answered, would have caused us to decline you for cover;
 - there is evidence of dishonesty or deceitful behaviour by you (or by someone acting on your behalf) in relation to the cover provided under this policy (see Section 5 D 3);
 - 4. it is necessary to comply with any applicable laws or regulations; or
 - 5. it is necessary to comply with any applicable sanctions. We will not be liable to provide cover (including payment of a claim or provision of any other benefit) under this policy if we are prevented from doing so by any sanction which prohibits us or our parent company (or our parent company's ultimate controlling entity) from providing cover under this policy. Sanctions change from time to time and can include prohibiting the transfer of funds to a sanctioned country, freeze the assets of a government, the corporate entities. This means that if you, or any joint policy holder or other relevant third party who has suffered a loss which would otherwise be covered under the policy, are the subject of a sanction, we may not be able to provide cover under the policy.

For the purpose of this clause, sanctions means any sanctions, prohibition or restriction under United Nations resolutions or the trade or economic sanctions, laws or regulations of the European Union or United Kingdom.

If **your** policy is cancelled as a result of Section 5 D 7 (a) 1, 3, 4 or 5, we will <u>not</u> return any **premiums you** have paid under the terms of this policy. If **your** policy is cancelled as a result of Section 5 D 7 (a) 2, we will return any **premiums you** have paid under the terms of this policy provided no claim has been made.

- (b) Any decision to cancel cover will not be made at an individual level and will not be based on whether **you** have made a claim, except where Section 5 D 7 (a) 1, 2 or 3 applies.
- (c) Cancellation of your policy will not affect your entitlement to claim for any event occurring before the date of cancellation, except where Section 5 D 7 (a) 1, 2 or 3 applies.

8. Reinstatement

If **you** cancel **your** cover under this policy or the cover ceases due to unpaid **premium**, **you** can ask for the policy to be reinstated. If **your** request is accepted, any claim or **condition** arising during the period when **your** cover had ceased, will not be accepted.

9. Change of Insurers

It may be that the Insurance company underwriting **your** cover could change at renewal. If this happens **you** will be informed of this change not less than 21 days before **your** current policy renews and provided with details of any changes in **your** policy cover.

If **you** pay by direct debit then **your** policy may be automatically renewed with the new insurer. If **you** do not want **your** policy to be renewed then please let them know before the renewal date.

E. General conditions

- 1. You and your pet must live in the UK at the address shown on your certificate of insurance.
- Territorial Limits this insurance only applies in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man except for vet fee claims arising whilst overseas where the territorial limits are extended to include any country included in the PETS (England) Order 1999 (as amended, supplemented or re-enacted).
- Choice of Law this policy is governed by English Law. Any legal proceedings will be held in the courts of England and Wales unless you live in Scotland, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man, in which case you will be entitled to commence legal proceedings in your local courts.
- 4. Surrender Value when your cover under this policy ends it will not have a cash value.
- 5. Transfer Rights the rights given under this policy can be transferred directly to another individual taking on the full responsibility of the pet provided you obtain our consent. In order to transfer the rights of your policy, please contact our Customer Services Department using the details in Section 1. Transfer of rights may result in a change to the premium amount.
- 6. Failure to comply with any condition of this policy may result in the suspension or the stopping of the benefits.
- 7. All communications will be conducted with **you** in English.

Section 6 - Making a Claim

Before making any claim please check **your** policy and **certificate of insurance** to see if **you** are covered. Please remember that any costs relating to the completion of claim forms (for example, by **your vet** or, in the case of **your** hospitalisation for a boarding fees claim, **your** doctor) must be paid by **you**.

Please note that we cannot guarantee the validity of a claim over the phone. You will need to provide a completed claim form and we will notify you in writing of our decision.

We have a regulatory obligation to prevent fraud. In the event of a claim, any information **you** have supplied relevant to this insurance and on the claim form, together with other information relating to the claim may be shared with other insurers in order to prevent fraudulent claims.

Please note that **we** reserve the right to decline to pay costs and fees that are not covered under these terms and conditions (see "What we will not pay for" in each section) but which have been included in invoices with costs and fees that are covered. This applies to all claims under Section 4 (except 4H – Third Party Liability for dogs) and includes any claim that is processed by **our** automated decision making tool. **You** can discuss these decisions with **us** at any time.

A. Veterinary Fees:

- Step 1 Before **your pet** is treated, check **your vet** is prepared to complete a claim form, provide invoices and a full medical history.
- Step 2 You can complete your vet fees claim form online via the Itch Insure Hub or speak to our Claims Department by telephoning 0344 801 2171.

If the **treatment** occurred abroad, **you** will also need to provide **us** with the following information:

- (a) a receipt endorsed with the address and telephone number of the veterinary surgery who provided the treatment;
- (b) a copy of your pet's passport; and
- (c) a copy of veterinary notes from the treating vet.
- Step 3 Return the claim form to **us** together with the invoices showing the costs/fees **you** have paid.
- Step 4 You should submit your claim together with invoices showing costs/fees you have incurred within 12 months of the **treatment** taking place. Failure to do so will result in non payment of your claim unless there are exceptional circumstances.

B. Third Party Liability:

Step 1 Call **our** Claims Department on **0344 801 2171** immediately, or as soon as reasonably possible, for advice if someone is holding **you** responsible for an **accidental injury**, death or damage, caused by **your pet**. We will send **you** a claim form to complete.

Important: Do not accept any responsibility or respond to any letters, court documents or other legal documents.

- Step 2 Return your claim form to us together with:
 - (a) a detailed written description of the incident; and
 - (b) any letters of claim, court document or other legal document you have received from another party.
- Step 3 Forward all letters and all other legal and court documents **you** receive to **us** as soon as possible quoting **your** policy number and claim number (if known).

We will then pass your claims information to our nominated claims handler, Ageas Insurance Limited.

C. All other claims:

- Step 1 Download a claim form from the **Itch Insure Hub** or request one from **our** Claims Department by calling us on **0344 801 2171**.
- Step 2 Complete the relevant sections of the claim form, sign and return together with:

Death From Accident or Illness:

- (a) if applicable, the original purchase receipt you received when you bought your pet; and
- (b) if applicable, your pet's pedigree certificate.

In the absence of a purchase receipt, **we** reserve the right to restrict **your** claim to the **market value** or the amount **you** disclosed at the time of **your** application for cover, whichever is the lower value (up to the **maximum benefit**).

Cremation or Cemetery Burial:

(a) receipts for the cremation or cemetery burial costs.

Finding Your Pet/Theft and Straying:

- (a) if applicable, the original purchase receipt you received when you bought your pet;
- (b) if applicable, the pedigree certificate;
- (c) receipts for any advertising costs and rewards; and
- (d) documentation confirming your dog's microchip number.

In the absence of a purchase receipt, **we** reserve the right to restrict **your** claim to the **market value** or the amount **you** disclosed at the time of **your** application for cover, whichever is the lower value (up to the **maximum benefit**).

Your Hospitalisation and Boarding Fees:

- (a) your boarding kennel or cattery receipts; and
- (b) evidence from **your** doctor or hospital confirming **your** hospital stay.

Holiday Cancellation:

- the booking invoice and cancellation invoice from your travel agent, tour operator or holiday organiser; and
- (b) evidence of the booking confirmation, booking date, dates of the holiday, cost of the holiday, cancellation or return home date, a copy of your travel insurance policy, evidence from your vet that your pet required life-saving treatment, evidence that your holiday was cancelled or you had to return home early and any expenses you cannot recover.

Overseas Extension of Cover:

See Veterinary Fees Claims above.

Quarantine Costs:

We will require the following evidence:

- (a) documentary evidence that your pet was microchipped prior to your journey with a microchip of ISO Standard 11784 or Annex A to ISO Standard 11785; and
- (b) receipts or bills for any quarantine kennelling and other costs claimed for.

Loss of Pet Travel Documents:

- (a) receipts or bills for any replacement pet travel documents claimed for.
- (b) if applicable, the police or operator's report.

Emergency Expenses Abroad:

- (a) receipts or bills for any transport, accommodation and repatriation costs or expenses claimed for;
- (b) the booking invoices from your travel agent, tour operator or other holiday sales organisation showing the dates of your trip.

Section 7 - If you have a concern

A. Itch Vet Clinic

You have 24/7 unlimited access to the **Itch Vet Clinic**. Vets, nurses, behaviourists, nutritionists, counsellors are all on hand with a friendly listening ear exactly when **you** need them. They're available by phone, live chat and video with no appointment necessary. And don't worry there's no extra charge and it doesn't count as a claim.

If **your pet** shows any signs of injury, illness or distress, or even if they're just being weird, **you** can find the **Itch Vet Clinic** in the **Itch Insure Hub** or by calling 0333 332 4333.

IN AN EMERGENCY - If **your pet** has collapsed, is unconscious or been involved in a serious accident **you** should consult **your vet** immediately. If **you** don't know the nearest **vet** or it's out of hours, the **Itch Vet Clinic** team can help **you** find one. Should this then result in **you** needing to make a claim, please log into the **Itch Insure Hub** or contact **our** Claims Department on **0344 801 2171** as soon as possible.

B. Customer Service

If you have any queries during your policy year or you need to change your address, your payment details or your pet passes away from natural causes, please contact our Customer Services Department on 0344 801 2171.

The cost of calls to 03 prefixed numbers are charged at national call rates and charges may vary dependent on your network provider.

C. Complaints Procedure

We hope you never need to, but if you want to complain about our products or services you can do so.

call us: 0344 801 2171

write to **us**: Customer Relations Department Itch Insure Pinnacle House A1 Barnet Way Borehamwood Hertfordshire WD6 2XX

We will deal with any concerns **you** may have as quickly as **we** can and wherever possible within 8 weeks of receiving **your** complaint as required by the Financial Conduct Authority. If **you** are not satisfied with the answer **we** give **you** or if **you** have not had **our** final response within 8 weeks of **us** receiving **your** complaint, **you** can refer **your** complaint to the:

Financial Ombudsman Service Exchange Tower London E14 9SR

Telephone: 0300 123 9123 or 0800 023 4567

E-mail: complaint.info@financial-ombudsman.org.uk

Website: www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk

Following the above complaints procedure does not affect **your** rights to take legal proceedings.

A leaflet detailing **our** full complaints process is available from **us** on request.

D. Compensation Arrangements

Pinnacle Insurance plc is covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). If it is unable to meet its liabilities to **you**, **you** may be entitled to compensation from the FSCS. Further information is available from their website: www.fscs.org.uk

E. Important Information

Your Itch Insure Lifetime Pet Insurance is underwritten by Pinnacle Insurance plc under policy number 02629 (1" December 2020).

Section 8 - Data Protection Notice (using your personal information)

Pinnacle Insurance plc Data Protection Notice

When you purchase your insurance, we will collect certain types of personal information from you.

We will process your personal data in line with the UK Data Protection Act 2018 to perform the contract with you or to take steps at your request before entering into the contract, managing your marketing consent choices, as well as to act in line with law and regulation and for the legitimate interests of **our** business.

Our full Data Protection Notice is available on **our** website at the following address: www.pinnaclepetgroup.com/privacy, which includes further information about **our** processing of **your** personal data, retention periods, your data protection rights and our contact details.

Ageas Insurance Limited Data Protection Notice

Ageas collects and uses personal information where there is a justifiable reason for doing so, such as processing a claim. If **you** would like to read Ageas' full Privacy Policy, please go to www.ageas.co.uk/privacy-policy or contact the Data Protection Officer at the above address or via e-mail at thedpo@ageas.co.uk.

Please be aware that there will be sections of the Privacy Policy which will not apply to how Ageas process **your** personal information in relation to this policy.

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