Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool

(SPDAT)

Assessment Tool for Single Adults

VERSION 4.01

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Welcome to the SPDAT Line of Products

The Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (SPDAT) has been around in various incarnations for over a decade, before being released to the public in 2010. Since its initial release, the use of the SPDAT has been expanding exponentially and is now used in over one thousand communities across the United States, Canada, and Australia.

More communities using the tool means there is an unprecedented demand for versions of the SPDAT, customized for specific client groups or service delivery contexts. With the release of SPDAT V4, there have been more current versions of SPDAT products than ever before.

VI-SPDAT Series

The Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) was developed as a pre-screening tool for communities that are very busy and may not have the resources to conduct a full SPDAT assessment for every client. It was made in collaboration with Community Solutions, creators of the Vulnerability Index, as a brief survey that can be conducted to quickly determine whether a client has high, moderate, or low acuity. The use of this survey can help prioritize which clients should be given a full SPDAT assessment first. Because it is a self-reported survey, no special training is required to use the VI-SPDAT.

**Current versions available:**

- VI-SPDAT V 2.0 for Individuals
- VI-SPDAT V 2.0 for Families
- VI-SPDAT V 1.0 for Youth

All versions are available online at


SPDAT Series

The Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (SPDAT) was developed as an assessment tool for frontline workers at agencies that work with homeless clients to prioritize which of those clients should receive assistance first. It is an in-depth assessment that relies on the assessor’s ability to interpret responses and corroborate those with evidence. As a result, this tool may only be used by those who have received proper, up-to-date training provided by OrgCode Consulting, Inc. or an OrgCode certified trainer.

**Current versions available:**

- SPDAT V 4.0 for Individuals
- SPDAT V 2.0 for Families
- SPDAT V 1.0 for Youth

Information about all versions is available online at

SPDAT Training Series

To use the SPDAT, training by OrgCode or an OrgCode certified trainer is required. We provide training on a wide variety of topics over a variety of mediums.

The full-day in-person SPDAT Level 1 training provides you the opportunity to bring together as many people as you want to be trained for one low fee. The webinar training allows for a maximum of 15 different computers to be logged into the training at one time. We also offer online courses for individuals that you can do at your own speed.

The training gives you the manual, case studies, application to current practice, a review of each component of the tool, conversation guidance with prospective clients – and more!

**Current SPDAT training available:**
- Level 0 SPDAT Training: VI-SPDAT for Frontline Workers
- Level 1 SPDAT Training: SPDAT for Frontline Workers
- Level 2 SPDAT Training: SPDAT for Supervisors
- Level 3 SPDAT Training: SPDAT for Trainers

**Other related training available:**
- Excellence in Housing-Based Case Management
- Coordinated Access & Common Assessment
- Motivational Interviewing
- Objective-Based Interactions

More information about SPDAT training, including pricing, is available online at

Terms and Conditions Governing the Use of the SPDAT

SPDAT products have been developed by OrgCode Consulting, Inc. with extensive feedback from key community partners including people with lived experience. The tools are provided free of charge to communities to improve the client centered services dedicated to increasing housing stability and wellness. Training is indeed required for the administration and interpretation of these assessment tools. Use of the SPDAT products without authorized training is strictly prohibited.

By using this tool, you accept and agree to be bound by the terms of this expectation.

No sharing, reproduction, use or duplication of the information herein is permitted without the express written consent of OrgCode Consulting, Inc.

Ownership

The Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (“SPDAT”) and accompanying documentation is owned by OrgCode Consulting, Inc.

Training

Although the SPDAT Series is provided free of charge to communities, training by OrgCode Consulting, Inc. or a third party trainer, authorized by OrgCode, must be successfully completed. After meeting the training requirements required to administer and interpret the SPDAT Series, practitioners are permitted to implement the SPDAT in their work with clients.

Restrictions on Use

You may not use or copy the SPDAT prior to successfully completing training on its use, provided by OrgCode Consulting, Inc. or a third-party trainer authorized by OrgCode. You may not share the SPDAT with other individuals not trained on its use. You may not train others on the use of the SPDAT, unless specifically authorized by OrgCode Consulting, Inc.

Restrictions on Alteration

You may not modify the SPDAT or create any derivative work of the SPDAT or its accompanying documentation, without the express written consent of OrgCode Consulting, Inc. Derivative works include but are not limited to translations.

Disclaimer

The management and staff of OrgCode Consulting, Inc. (OrgCode) do not control the way in which the Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (SPDAT) will be used, applied or integrated into related client processes by communities, agency management or frontline workers. OrgCode assumes no legal responsibility or liability for the misuse of the SPDAT, decisions that are made or services that are received in conjunction with the assessment tool.
### A. Mental Health & Wellness & Cognitive Functioning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROMPTS</th>
<th>CLIENT SCORE:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Have you ever received any help with your mental wellness?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Do you feel you are getting all the help you need for your mental health or stress?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Has a doctor ever prescribed you pills for nerves, anxiety, depression or anything like that?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Have you ever gone to an emergency room or stayed in a hospital because you weren’t feeling 100% emotionally?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Do you have trouble learning or paying attention?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Have you ever had testing done to identify learning disabilities?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Do you know if, when pregnant with you, your mother did anything that we now know can have negative effects on the baby?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Have you ever hurt your brain or head?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Do you have any documents or papers about your mental health or brain functioning?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Are there other professionals we could speak with that have knowledge of your mental health?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SCORING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td><strong>Any</strong> of the following:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ Serious and persistent mental illness (2+ hospitalizations in a mental health facility or psychiatric ward in the past 2 years) <strong>and</strong> not in a heightened state of recovery currently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ Major barriers to performing tasks and functions of daily living or communicating intent because of a brain injury, learning disability or developmental disability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><strong>Any</strong> of the following:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ Heightened concerns about state of mental health, but fewer than 2 hospitalizations, and/or without knowledge of presence of a diagnosable mental health condition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ Diminished ability to perform tasks and functions of daily living or communicating intent because of a brain injury, learning disability or developmental disability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>While there may be concern for overall mental health or mild impairments to performing tasks and functions of daily living or communicating intent, <strong>all</strong> of the following are true:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ No major concerns about safety or ability to be housed without intensive supports to assist with mental health or cognitive functioning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ No major concerns for the health and safety of others because of mental health or cognitive functioning ability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ No compelling reason for screening by an expert in mental health or cognitive functioning prior to housing to fully understand capacity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>□ In a heightened state of recovery, has a Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) or similar plan for promoting wellness, understands symptoms and strategies for coping with them, <strong>and</strong> is engaged with mental health supports as necessary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>□ No mental health or cognitive functioning issues disclosed, suspected or observed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**B. Physical Health & Wellness**

**PROMPTS**

- How is your health?
- Are you getting any help with your health? How often?
- Do you feel you are getting all the care you need for your health?
- Any illness like diabetes, HIV, Hep C or anything like that going on?
- Ever had a doctor tell you that you have problems with blood pressure or heart or lungs or anything like that?
- When was the last time you saw a doctor? What was that for?
- Do you have a clinic or doctor that you usually go to?
- Anything going on right now with your health that you think would prevent you from living a full, healthy, happy life?
- Are there other professionals we could speak with that have knowledge of your health?
- Do you have any documents or papers about your health or past stays in hospital because of your health?

**NOTES**

**SCORING**

4

- Any of the following:
  - Co-occurring chronic health conditions
  - Attempting a treatment protocol for a chronic health condition, but the treatment is not improving health
  - Palliative health condition

3

- Presence of a health issue with any of the following:
  - Not connected with professional resources to assist with a real or perceived serious health issue, by choice
  - Single chronic or serious health concern but does not connect with professional resources because of insufficient community resources (e.g. lack of availability or affordability)
  - Unable to follow the treatment plan as a direct result of homeless status

2

- Presence of a relatively minor physical health issue, which is managed and/or cared for with appropriate professional resources or through informed self-care
- Presence of a physical health issue, for which appropriate treatment protocols are followed, but there is still a moderate impact on their daily living

1

- Single chronic or serious health condition, but all of the following are true:
  - Able to manage the health issue and live a relatively active and healthy life
  - Connected to appropriate health supports
  - Educated and informed on how to manage the health issue, take medication as necessary related to the condition, and consistently follow these requirements.

0

- No serious or chronic health condition disclosed, observed, or suspected
- If any minor health condition, they are managed appropriately
### C. Medication

**PROMPTS**

- Have you recently been prescribed any medications by a health care professional?
- Do you take any medications prescribed to you by a doctor?
- Have you ever sold some or all of your prescription?
- Have you ever had a doctor prescribe you medication that you didn’t have filled at a pharmacy or didn’t take?
- Were any of your medications changed in the last month? If yes: How did that make you feel?
- Do other people ever steal your medications?
- Do you ever share your medications with other people?
- How do you store your medications and make sure you take the right medication at the right time each day?
- What do you do if you realize you’ve forgotten to take your medications?
- Do you have any papers or documents about the medications you take?

**CLIENT SCORE:**

**NOTES**

**SCORING**

**Any** of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>In the past 30 days, started taking a prescription which is having any negative impact on day to day living, socialization or mood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shares or sells prescription, but keeps less than is sold or shared</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Regularly misuses medication (e.g. frequently forgets; often takes the wrong dosage; uses some or all of medication to get high)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Has had a medication prescribed in the last 90 days that remains unfilled, for any reason</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Any** of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>In the past 30 days, started taking a prescription which is not having any negative impact on day to day living, socialization or mood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shares or sells prescription, but keeps more than is sold or shared</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Requires intensive assistance to manage or take medication (e.g., assistance organizing in a pillbox; working with pharmacist to blister-pack; adapting the living environment to be more conducive to taking medications at the right time for the right purpose, like keeping nighttime medications on the bedside table and morning medications by the coffeemaker)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Medications are stored and distributed by a third-party</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Any** of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Fails to take medication at the appropriate time or appropriate dosage, 1-2 times per week</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Self-manages medications except for requiring reminders or assistance for refills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Successfully self-managing medication for fewer than 30 consecutive days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Successfully self-managing medications for more than 30, but less than 180, consecutive days</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>No medication prescribed to them</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Successfully self-managing medication for 181+ consecutive days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
D. Substance Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROMPTS</th>
<th>CLIENT SCORE:</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• When was the last time you had a drink or used drugs?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Is there anything we should keep in mind related to drugs or alcohol?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• [If they disclose use of drugs and/or alcohol] How frequently would you say you use [specific substance] in a week?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ever have a doctor tell you that your health may be at risk because you drink or use drugs?</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Have you engaged with anyone professionally related to your substance use that we could speak with?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Ever get into fights, fall down and bang your head, or pass out when drinking or using other drugs?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Have you ever used alcohol or other drugs in a way that may be considered less than safe?</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Do you ever end up doing things you later regret after you have gotten really hammered?</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Do you ever drink mouthwash or cooking wine or hand sanitizer or anything like that?</td>
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</table>

Note: Consumption thresholds: 2 drinks per day or 14 total drinks in any one week period for men; 2 drinks per day or 9 total drinks in any one week period for women.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCORING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ In a life-threatening health situation as a direct result of substance use, or, In the past 30 days, any of the following are true...</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Substance use is almost daily (21+ times) and often to the point of complete inebriation</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Binge drinking, non-beverage alcohol use, or inhalant use 4+ times</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Substance use resulting in passing out 2+ times</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Experiencing serious health impacts as a direct result of substance use, though not (yet) in a life-threatening position as a result, or, In the past 30 days, any of the following are true...</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Drug use reached the point of complete inebriation 12+ times</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Alcohol use usually exceeded the consumption thresholds (at least 5+ times), but usually not to the point of complete inebriation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Binge drinking, non-beverage alcohol use, or inhalant use occurred 1-3 times</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ In the past 30 days, any of the following are true...</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Drug use reached the point of complete inebriation fewer than 12 times</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Alcohol use exceeded the consumption thresholds fewer than 5 times</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ In the past 365 days, no alcohol use beyond consumption thresholds, or, In the past 30 days, any of the following are true...</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ If making claims to sobriety, no substance use in the past 30 days</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ In the past 365 days, no substance use</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**E. Experience of Abuse & Trauma**

*To avoid re-traumatizing the individual, ask selected approved questions as written. Do not probe for details of the trauma/abuse. This section is entirely self-reported.*

- “I don’t need you to go into any details, but has there been any point in your life where you experienced emotional, physical, sexual or psychological abuse?”
- “Are you currently or have you ever received professional assistance to address that abuse?”
- “Does the experience of abuse or trauma impact your day to day living in any way?”
- “Does the experience of abuse or trauma impact your ability to hold down a job, maintain housing or engage in meaningful relationships with friends or family?”
- “Have you ever found yourself feeling or acting in a certain way that you think is caused by a history of abuse or trauma?”
- “Have you ever become homeless as a direct result of experiencing abuse or trauma?”

### SCORING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>A reported experience of abuse or trauma, believed to be a direct cause of their homelessness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The experience of abuse or trauma is <strong>not</strong> believed to be a direct cause of homelessness, but abuse or trauma (experienced before, during, or after homelessness) <strong>is</strong> impacting daily functioning and/or ability to get out of homelessness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Any of the following:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- A reported experience of abuse or trauma, but is not believed to impact daily functioning and/or ability to get out of homelessness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Engaged in therapeutic attempts at recovery, but does not consider self to be recovered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>A reported experience of abuse or trauma, and considers self to be recovered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>No reported experience of abuse or trauma</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### F. Risk of Harm to Self or Others

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROMPTS</th>
<th>CLIENT SCORE:</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Do you have thoughts about hurting yourself or anyone else? Have you ever acted on these thoughts? When was the last time?  
• What was occurring when you had these feelings or took these actions?  
• Have you ever received professional help – including maybe a stay at hospital – as a result of thinking about or attempting to hurt yourself or others? How long ago was that? Does that happen often?  
• Have you recently left a situation you felt was abusive or unsafe? How long ago was that?  
• Have you been in any fights recently - whether you started it or someone else did? How long ago was that? How often do you get into fights?                                                                 |                                                                              |       |

### SCORING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Any of the following:</th>
<th>4</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| ✖ In the past 90 days, left an abusive situation  
✖ In the past 30 days, attempted, threatened, or actually harmed self or others  
✖ In the past 30 days, involved in a physical altercation (instigator or participant) | ✖ In the past 180 days, left an abusive situation, but no exposure to abuse in the past 90 days  
✖ Most recently attempted, threatened, or actually harmed self or others in the past 180 days, but not in the past 30 days  
✖ In the past 365 days, involved in a physical altercation (instigator or participant), but not in the past 30 days |       |
| Any of the following:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 3                                                                 |       |
| ✖ In the past 365 days, left an abusive situation, but no exposure to abuse in the past 180 days  
✖ Most recently attempted, threatened, or actually harmed self or others in the past 365 days, but not in the past 180 days  
✖ 366+ days ago, 4+ involvements in physical alterations | ✖ 366+ days ago, 1-3 involvements in physical alterations |       |
| Any of the following:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 2                                                                 |       |
| ✖ 366+ days ago, 1-3 involvements in physical alterations                                                                                                                                   | ✖ Reports no instance of harming self, being harmed, or harming others |       |
G. Involvement in Higher Risk and/or Exploitive Situations

**PROMPTS**

- [Observe, don’t ask] Any abcesses or track marks from injection substance use?
- Does anybody force or trick you to do something that you don’t want to do?
- Do you ever do stuff that could be considered dangerous like drinking until you pass out outside, or delivering drugs for someone, having sex without a condom with a casual partner, or anything like that?
- Do you ever find yourself in situations that may be considered at a high risk for violence?
- Do you ever sleep outside? How do you dress and prepare for that? Where do you tend to sleep?

**SCORING**

**Any** of the following:

4
- ☐ In the past 180 days, engaged in 10+ higher risk and/or exploitive events
- ☐ In the past 90 days, left an abusive situation

3
- ☐ In the past 180 days, engaged in 4-9 higher risk and/or exploitive events
- ☐ In the past 180 days, left an abusive situation, but not in the past 90 days

2
- ☐ In the past 180 days, engaged in 1-3 higher risk and/or exploitive events
- ☐ 181+ days ago, left an abusive situation

1
- ☐ Any involvement in higher risk and/or exploitive situations occurred more than 180 days ago but less than 365 days ago

0
- ☐ In the past 365 days, no involvement in higher risk and/or exploitive events
### H. Interaction with Emergency Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROMPTS</th>
<th>CLIENT SCORE:</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• How often do you go to emergency rooms?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• How many times have you had the police speak to you over the past 180 days?</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Have you used an ambulance or needed the fire department at any time in the past 180 days?</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• How many times have you called or visited a crisis team or a crisis counselor in the last 180 days?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• How many times have you been admitted to hospital in the last 180 days? How long did you stay?</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Emergency service use includes: admittance to emergency room/department; hospitalizations; trips to a hospital in an ambulance; crisis service, distress centers, suicide prevention service, sexual assault crisis service, sex worker crisis service, or similar service; interactions with police for the purpose of law enforcement; interactions with fire service in emergency situations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCORING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4: In the past 180 days, cumulative total of 10+ interactions with emergency services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3: In the past 180 days, cumulative total of 4-9 interactions with emergency services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2: In the past 180 days, cumulative total of 1-3 interactions with emergency services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1: Any interaction with emergency services occurred more than 180 days ago but less than 365 days ago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0: In the past 365 days, no interaction with emergency services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I. Legal

PROMPTS

- Do you have any “legal stuff” going on?
- Have you had a lawyer assigned to you by a court?
- Do you have any upcoming court dates? Do you think there’s a chance you will do time?
- Any involvement with family court or child custody matters?
- Any outstanding fines?
- Have you paid any fines in the last 12 months for anything?
- Have you done any community service in the last 12 months?
- Is anybody expecting you to do community service for anything right now?
- Did you have any legal stuff in the last year that got dismissed?
- Is your housing at risk in any way right now because of legal issues?

CLIENT SCORE:

NOTES

SCORING

4

Any of the following:

☐ Current outstanding legal issue(s), likely to result in fines of $500+
☐ Current outstanding legal issue(s), likely to result in incarceration of 3+ months (cumulatively), inclusive of any time held on remand

3

Any of the following:

☐ Current outstanding legal issue(s), likely to result in fines less than $500
☐ Current outstanding legal issue(s), likely to result in incarceration of less than 90 days (cumulatively), inclusive of any time held on remand

2

Any of the following:

☐ In the past 365 days, relatively minor legal issue has occurred and was resolved through community service or payment of fine(s)
☐ Currently outstanding relatively minor legal issue that is unlikely to result in incarceration (but may result in community service)

1

☐ There are no current legal issues, and any legal issues that have historically occurred have been resolved without community service, payment of fine, or incarceration

0

☐ No legal issues within the past 365 days, and currently no conditions of release
### J. Managing Tenancy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROMPTS</th>
<th>CLIENT SCORE:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Are you currently homeless?  
  • [If the person is housed] Do you have an eviction notice?  
  • [If the person is housed] Do you think that your housing is at risk?  
  • How is your relationship with your neighbors?  
  • How do you normally get along with landlords?  
  • How have you been doing with taking care of your place? | |

**Note:** Housing matters include: conflict with landlord and/or neighbors, damages to the unit, payment of rent on time and in full. Payment of rent through a third party is not considered to be a short-coming or deficiency in the ability to pay rent.

### SCORING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Any of the following:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Currently homeless</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ In the next 30 days, will be re-housed or return to homelessness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ In the past 365 days, was re-housed 6+ times</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ In the past 90 days, support worker(s) have been cumulatively involved 10+ times with housing matters</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Any of the following:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ In the next 60 days, will be re-housed or return to homelessness, but not in next 30 days</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ In the past 365 days, was re-housed 3-5 times</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ In the past 90 days, support worker(s) have been cumulatively involved 4-9 times with housing matters</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Any of the following:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ In the past 365 days, was re-housed 2 times</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ In the past 180 days, was re-housed 1+ times, but not in the past 60 days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Continuously housed for at least 90 days but not more than 180 days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ In the past 90 days, support worker(s) have been cumulatively involved 1-3 times with housing matters</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Any of the following:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ In the past 365 days, was re-housed 1 time</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Continuously housed, with no assistance on housing matters, for at least 180 days but not more than 365 days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| □ Continuously housed, with no assistance on housing matters, for at least 365 days | 0 |
K. Personal Administration & Money Management

### PROMPTS
- How are you with taking care of money?
- How are you with paying bills on time and taking care of other financial stuff?
- Do you have any street debts?
- Do you have any drug or gambling debts?
- Is there anybody that thinks you owe them money?
- Do you budget every single month for every single thing you need? Including cigarettes? Booze? Drugs?
- Do you try to pay your rent before paying for anything else?
- Are you behind in any payments like child support or student loans or anything like that?

### CLIENT SCORE:

### NOTES

### SCORING

**4** Any of the following:
- Cannot create or follow a budget, regardless of supports provided
- Does not comprehend financial obligations
- Does not have an income (including formal and informal sources)
- Not aware of the full amount spent on substances, if they use substances
- Substantial real or perceived debts of $1,000+, past due or requiring monthly payments

**3** Any of the following:
- Requires intensive assistance to create and manage a budget (including any legally mandated guardian/trustee that provides assistance or manages access to money)
- Only understands their financial obligations with the assistance of a 3rd party
- Not budgeting for substance use, if they are a substance user
- Real or perceived debts of $999 or less, past due or requiring monthly payments

**2** Any of the following:
- In the past 365 days, source of income has changed 2+ times
- Budgeting to the best of ability (including formal and informal sources), but still short of money every month for essential needs
- Voluntarily receives assistance creating and managing a budget or restricts access to their own money (e.g. guardian/trusteeship)
- Has been self-managing financial resources and taking care of associated administrative tasks for less than 90 days

**1** Has been self-managing financial resources and taking care of associated administrative tasks for at least 90 days, but for less than 180 days

**0** Has been self-managing financial resources and taking care of associated administrative tasks for at least 180 days
L. Social Relationships & Networks

PROMPTS

- Tell me about your friends, family or other people in your life.
- How often do you get together or chat?
- When you go to doctor’s appointments or meet with other professionals like that, what is that like?
- Are there any people in your life that you feel are just using you?
- Are there any of your closer friends that you feel are always asking you for money, smokes, drugs, food or anything like that?
- Have you ever had people crash at your place that you did not want staying there?
- Have you ever been threatened with an eviction or lost a place because of something that friends or family did in your apartment?
- Have you ever been concerned about not following your lease agreement because of your friends or family?

NOTES

CLIENT SCORE:

SCORING

4

Any of the following:
- □ In the past 90 days, left an exploitive, abusive or dependent relationship
- □ Friends, family or other people are placing security of housing at imminent risk, or impacting life, wellness, or safety
- □ No friends or family and demonstrates no ability to follow social norms
- □ Currently homeless and would classify most of friends and family as homeless

3

Any of the following:
- □ In the past 90-180 days, left an exploitive, abusive or dependent relationship
- □ Friends, family or other people are having some negative consequences on wellness or housing stability
- □ No friends or family but demonstrating ability to follow social norms
- □ Meeting new people with an intention of forming friendships
- □ Reconnecting with previous friends or family members, but experiencing difficulty advancing the relationship
- □ Currently homeless, and would classify some of friends and family as being housed, while others are homeless

2

Any of the following:
- □ More than 180 days ago, left an exploitive, abusive or dependent relationship
- □ Developing relationships with new people but not yet fully trusting them
- □ Currently homeless, and would classify friends and family as being housed

1

□ Has been housed for less than 180 days, and is engaged with friends or family, who are having no negative consequences on the individual’s housing stability

0

□ Has been housed for at least 180 days, and is engaged with friends or family, who are having no negative consequences on the individual’s housing stability
## M. Self Care & Daily Living Skills

### PROMPTS

- Do you have any worries about taking care of yourself?
- Do you have any concerns about cooking, cleaning, laundry or anything like that?
- Do you ever need reminders to do things like shower or clean up?
- Describe your last apartment.
- Do you know how to shop for nutritious food on a budget?
- Do you know how to make low cost meals that can result in leftovers to freeze or save for another day?
- Do you tend to keep all of your clothes clean?
- Have you ever had a problem with mice or other bugs like cockroaches as a result of a dirty apartment?
- When you have had a place where you have made a meal, do you tend to clean up dishes and the like before they get crusty?

### CLIENT SCORE:

### NOTES

### SCORING

**4**
- **Any** of the following:
  - No insight into how to care for themselves, their apartment or their surroundings
  - Currently homeless and relies upon others to meet basic needs (e.g. access to shelter, showers, toilet, laundry, food, and/or clothing) on an almost daily basis
  - Engaged in hoarding or collecting behavior and is not aware that it is an issue in her/his life

**3**
- **Any** of the following:
  - Has insight into some areas of how to care for themselves, their apartment or their surroundings, but misses other areas because of lack of insight
  - In the past 180 days, relied upon others to meet basic needs (e.g. access to shelter, showers, toilet, laundry, food, and/or clothing), 14+ days in any 30-day period
  - Engaged in hoarding or collecting behavior and is aware that it is an issue in her/his life

**2**
- **Any** of the following:
  - Fully aware and has insight in all that is required to take care of themselves, their apartment and their surroundings, but has not yet mastered the skills or time management to fully execute this on a regular basis
  - In the past 180 days, relied upon others to meet basic needs (e.g. access to shelter, showers, toilet, laundry, food, and/or clothing), fewer than 14 days in every 30-day period

**1**
- In the past 365 days, accessed community resources 4 or fewer times, **and** is fully taking care of all their daily needs

**0**
- For the past 365+ days, fully taking care of all their daily needs independently
### N. Meaningful Daily Activity

**PROMPTS**

- How do you spend your day?
- How do you spend your free time?
- Does that make you feel happy/fulfilled?
- How many days a week would you say you have things to do that make you feel happy/fulfilled?
- How much time in a week would you say you are totally bored?
- When you wake up in the morning, do you tend to have an idea of what you plan to do that day?
- How much time in a week would you say you spend doing stuff to fill up the time rather than doing things that you love?
- Are there any things that get in the way of you doing the sorts of activities you would like to be doing?

**NOTES**

**SCORING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>No planned, legal activities described as providing fulfillment or happiness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Discussing, exploring, signing up for and/or preparing for new activities or to re-engage with planned, legal activities that used to provide fulfillment or happiness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Attempting new or re-engaging with planned, legal activities that used to provide fulfillment or happiness, but uncertain that activities selected are currently providing fulfillment or happiness, or the individual is not fully committed to continuing the activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Has planned, legal activities described as providing fulfillment or happiness 1-3 days per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Has planned, legal activities described as providing fulfillment or happiness 4+ days per week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 0. History of Homelessness & Housing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROMPTS</th>
<th>CLIENT SCORE:</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• How long have you been homeless?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• How many times have you been homeless in your life other than this most recent time?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Have you spent any time sleeping on a friend’s couch or floor? And if so, during those times did you consider that to be your permanent address?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Have you ever spent time sleeping in a car or alleyway or garage or barn or bus shelter or anything like that?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Have you ever spent time sleeping in an abandoned building?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Were you ever in hospital or jail for a period of time when you didn’t have a permanent address to go to when you got out?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SCORING

- **4** □ Over the past 10 years, cumulative total of 5+ years of homelessness
- **3** □ Over the past 10 years, cumulative total of 2+ years but fewer than 5 years of homelessness
- **2** □ Over the past 4 years, cumulative total of 30+ days but fewer than 2 years of homelessness
- **1** □ Over the past 4 years, cumulative total of 7+ days but fewer than 30 days of homelessness
- **0** □ Over the past 4 years, cumulative total of 7 or fewer days of homelessness
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPONENT</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MENTAL HEALTH &amp; WELLNESS AND COGNITIVE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYSICAL HEALTH &amp; MEDICATION</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERFORMANCE OF ABUSE AND EXPERIENCE OF ABUSE AND OR TRAUMA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RISK OF HARM TO SELF OR OTHERS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INVOLVEMENT IN HIGHER RISK AND/OR EXPLOITIVE SITUATIONS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTERACTION WITH EMERGENCY SERVICES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interaction</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Client: [Name]
Worker: [Name]
Version: 4.01

Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (SPDAT)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPONENT</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LEGAL INVOLVEMENT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANAGING TENANCY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERSONAL ADMINISTRATION &amp; MONEY MANAGEMENT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS &amp; NETWORKS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEANINGFUL DAILY ACTIVITIES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SELF-CARE &amp; DAILY LIVING</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HISTORY OF HOUSING &amp; HOMELESSNESS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL Score:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-19: No housing intervention</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-34: Rapid Re-Housing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-60: Permanent Supportive Housing/Housing First</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix A: About the SPDAT

OrgCode Consulting, Inc. is pleased to announce the release of Version 4 of the Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (SPDAT). Since its release in 2010, the SPDAT has been used with over 10,000 unique individuals in over 100 communities across North America and in select locations around the world.

Originally designed as a tool to help prioritize housing services for homeless individuals based upon their acuity, the SPDAT has been successfully adapted to other fields of practice, including: discharge planning from hospitals, work with youth, survivors of domestic violence, health research, planning supports for consumer survivors of psychiatric care systems, and in work supporting people with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders. We are encouraged that so many service providers and communities are expanding the use of this tool, and OrgCode will continue to support the innovative use of the SPDAT to meet local needs.

SPDAT Design

The SPDAT is designed to:

• Help prioritize which clients should receive what type of housing assistance intervention, and assist in determining the intensity of case management services
• Prioritize the sequence of clients receiving those services
• Help prioritize the time and resources of Frontline Workers
• Allow Team Leaders and program supervisors to better match client needs to the strengths of specific Frontline Workers on their team
• Assist Team Leaders and program supervisors to support Frontline Workers and establish service priorities across their team
• Provide assistance with case planning and encourage reflection on the prioritization of different elements within a case plan
• Track the depth of need and service responses to clients over time

The SPDAT is NOT designed to:

• Provide a diagnosis
• Assess current risk or be a predictive index for future risk
• Take the place of other valid and reliable instruments used in clinical research and care

The SPDAT is only used with those clients who meet program eligibility criteria. For example, if there is an eligibility criterion that requires prospective clients to be homeless at time of intake to be eligible for Housing First, then the pre-condition must be met before pursuing the application of the SPDAT. For that reason, we have also created the VI-SPDAT as an initial screening tool.

The SPDAT is not intended to replace clinical expertise or clinical assessment tools. The tool complements existing clinical approaches by incorporating a wide array of components that provide both a global and detailed picture of a client’s acuity. Certain components of the SPDAT relate to clinical concerns, and it is expected that intake professionals and clinicians will work together to ensure the accurate assessment of these issues. In fact, many organizations and communities have found the SPDAT to be a useful method for bridging the gap between housing, social services and clinical services.
Version 4

The SPDAT has been influenced by the experience of practitioners in its use, persons with lived experience that have had the SPDAT implemented with them, as well as a number of other excellent tools such as (but not limited to) the Outcome Star, Health of the Nation Outcome Scale, Denver Acuity Scale, Camberwell Assessment of Needs, Vulnerability Index, and Transition Aged Youth Triage Tool.

In preparing SPDAT v4, we have adopted a comprehensive and collaborative approach to changing and improving the SPDAT. Communities that have used the tool for three months or more have provided us with their feedback. OrgCode staff have observed the tool in operation to better understand its implementation in the field. An independent committee composed of service practitioners and academics review enhancements to the SPDAT. Furthermore, we continue to test the validity of SPDAT results through the use of control groups. Overall, we consistently see that groups assessed with the SPDAT have better long-term housing and life stability outcomes than those assessed with other tools, or no tools at all.

OrgCode intends to continue working with communities and persons with lived experience to make future versions of the SPDAT even better. We hope all those communities and agencies that choose to use this tool will remain committed to collaborating with us to make those improvements over time.

Version 4 builds upon the success of Version 3 of the SPDAT with some refinements. Starting in August 2014, a survey was launched of existing SPDAT users to get their input on what should be amended, improved, or maintained in the tool. Analysis was completed across all of these responses. Further research was conducted. Questions were tested and refined over several months, again including the direct voice of persons with lived experience and frontline practitioners. Input was also gathered from senior government officials that create policy and programs to help ensure alignment with guidelines and funding requirements.

The major differences from Version 3 to Version 4 include:

- The structure of the tools is the same: four domains (five for families) with components aligned to specific domains. The names of the domains and the components remain unchanged.
- The scoring of the tools is the same: 60 points for singles, and 80 points for families.
- The scoring tables used to run from 0 through to 4. They are now reversed with each table starting at 4 and working their way down to 0. This increases the speed of assessment.
- The order of the tools has changed, grouped together by domain.
- Language has been simplified.
- Days are used rather than months to provide greater clarification and alignment to how most databases capture periods of time in service.
- Greater specificity has been provided in some components such as amount of debts.
Appendix B: Where the SPDAT is being used (as of May 2015)
Arizona

California

- Orange County CoC
- Fresno County CoC
- Santa Clara County CoC
- Los Angeles County CoC
- San Diego County CoC
- Riverside County CoC
- San Bernardino County CoC
- Nevada County CoC

Colorado

- Denver County CoC
- Pueblo County CoC
- Colorado Springs County CoC
- Fort Collins County CoC

Connecticut

- Hartford County CoC

Delaware

- New Castle County CoC

District of Columbia

- Washington, DC

Florida

- Miami-Dade County CoC
- Broward County CoC
- Pinellas County CoC
- Hillsborough County CoC

Georgia

- Fulton County CoC
- DeKalb County CoC
- Atlanta-Fulton County CoC

Hawaii

- Honolulu County CoC

Idaho

- Ada County CoC

Illinois

- Cook County CoC
- DuPage County CoC
- Lake County CoC
- Will County CoC
- Peoria County CoC
- McHenry County CoC
- McLean County CoC

Indiana

- Marion County CoC
- Lawrence County CoC
- White County CoC

Iowa

- Polk County CoC
- Des Moines County CoC

Kansas

- Kansas City Metropolitan Area CoC
- Sedgwick County CoC

Kentucky

- Jefferson County CoC
- Kenton County CoC

Louisiana

- Baton Rouge Area CoC
- New Orleans Area CoC

Maine

- Cumberland County CoC

Maryland

- Baltimore City CoC
- Anne Arundel County CoC
- Montgomery County CoC

Massachusetts

- Worcester County CoC
- Middlesex County CoC
- Suffolk County CoC

Michigan

- Detroit CoC
- Oakland County CoC
- Wayne County CoC

Minnesota

- Minneapolis/Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe CoC
- Saint Paul/Hamilton County CoC
- St. Louis County CoC

Mississippi

- Hinds County CoC

Missouri

- Kansas City Metropolitan Area CoC
- St. Louis County CoC
- Clark County CoC

Montana

- Great Falls Area CoC

Nebraska

- Omaha Area CoC
- Lincoln Area CoC

Nevada

- Clark County CoC
- Las Vegas Metropolitan Area CoC

New Hampshire

- Manchester Area CoC

New Jersey

- Essex County CoC
- Bergen County CoC

New Mexico

- Albuquerque Area CoC
- Santa Fe CoC

New York

- New York City CoC
- Nassau County CoC
- Monroe County CoC

North Carolina

- Mecklenburg County CoC
- Wake County CoC

North Dakota

- Cass County CoC

Ohio

- Cleveland/Akron Area CoC
- Dayton Area CoC
- Cincinnati Area CoC

Oklahoma

- Tulsa County CoC
- Muskogee County CoC

Oregon

- Portland/Clackamas County CoC
- Eugene/Albany Area CoC

Pennsylvania

- Montgomery County CoC
- York County CoC
- Erie County CoC

Rhode Island

- Providence County CoC

South Carolina

- Charleston County CoC
- York County CoC

South Dakota

- Sioux Falls Area CoC

Tennessee

- Nashville-Davidson CoC
- Memphis Area CoC

Texas

- Harris County CoC
- Dallas County CoC
- Fort Worth Area CoC

Utah

- Salt Lake City Area CoC

Vermont

- Chittenden County CoC

Virginia

- Alexandria Area CoC
- Richmond Area CoC

Washington

- King County CoC
- Pierce County CoC

West Virginia

- West Virginia CoC

Wisconsin

- Milwaukee Area CoC
- Dane County CoC

Wyoming

- Wyoming Area CoC

Selby County CoC

Single Adults

Version 4.01

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