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# Mongolian



# alphabet

Initial	Medial	Final	Romanisation	Initial	Medial	Final	Romanisation
ᠮ	ᠶ	ᠯ	a, aa	ᠶ	ᠶ	ᠶ	y
ᠮ	ᠶ	ᠯ	ᠶ	ᠶ	ᠶ	ᠶ	r
ᠮ	ᠶ	ᡩ	i, ee	ᡩ	ᡩ	ᡩ	w, v, e
ᠮ	ᠶ	ᠶ	o, ū	Extended letters (for Chinese and other foreign words) are listed below.			
ᠮ	ᠶ	ᠶ	ᠶ				
ᠮ	ᠶ	ᠯ	n	ᠮ	ᠮ	ᠮ	f
ᠮ	ᠶ	ᠩ	ng	ᠮ	ᠮ	ᠮ	k
ᠮ	ᠮ	ᠪ	b, v, w	ᠮ	ᠮ	ᠮ	lh
ᠮ	ᠮ	ᠶ	p	ᠮ	ᠮ	ᠮ	ts
ᠮ	ᠮ	ᡥ	h, kh	ᠮ	ᠮ	ᠮ	z
ᠮ	ᠮ	ᡥ	h, kh	ᠮ	ᠮ	ᠮ	h
ᠮ	ᠮ	ᠭ	g	ᠮ			zh
ᠮ	ᠮ	ᠯ	g	ᠮ			zh
ᠮ	ᠮ	ᠯ	ᠯ	ᠮ			chö
ᠮ	ᠮ	ᠮ	m	Mongolian is written vertically, ie from top to bottom (and read from left to right), in a cursive alphabetic script consisting of 23 basic letters with the addition of several extra characters used mainly to write words borrowed from other languages.			
ᠮ	ᠮ	ᠰ	s, sh				
ᠮ	ᠮ	ᠶ	sh				
ᠮ	ᠮ	ᠶ	t, d				
ᠮ	ᠮ		ch	Not all sounds listed in this table are found in the phrases within this chapter. See the pronunciation guide, p280.			
ᠮ	ᠮ		j				

## introduction

Mongolian (*mong-gol hul* ᠮᠣᠩᠭᠣᠯ ᠷᠤᠯ) is a Mongolic language, thought to be related to Turkish, Japanese and Korean. It's written using a cursive script in vertical lines read from left to right (also see p282) – one of few languages to be written this way. According to legend, the script was instituted by order of Genghis Khan in 1204. Today, there are estimated to be around 10 million Mongols worldwide, the majority living in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region of China. The standard language for Mongols in China is based on the Chahar dialect (used in this chapter), an official language alongside Mandarin Chinese. Mongolian restaurants and stores can be found throughout Inner Mongolia, and if the Mongolian writing on the signs is larger than the Chinese, you can be sure those inside speak Mongolian. Of course, a trip to Inner Mongolia should include a visit to its famous grasslands. Travellers here will often be met by locals and presented with a ceremonial scarf, called a *khadag* (*had-dug* ᠬᠠᠳᠱᠠᠭ), along with verbal blessings. Foreigners speaking Mongolian cause great delight – even more so if you say *tan-nē yir-rool tog-tukh bol-too-gē* ᠰᠠᠨ·ነ ໂຍ·ຣଓ\u0101 ຖອ·ຕຸກ ບອລ·ຖୋ·ເງ; meaning 'May your blessings come to pass!'

  mongolian



# pronunciation

Vowels		Consonants	
Symbol	English sound	Symbol	English sound
a	fat	b	bit
aa	father	ch	chin
ai	aisle	d	dog
ao	Mao	f	fun
ay	day	g	go
e	bet	h	hot
ē	there	j	jump
ee	see	k	kid
i	pig	kh	as the 'ch' in Scottish 'loch'
o	hot	l	lip
ô	alone	m	map
ö	'e' pronounced with rounded lips	n	no
oi	oil	ng	sing
öö	slightly longer ö	p	pet
oo	tool	r	run (very strong and trilled)
u	cut	s	sip
ü	good	sh	shoe
In this chapter, the Mongolian pronunciation is given in green after each phrase.		t	top
The 'r' in Mongolian is a hard, trilled sound. Note that s should always be pronounced as in 'sip' regardless of the sounds around it.		ts	cats
Syllables are separated by a dot and the stressed syllable is marked by italics.		v	very
For example: <i>ar·bu</i> n		w	win
		y	you
		z	lads

**essentials**

Yes./No.	ওঁওৰ্ম / ওৰ্ম	teem/oo-gway
Yes, that's right.	ওঁ	tu·gu
Yes, that would be OK.	ওঁওৰ্ম	bol-nē
Hello.	ওঁওৰ্ম ওৱা.	sēn bēn nō
Goodbye.	ওঁওৰ্ম	ba-yur-tē
Thank you.	ওঁওৰ্ম	ba-yur-laa
Excuse me./Sorry.	ওঁওৰ্ম	ôch/ē-rē

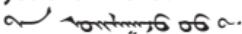
**language difficulties**

Do you speak English?



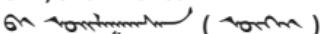
ta ang-gul hul mu-tun nō

Do you understand?



ta oil-goj jō

I (don't) understand.



bee oil-og-sun-(gway)

Could you please repeat that?

dēkh-aad nig üd-daa  
hilj bol-un nō

Could you please speak more slowly?



aa-jim shig hilj bol-un nō

**numbers**

0	ওঁ	tig	20	ওৰ্ম	hur
1	ওঁ	nig	30	ওৰ্ম	guch
2	ওৰ্ম	hoi-yur	40	ওৰ্ম	düch
3	ওৰ্ম	gū-roo	50	ওৰ্ম	teb
4	ওৰ্ম	dū-roo	60	ওৰ্ম	jir
5	ওৰ্ম	tav	70	ওৰ্ম	dal
6	ওৰ্ম	jür-gaa	80	ওৰ্ম	nai
7	ওৰ্ম	dol-lō	90	ওৰ্ম	yir
8	ওৰ্ম	nēm	100	ওৰ্ম	jō
9	ওৰ্ম	yis	1000	ওৰ্ম	myang
10	ওৰ্ম	a-ra-oo	1,000,000	ওৰ্ম	jōn tūm

# time & dates

What time is it?

хүтээ чаг болж бэхж вэ

*hut-tee chag bolj bēkh vē*

It's (10) o'clock.

(ар-бун) хүтээ чаг болж бэн

*(ar-bun) chag bolj bēn*

Quarter past (10).

ар-бун чаг ар-бан

*(ar-bun) chag ar-ban*

(ар-бун) та-вун мин-нүүц

*ta-vun min-nut*

Half past (10).

(ар-бун) хүтээ гас

*(ar-bun) chag ha-gas*

Forty-five minutes past (10).

ар-бун чаг дүүчин

*(ar-bun) chag dū-chin*

(ар-бун) та-вун мин-нүүц

*ta-vun min-nut*

At what time (does it start)?

хүтээ чагт (ар-бун чаг) вэ

*hut-tee chagt (ukh-lukh vē)*

(It starts) At 10.

ар-бун чаг-аас (ух-лун-нээ)

*ar-bun chag-aas (ukh-lun-nē)*

It's (18 October).

ар-бун сар-ин

*oo-noo-dur (ar-bun sar-in*

(ар-бун) нэ-мун

*ar-bun nē-mun)*

the day before

хүчигдэгчид

*ür-jee-dur*

yesterday

хүчигдэгчид

*oo-chig-dur*

yesterday

хүчигдэгчид

*oo-noo-dur*

today

хүчигдэгчид

*mar-gaash*

tomorrow

хүчигдэгчид

*nüg-oo-dur*

the day after

хүчигдэгчид

tomorrow

хүчигдэгчид

## just a twist to the right

Mongolian script is written vertically and read from left to right. So if you want to have a go at reading the script in this chapter, or when asking a local to read it for you, simply turn the book 90 degrees clockwise. Our coloured pronunciation guides, however, should simply be read the same way you read English.

Monday	гучин сар	ga·rug·een nig·un
Tuesday	нийт сар	ga·rug·een hoir
Wednesday	өвлийн сар	ga·rug·een gür·bun
Thursday	дүрвийн сар	ga·rug·eendür·bun
Friday	багийн сар	ga·rug·een ta-vun
Saturday	нэгжийн сар	ga·rug·een jur·gaa
Sunday	зургийн сар	ga·rug·een üd·dur



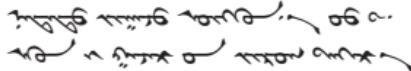
## transport & directions

Is this the ... to (Ulaan Hada)?	төхөөрөмжийн төхөөрөмжийн ...	un (ü-laan-ad) och-ikh ... mün ô
bus	төхөөрөмжийн машины төхөөрөмжийн	neet-in ma-shin tur-rug
train	төхөөрөмжийн тогтолцоогоо	galt tur-rug
plane	төхөөрөмжийн халтгаа	nis-gul
Where's a/the ...?	... бийхийн бийхийн ...	... haa bëkh vē
bank	бийхийн	benk
convenience store	бийхийн олондай	khit dul·goor
currency exchange	бийхийн түүхийн төхөөрөмжийн	jös so-likh gaj-jur
pharmacy	бийхийн олондай	um-meen dul·goor
post office	бийхийн олондай	shô-dang tob-chô
restaurant	бийхийн төхөөрөмжийн	hô-lan gur

Is this the road to (the Inner Mongolia Museum)?

походын дорийн	un bol (oo-woor mong-gol-in)
музейн дорийн	moo-zēi)·d ya-vukh
жаманхийн дорийн	jam mün nō

Can you show me where it is on the map?



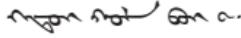
oon-ee gaj-rin jir-rug döör  
nad-ad jaaj üg-gün nô

Where is it located?



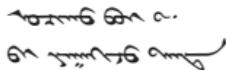
haa bē-dug vē

How far is it?



hut-tee hol vē

How do I get there?



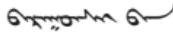
bee yaaj tund  
och-chikh vē

Turn towards the left.



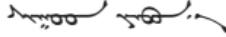
joonsh·ön

Turn towards the right.



ba·rônsh·ön

It's straight ahead.



shôt ya·vun

Can I get there on foot?



bee yav·gun o·chij  
bol-un nô



behind



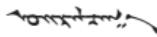
ar-dun

in front of



oom-nun

near



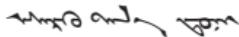
oi-rul-chô

on the corner



ün-chügt bēn

opposite



us-rug tal-dun

there



tund

# accommodation

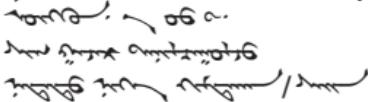
Where's a guest house?



joch-deen bô-tul

haa bêkh vê

Can you recommend somewhere cheap/good?

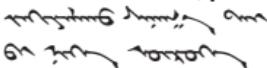


nad-ud nig hyemd-hun/sên shig

gaj-jur tan-il-chôlj

üg-gun nô

I'd like to book a room, please.



bee nig ür-röö

jakh-aal-dakh san-naa-tê

I have a reservation.



bee nig ür-röö jakh-aald-jai

Do you have a



tand ... ür-röö bén nô

... room?



hoi-yur hoo-nê

double (suite)



ganch hoo-nê

single

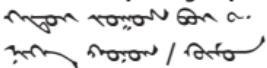


hoi-yur or-tê

twin



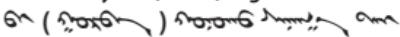
How much is it per night/person?



nig ho-nug/hoon

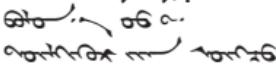
hut-tee jôs vê

I'd like to stay for (three) nights.



bee (gû-roo) hon-nokh san-naa-tê

Could I have my key, please?



tûl-khoor-öön ügch

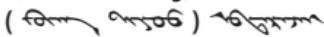
bol-un nô

Can I get an extra (blanket)?



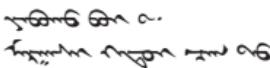
öör nig (tans) ügch bol-un nô

The (air conditioning) doesn't work.



(kong-tee-aa-oo) uv-dur-jê

What time is checkout?



mar-gaash hut-tee chagt  
yav-vakh vê

Could I have my ..., please?	ຄ່ອງ... ດີ ອ.	min-nee ... bô-chaj ügch bal-un ô
deposit	ເບົດ	bar-ree-chaan-né mûngk
passport	ບັນດາ	pas-port

## banking & communications

Where's a/an ...? ດັ່ງທີ່ ດີ ອ.

ATM	ອັນ ອຸນ	tee kwan jee
public phone	ເມືອງ ປິບ	neet-in ô-tas
internet cafe	ເນັດ ດົມ	net baar

How much is it per hour?

ນິກ ຂາຍ ຕົວຈຳ ດີ ອ.

nig chag hut-tee jôs vê

What's your phone number?

ຕັນ ດີ ອ.

tan-né ü-tus-un no-mur

hut-tee vê

The number is ...

ໂທ ອຸນ ດັບ ...

min-nee no-mur bol ...

## sightseeing

What time does it open/close?

ຫຼັບທຸກ / ຫຼັບທຸກ ດີ ອ.  
ນູ້ດຸກ / ນູ້ດຸກ ດີ

hut-tun chagt  
nö-dug/haa-dug vê

What's the admission charge?

ເງິນທຸກ ດີ ອ.

pee-aa-oo hut-tee jôs vê

Is there a discount for student/children?

ເງິນທຸກ ດີ ອ.  
ເກົ່າກົ່າ ດີ / ກົ່າກົ່າ ດີ

sü-ragh-een/hookh-deen  
pee-aa-oo bén nô

I'd like a ...

catalogue  
guide  
map

ເບ ... ວິວ  
ວິວ ດີ  
ວິວ ດີ

bee ... av-yaa  
jô-gaa-chul-een div-tir  
jam-chee-lugch  
gaj-reen jü-rug

I'd like to see ...

... ᠮᠱᠳᠳᠳ ሚᠳᠳᠳ ሚᠳᠳ

... ü-jikh san-naa-tē

What's that?

ա՞սու՞մ է այսը

tir yoo bē

Can I take a photo?

Ձո՞ւ՞մ օգա՞ն է  
Ե՞ն լուսակա՞րտ

bee soo-dur avch  
bol-un nō

Can I take photos here?

Ձո՞ւ՞մ օգա՞ն է  
Հայտնի լուսակա՞րտ

und soo-dur avch  
bol-un nō

When's the next tour?

Հայտնի վերաբեր քանի թուա՞ն  
Հայտնի վերաբեր օպերատորի հայտնի վերաբեր

hut-tee chag-aas da-raa-cheen  
jō-gaa-chikh ölj bol-ukh vē

How long is the tour?

Վերաբեր թուա՞ն

hut-tee hüg-chaa vē

## sightseeing

Arjai Grotto (Utag Banner)

արյայ գոտո

ar-jai a-goi

Bái Tǎ (White Pagoda)

բայ տա

cha-gaan sūv-rag

Dà Zhào Monastery

դա ժաո տուն

yikh jō som

Dali Lake

դալի լիստ

dal nōr

Daqinggou Nature Reserve (Tōngliáo)

տանգու սուն գո

chüng-khul-een gao

Five Pagoda Temple

տաւն սվրագտ տուն

ta-vun sūv-ragt som

Genghis Khan's Mausoleum in Ordos

տանգու օնց տուն

ching-gis-seen ong-gun

Tomb of Zhaojun

տանգու շաոչուն տուն

jao jee-yun-nē ong-gun

Yuan Dynasty Upper Capital (Shàngdū/Xanadu)

անգու շանգդու

yoo-an ül-seen

անգու դուն օնց

dööd nees-lul

# shopping

Where's a ...?

camera shop

market

souvenir shop

ଓର୍ଦ୍ଦୁ କାହା ଏବଂ

... ପିଲାଇ

ଫିଲାଇ

ଗାଜା ମନ୍ଦିର

ଜାଖ ଦୁଲ୍ଗୋର

ମଙ୍ଗଳୀ

ଗାରୁଲ୍ତିନ

ଦୁଲ୍ଗୋର

... haa bē-dug vē

soo-dur ta-takh

ga-jar

jakh dul-goor

mong-gol-een onch

ga-rul-teen

dul-goor

Where can I buy locally produced goods/souvenirs?

ହାନ୍ତା କାହା ଏବଂ

ଓଚ୍ଛ ଗାରୁଲ୍ତି ଅବ୍ଚ

ଦୀଲୁଖ ବେଳେ ବେଳେ

haan-aas tan-nē und-kheen

onch gar-ult avch

dee-lukh vē

What's this made from?

ଯୁଗାର ହୀସୁନ କାହା ଏବଂ

un-nee yoo-gaar hee-sun vē

I'd like to buy ...

ବୀ ... ଆବୁଖ ସାନାତେ

bee ... a-vukh san-naa-tē

Can I look at it?

ବୀ ବୋଲୁଣ କାହା ଏବଂ

bee ū-jij bol-un nō

Can I have it sent overseas?

ବୋଲୁଣ ବେଳେ

ବୋଲୁଣ ବେଳେ ଏବଂ ବେଳେ

gad-aad ūl-sud ya-vôlj

bol-un nō

How much is it?

ବେଳେ ବେଳେ କାହା ଏବଂ

hut-tee jôs vē

Please write down the price.

ବେଳେ କାହା ଏବଂ ବେଳେ

ବେଳେ ବେଳେ କାହା

ū·nee·geen bi-chij

ūgch bol-un nō

That's too expensive.

ବେଳେ ବେଳେ

mash ūn-tē

I'll give you (five kuai).

ବେଳେ ବେଳେ

ବେଳେ ବେଳେ (ବେଳେ ବେଳେ)

tand (ta-vun tûg-rug)

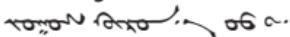
ūg-gee-yöö

Can you lower the price?



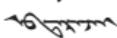
hyamđ-run nô

Is that enough?



jôs hû-run nô

It's faulty.



uv-dur-jê

I'd like a refund.



müngk-öön bo-chaj avch



bol-un nô

I'd like ..., please.

a bag

a receipt



... üg-gê-rê

sô-lee-ao ôt

ba-rimt



## meeting people

Hello.



sên bêñ nô

Hi.



sên nô

Goodbye.



ba-yur-tê

Good night.



sên am-raa-rê

Mr/Mrs



av-gê

Ms/Miss



av-khê

How are you?

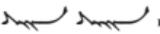


sên bêñ nô

Fine. And you?



sên sên



sên nô

What's your name?



tan-nê al-dur

My name is ...



min-nee nur ...

I'm pleased to



se-khun ta-nilch-laa

meet you.

This is my ...		... un bol min-nee ...
brother (older)		akh
brother (younger)		doo
child		hoo-khud
daughter		hoo-khun
father		aav
friend		nej
husband		nū-khur
mother		ööj
partner (intimate)		gu-reen hoon
sister (older)		ugch
sister (younger)		hoo-khun doo
son		hoo
wife		ukh-nur



# **making conversation**

**Do you live here?**

und sôj bêñ nô

## Where are you going?

ହାଁ ଯାବୁକ୍ଷ ବେଳେ ।

**Do you like it here?**

und sôkh dûr-tê yô.

I love it here.

*mash dür-tē*

**Have you eaten?**

*id-sun nô*

**Are you here on holidays?**

und am-riłt üng-gö-rö-khör  
vjr-sun nō

## local talk

Great!	Үүснээсэн бэ	yaa-sun sēn bē
Hey!	Хэй!	hoo-yee
It's OK.	Хорох бэ	ha-maa-gway
Just a minute.	Онцгайж байсан	bag hūl-lej bē
Just joking.	Хоногийн байсан	sho-gulj bēn
Maybe.	Хийнчилж байсан	bol-ul-chō-tē
No problem.	Хорох бэ	ha-maa-gway
No way!	Хийнчилж байсан	bolkh-gway
Sure, whatever.	Хорох бэ	bol-un bol-un
That's enough!	Хийнчилж байсан	bol-chi-khun

I'm here ...  
on business  
for a holiday

... өнөөдөр	bee ... und yir-jē
өнөөдөр байсан	mē-mē hee-khöör
өнөөдөр	am-ritt
өнөөдөр	üng-gö-rö-khöör
өнөөдөр	hū-rul hee-khöör
өнөөдөр	sū-rülch-khaar
өнөөдөр	jō-gaach-khaar
өнөөдөр	a-jil-khaar
өнөөдөр	sa-dun-aan
өнөөдөр	üj-khöör

How long are you here for?

... өнөөдөр та ү·дүх вэ

How long have you been here?

өнөөдөр бийнчид та ү·дүх вэ  
өнөөдөр та ү·даж бэхк вэ

I'm here for (four) weeks.

өнөөдөр бийнчид өнөөдөр  
өнөөдөр (өнөөдөр) сокхан

bee und (dür-bun ga-rag)  
sôkh san-naa-tê

Can I take a photo of you?

танилцуулж болох бол ү·нэ

tan-nee soo-durlj bol-un nô

Are you Mongolian?

танилцуулж болох бол ү·нэ

ta mong-gol hoon nô

Do you speak Mongolian?

танилцуулж болох бол ү·нэ  
танилцуулж бол

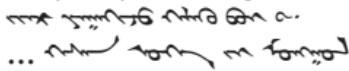
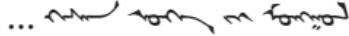
ta mong-gol hul  
chat-tun nô

What's this called?



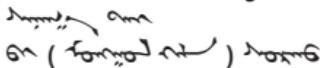
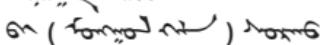
un yoo bē

How do you say ... in Mongolian?

  
... 

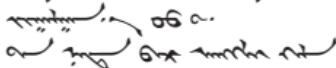
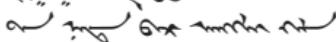
... *gu-sun ū-gee mong-gol-ôr*  
*yaaj hu-lukh vē*

I'd like to learn some (Mongolian).

  
en () mong

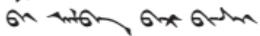
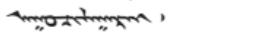
bee (*mong-gol hul*) súrkh  
san-naa-té

Would you like me to teach you some English?

  
aa () ang

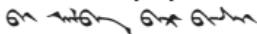
ta nad-aar *ang-gul hul*  
jaal-gan-nô

Sorry, I didn't mean to do anything wrong.

en  

ôch-lē-rē  
bee al-vaar bish

I didn't do it on purpose.

en 

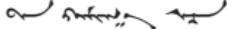
bee al-vaar bish

Is this a local custom?

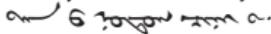

un *tan-nē end-kheen*  
*jang-shil mün-nô*

Where are you from?

ta *haa-naas yir-see*

Where is your home county?



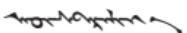
*tan-nē nū-tug chin*



I'm from ...

Australia  
Canada  
England  
New Zealand  
the USA

en ... 


bee ... *hoon*

*av-straal-ee-ya*  
*ka-na-da*  
*ang-gul*  
*shin zee-land*  
*am-e-rik*

**What's your occupation?**

~ Үүсвэртэй оюун даа а.

ta ya·mur a·jil·tē vē

I'm a/an ...

эн ...

bee ...

businessperson



mē·mē·chin

doctor



umch

foreign language



ga·daad hul·nee

teacher



bagsh

nurse



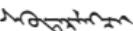
sov-lugch

office worker



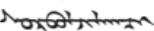
al·ban a·jil·tun

photographer



soo·dur-lugch

reporter



sür·vul·jee-lugch

student



sū·rugch

teacher



bagsh

**How old are you? (asking someone younger or close to your age)**

~ Өнгөтөрлийн даа а.

ta hut·tun nas·tē vē

**How old are you? (asking someone noticeably older than you)**

~ Өнгөтөрлийн даа а.

tan·nē nas·sun soo·dur

I'm ... years old.

эн ... үеэгдэх

tan·nē ... hu·tun

your daughter

эн ... үеэгдэх

nas·tē vē

your son

эн

hoo·hun

hoo

I'm ... years old.

эн ... үеэгдэх

bee ... nas·tē

He/She is ... years old.

онд ... үеэгдэх

tir ... nas·tē

I'm younger than I look.

өнгөтөрлийн даа а.

bee mash ja·lō

on sun nihg

ha·rag·duj bēn

Are you married?

онд тохиолддэг даа а.

ta hor·mul·sun nō

I'm ...

эн ...

bee ...

single

өнгөтөрлийн даа а.

ho·rum·lö·dē

married

өнгөтөрлийн даа а.

hor·mul·chikh·sun

I live with someone.



bee nig hoon-tē hamt  
sôj bêñ

Do you have a family of your own?



ta hookhd-tê yô

Do you like ...?



ta ... dûr-tê yô

I like ...



bee ... dûr-tê

I don't like ...



bee ... dûr oo-gway

art



jû-rugt

film



kee-nô ū-jikh

music



hûg-jimt

reading



nom ün-shikh

sport



tem-reen



hû-dul-göönd



## feelings & opinions

I feel ...



bee ... bêñ

I don't feel ...



bee ... oo-gway

Are you ...?



ta ... bêñ nô

cold



daarch

drunk



sog-tuj bêñ

happy



ba-yurlj bêñ

hot



ha-lô-chij

hungry



ülsch

sad



jobj bêñ

thirsty



ün-daasch

tired



ya-durj

## mixed emotions

a little	онийн	bag sag
I'm a little sad.	онийн болж бөн	bee bag jobj bēn
very	онь	yikh
I'm very surprised.	онь болж бөн	bee yikh so-chij bēn
extremely	онь түүх	mash yikh
I'm extremely happy.	онь түүх болж бөн	bee mash yikh ba-yurlj bēn

## What do you think of it?

Он нэгэн болж бөн нээ.  
Bo-duj bēn nō

awful	онийн түүх	mash mô
beautiful	онийн түүхэй	mash goi
boring	онийн оюун	weed-gar-tē
great	онийн түүх	yaa-sun
interesting	онийн түүхэй	sain bē
OK	онийн түүхэй	son-nir-khol-tē
strange	онийн түүхэй	jū-gur shig
		so-nin ha-chin

## farewells

Tomorrow I'm leaving.

Энэ түүхэй явах.

bee mar·gaash ya·vun

If you come to my country you can stay with me.

Энэ түүхэй явах болж бөн нээ.

ta min·nee üls·ad och·bul nad·tē  
hamt sôj bol·un

Keep in touch!

Он түүхэй болж бөн.

ha·ril·chij bē·ga·rē

Here's my (address).

Энэ түүхэй (адрес) болж бөн.

un bol min·nee (gir·reen ha·yig)

What's your (email)?

Энэ түүхэй (email) болж бөн.

tan·nē (ee·mēl) chin

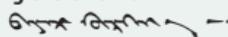
## well-wishing

Bon voyage!



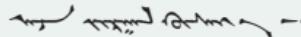
sēn ya·va·rē

Congratulations!



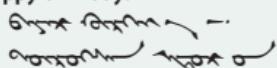
ba·yur hür·gee

Good luck!



aajjar·gal hoo·see

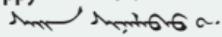
Happy birthday!



tür·sun üd·reen

ba·yur hür·gee

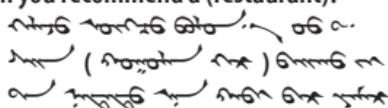
Happy New Year!



sēn shin·ul·voo

## eating out

Can you recommend a (restaurant)?



ta na-dud un hö·vöör ya·mar  
sain (hô-lung gur) bē·khee  
hilj ügch bol·un nô

bar



baar

cafe



hô·lung gur

dish



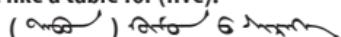
hôl

teahouse



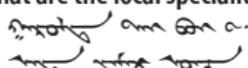
chē·geen mûkh·lukh

I'd like a table for (five).



(ta·vun) hoon·nê shir·röö

What are the local specialities?



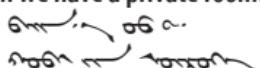
und ya·mar onch  
ga·rul·tē vē

I'd like to see the menu.



tsay·dan üj·jee·yöö

Can we have a private room?



höb·een ür·röö  
bēn nô

Can we have the bill?



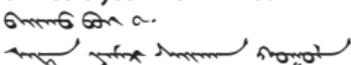
dang-saan bod-dee-yöö

Are you still serving food?



o-döö bas hôl bën nô

What would you recommend?



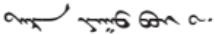
und ya-mar së-khun  
hôl békhan vê

What do you normally eat for (breakfast)?



ta yür-döön ya-mar  
(üg-löö-green hôl)  
it-dug vê

What's that called?



tur yoo vê

What's in that dish?



yoo-gur hee-dug vê

I'll have that.



tur-ee a-vee

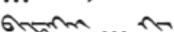


I'd like it with ...



... gee-gin i-loo

I'd like it without ...



hee-chikh

chilli



bit-gee ... hee

garlic



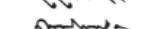
laa-jao

MSG



sa-rim-sug

nuts



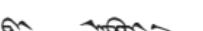
wee jing

oil



ho-shig

I'd like ...



tos

a piece



bee ... a-vee

one bottle



nig hu-sug

one box/carton



nig longk

one jing (500gm)



nig hér-chug

that one



nig jing

two

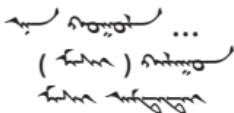


tu-ree

hoi-ree

This dish is ...

(too) spicy  
superb



un hól ...

(mash) ha-lôn  
mash amt-tē

I love this dish.



bee un hól/ee i-dukh  
dür-tē

I love the local cuisine.



bee un gaj-reen hól-lund  
dür-tē

That was delicious!



mash amt-tē

I'm full.



bee chat-tul id-löö



breakfast



üg-löö-geen hól

lunch



üd-een hól

dinner



ö-röö-geen hól

drink (alcoholic)



a-rikh

drink (nonalcoholic)



un-daan

... water



... üs

boiled



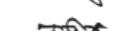
bo-chil-sun

cold



hwee-tun

still mineral



chu-vur

### not your cup of tea?

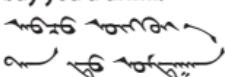
Mongols are generally tea, rather than coffee, drinkers. Be warned, though, that Mongolian food and drink customs are quite different to those in other parts of China. For instance, 'milk tea' sounds innocent enough, but many people are surprised to find lumps of flour and meat, as well as animal fats, butter, millet and salt added to a Mongolian cuppa. And don't expect a cup and saucer – locals usually drink their tea from a bowl.

(cup of) coffee	coffee	kōf
(cup of) tea	tea	chē
black tea	black tea	har chē
fresh drinking	drinking	ē-rug
yoghurt	yoghurt	
kumiss (fermented	kumiss	chu-gu
mare's milk)		
milk tea	milk tea	soo-tē-chē
... of beer	beer	... peev
a glass	glass	nig cho-mo
a large bottle	bottle	tom longk-tē
a small bottle	bottle	bag longk-tē
red/white wine	wine	ül-aan/cha-gaan
a shot of (rice wine)	(rice wine)	üj-meen a-rikh (nig hün-dug (har a-rikh))

What are you drinking?

 ta yoo ôkh vē

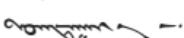
I'll buy you a drink.

 tand un-daan  
avch üg-yöö

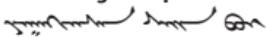
What would you like?

 ta yoond dür-tē vē

Cheers!

 tog-toi-yo

This is hitting the spot.

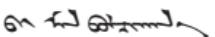
 yaa-sun sēn bē

I'm feeling drunk!

 bee sog-tuj bēn

I'm totally drunk!

(lit: I've become a domestic animal)

 bee mal bol-chikh-lō

## street eats

boiled dumplings	ሰንስ	bēnsh
boiled meat	ችሬ	chan-sun makh
butter (to add to milk tea)	አጠቃላይ ስራ	shar tos
dried beef strips	በርክ	borch
fried bread	እኩዕስ ተጠረቅ	hēr-sun bōb
fried-meat pancake	እኩዕስ የሻጭ ታክክል	shal-bing
fried millet	እኩዕስ ተጠረቅ	hōr-sun bo-daa
fried millet with sweet cream	እኩዕስ ጥና አጥቃ	jōō-khē-tē bo-daa
<i>huruud</i> (a type of curd)	ሁሩود	hūr-ood
noodles	መስቀል	mee-en-ti-yor
öröm (hardened skin of milk)	ኦሮም	oo-room
steamed dumplings	በስ	bōs



## special diets & allergies

I'm a vegetarian.

በሸጭ

bee saa-yō

I can't eat pork.

በአዲስ ቴክክል  
በአዲስ ቴክክል ተከታታለሁ

bee ga-khēn makh  
it-dug-gway

Where can I find halal food?

ስነድ የሀልል ውስጥ  
ስነድ የሀልል ውስጥ ተከታታለሁ

haa ho-tung ün-dus-tun-nē  
hōl bēkh vē

I only want to eat vegetables.

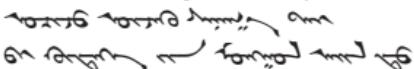
በሽጣት ውስጥ  
በሽጣት ውስጥ ተከታታለሁ

bee no-gō id-ee-yōō  
gij bo-doj bēn

Could you prepare a meal without ...?	ᠮᠤᠵᠥ ላ ቅ አ.	un hōl-ee ... oo-gway heej bol-un nō
I'm allergic to ...	ᠮᠤᠵᠥ ላ ቅ አ.	bee ... i-duj bolkh gway nad-ud taa-rukh-gway
dairy produce	ᠮᠤᠵᠥ ላ ቅ አ.	soo-gaar hee-sun yim
eggs	ᠮᠤᠵᠥ ላ ቅ አ.	ün-dug
meat	ᠮᠤᠵᠥ ላ ቅ አ.	makh
nuts	ᠮᠤᠵᠥ ላ ቅ አ.	hosh-ug
seafood	ᠮᠤᠵᠥ ላ ቅ አ.	dal-lēn id-dön

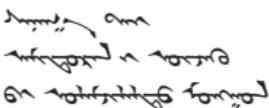
## in the grasslands

I'd like to visit a Mongolian family on the steppe.



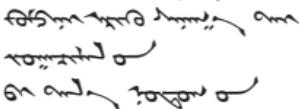
bee hu-döö-geen mong-gol ēlt  
o-chij ü-jikh san-naa-tē

I'd like to see some traditional Mongolian life.



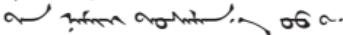
bee ü-lam-jee-lalt mong-gol  
am-dur-lee ü-jikh  
san-naa-tē

I'd like to find a company that arranges tours of the grasslands.



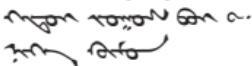
bee tal nüt-geen  
jü-gaa-chil-een  
kom-pan ur-ikh san-naa-tē

Can you help me?



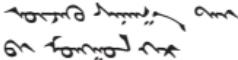
ta na-mēg tüs-ul-nā

How much is it per person?



nig hoon  
hut-tee jōs vē

I'd like to see a traditional Mongolian yurt.



bee mong-gol gur ü-jikh  
san-naa-tē

## Where can I hire a horse?

ᠬᠤණ ሚᠤ ᠥ.

ᠲᠤᠷ ታᠱᠤᠤᠯᠵ

ᠪᠣᠯᠤᠺ ᠩ

haa-naas mur  
tür-ös-ulj  
bol-ukh vē

## How much is it per hour?

ᠩᠤᠴ የ

ᡥ---

nig chag  
hut-tee jōs vē

## Can I have a guide?

ᠵ

ᠪ

jamch olj ügch  
bol-un nō

## I'd like to ...

do some archery

ride a buggy

do some wrestling

ئ ...

ت

ئ

bee ... san-naa-tē  
nüm süm har-vukh  
tu-rug ba-rikh  
bükh ba-ril-dukh



## horse

ᠲ

mur

## horse riding

ᠲ

mur ö-nakh

## reins

ᠵ

jol-lö

## saddle

ᠮ

um-ööl

## steppe/grasslands

ᠲ

tal nü-tug

## stirrup

ሙ

dü-röö

## Stop!

ᠲ

jogs-söch

## My saddle is hurting me.

ᠲ

ᠮ

un um-ööl na-mëg  
übt-göj bën

## Can I change horses?

ᠵ

ئ

bee mur-öön sol-lee-yô  
bol-un nō

## Can we stop here?

ᠵ

ئ

und jogs-ö-yöö  
bol-un nō

## just a twist to the right

Mongolian script is written vertically and read from left to right. So if you want to have a go at reading the script in this chapter, or when asking a local to read it for you, simply turn the book 90 degrees clockwise. Our coloured pronunciation guides, however, should simply be read the same way you read English.

Can we go back now?

bid o-dô he-rij  
bol-un nô

Let's go back now.

bid o-dô he-ree-yaa

Can you help me get off this horse?

nad-dee bôl-gaa-gaach

## emergencies & health

Help!

em av-raa

Could you help me, please?

ta nad-dee khav-sûr-ch  
bol-un nô

I've been injured.

bee shar-khug-tich-ukh-laa

My friend has been injured.

min-née néj shar-khug-tich-ukh-laa

There's been an accident.

un-dul gar-chikh-laa

Where's the nearest phone?

ham-geen öör ô-tas  
haa bêkh vê

We need to get to a doctor.

bid umch-ud  
hür-dun och-ikh hu-rug-té

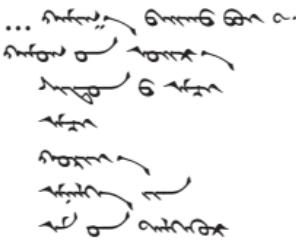
Where's the  
nearest ...?

dentist

doctor

hospital

pharmacist



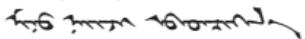
ham-geen ör  
... haa bēkh vē  
shood-nē umch  
umch  
um-nul-geen  
hor-rō  
um-een dul-goor

I'm ill.



bee üvd-chikh-löö

My friend is ill.



min-nee néj üvd-chikh-löö

# english–mongolian dictionary

In this dictionary, words are marked as n (noun), a (adjective), v (verb), sg (singular), pl (plural), inf (informal) and pol (polite) where necessary.

## A

accident (mishap)	սուլ անդլ	üs-sul un-dul
accommodation	բեր	bér
adaptor	բի-յեն յա չի	bee-yen yaa chee
after	դա-րա	da-raa
air conditioning	կոնց դիվոն	kong-tee-aa-oo
airplane	նիշ-գուլ	nis-gul
airport	նիշ-գուլ են բո-տւլ	nis-gul-een bô-tul
alcohol	օ-րիք	a-rikh
all	բուհ	bûkh
ambulance	տէր-ցոն ավ-րալ-տէն մա-շին	tür-gun av-ral-teen ma-shin
and	բա	ba
ankle	շա	shaa
arm	գար	gar

## B

baby	նեյլ-ուխ խո-խւդ	nyel-uhkh khoo-khud
back (of body)	նուրօն	nû-rô
backpack	բոշչ	bogch
bad	մօ	mô
bag	օտ	ôt
baggage	բո-տւլ	bô-tul
bank	բենք	benk
bar	բար	baar
bathroom	յա-գալ-ջին ցոր	ü-gaal-jin gur
battery	դի-էն չո	dee-en chô
beautiful	գույշ	goi
bed	օր	or
beer	պև	peev
before	ման	ü-mün
behind	հոն	hoön
bicycle	դու-գայ	dû-gway
big	տօն	tom
bill	դանց	dangs
blanket	խոն-ջիլ	khoon-jil
blood group	չու-սոն թու-րուլ	chu-sun too-rool
boat	յաբ	jab
book (make a reservation)	վա-րի-ժոն	vâ-ri-zhon
	յահ-ա-լուխ	jakh-aa-lukh
bottle	լոնգ	longk
boy	հո	hoo
breakfast	յու-լո-ցին հոլ	üg-löö-geen hôl

broken (out of order)	սուր-հե	uv-dur-hê
bus	նիշ-ին մա-շին տւ-րուլ	neet-in ma-shin tur-rug
buy	վա-խ	a-vakh

## A

camera	սուր-լուխ մա-շին	soo-dur-lukh ma-shin
car	մա-շին տւ-րուլ	ma-shin tur-rug
cash	նուր բուլոն	bul-lun mongk
cell phone	գար օ-տաս	gar ô-tas
centre	նուր տվ	nôr tûv
change (money)	վա-դու-նու յոս	vâ-dö-nün jös
cheap	համենդ	hyemd
check (bill)	նուր դանց	nôr dangs
chest (body)	չու-յու	choöj
children	հու-հուդ	hoo-hud
cigarette	տա-մուխ	ta-mukh
city	հոտ	hot
clean	ա-շու-ւր	chu-vur
closed	օօդ հա-յէ	ood haa-jë
cold	ա-հու-տոն	hwee-tun
come	յի-րուխ	yî-rukh
computer	կոմ-պյոո-տուր	kom-pyoo-tur
condom	բի յո-ւն տօ	bee yoo-wun tao
cook	վա-հու-կի	vâ-hû-ki
cost	նուր նին	nôr nîn
credit card	իտ-գու-յեն կար	it-gum-jeen kaart
	յոս սո-լիխ գո-յուր	jös so-likh go-jur
customs (immigration)	բոմ-տեն գէլ	bôm-teen gêl

## D

dangerous	ա-յուլ-տէ	a-yul-tê
date (time)	յու-դր	ü-dur
day	յու-դր	ü-dur
delay	վա-հո-ւն հոչ-րուխ	vâ-hû-un hoch-rokuh
dentist	շու-դո-նէ սու-խու	shood-nê umch
depart	յա-վա-խ	ya-vakh
dinner	օ-րո-ցին հոլ	ö-röö-geen hôl
direct	ա-խո-սու	shôt
dirty	բու-յիր	bû-jir

disabled ཇ�մ-դոյ jim-dug  
 discount Վաճառքի համերձակ hyemt-rô-lukh  
 doctor Ունչ umch  
 double bed Ճամփա համբա՛ 6 համբ  
 hoī-yur hoo-nê or  
 double room Ճամփա համբա՛ 6 համբա՛  
 hoī-yur hoo-nê үր-րöö  
 drink Ռըստան սնան un-daan  
 drink Վաճառք օհք ôkh  
 drive Վաճառք յօլուք jo-lô-dukh  
 driving licence Վաճառք վաճառք յօլուք անգայ  
 jo-lô-cheen tum-dug  
 drug (illicit) Ռըստան հօրտ սնան um

## E

ear Շիկհ chikh  
 east Արև յոն joon  
 eat Եթ ածիք id-dukh  
 electricity էլեկտրոն շահ չա-խիլ-գոն cha-khil-gun  
 elevator Վաճառք շահ չա-խիլ-գոն shat  
 email Էմել ee-mel  
 embassy Ամբասադա սնան ul-chin sê-deen ya-mun  
 emergency Բարեկամություն ba-chim hu-rug  
 English (language) Անգլերեն անց գուլ hul  
 evening Եղանակ օ-րöö  
 exit Սահման օօդ ood  
 expensive Եղանակ նանդ նն-տե ün-te  
 eye Աչք նուդ nûd

## F

far Հանդիպություն հօլ hol  
 fast Վաճառք հուրդ hur-dun  
 father Պատահ աավ aav  
 finger Վաճառք հուրդ հուր-րöö  
 first-aid kit Վաճառք առաջարկական առաջարկական բաժին  
 ba-chim av-ral-teen հեր-չուգ  
 first class Վաճառք առաջարկական առաջարկական տուրոն jir-green  
 fish Ջուր յագ-գաս jag-gas  
 food Հունդ հօլ hól  
 foot Հունդ հուլ hül  
 free (of charge) Վաճառք յու-յօր jü-göör  
 friend Կոմահ նեյ néj  
 fruit Վաճառք յի-մոս ji-mus  
 full Վաճառք դու-րոնg doo-rung

## G

gift Առաջարկական բուլ-լուգ bul-lug  
 girl Առաջարկական օ-խին o-khin

glass (drinking) Ջուր չո-մօð cho-môð  
 glasses Ջուր նուդ-ոն շիլ nûd-un shil  
 go Վաճառք յա-վահ ya-vakh  
 good Վաճառք սեն sén  
 guide Ռաժա յամչ jamch

## H

half Ինչու հա-գոս ha-gus  
 hand Հանդ գար gar  
 happy Վաճառք բա-յուրլի բեն ba-yurlj bén  
 he Վաճառք տիր tir  
 head Վաճառք տոլ-գէ tol-gë  
 heart Վաճառք յուրք jürkh  
 heavy Վաճառք հոնդ hünd  
 help Վաճառք տիս-լամյ tüs-lamj  
 here Վաճառք անդ und  
 high Վաճառք նուն-դուր ün-dür  
 hike Վաճառք յա-վահ yav-gun ya-vakh  
 holiday Վաճառք ամ-րուլт am-rult  
 homosexual Վաճառք առաջարկական հոմոսեքուալ i-jil hwees-tun-né am-rug-lul  
 horse Վաճառք մոր mur  
 hospital Վաճառք ուն-նուլ-գոն um-nul-geen hor-rô  
 hot Վաճառք հա-լոն ha-lón  
 hotel Վաճառք յուն-դուլ joch-deen bô-tul  
 (be) hungry Վաճառք յիլ-սուհ ül-sukh  
 husband Վաճառք ու նու-խոր ur nû-khur

## I

bee Բի բee  
 identification (card) Վաճառք բայ-ին գործական bay-yeen gurch  
 ill Վաճառք սին սին սին ub-chin-tê  
 injury Վաճառք շա-րահ sha-rakh  
 insurance Վաճառք բայ-ին դատ-գուլ bay-yeen daat-gul  
 internet Վաճառք սուլ-յոօ sul-jöö  
 interpreter Վաճառք հուլ-մուրч hul-murch

## J

jewellery Վաճառք ու-դոն-իս ur-dun-is  
 job Վաճառք ա-յիլ a-jil

## K

key Վաճառք տիլ-խօր tül-khoor  
 kilogram Վաճառք կի-լօ-գրամ kee-lô-gram



she *she* tir  
sheet (bed) *sheet* *khoon-jil*  
shirt *shirt* *chamch*  
shoes *shoes* *shaa-khé*  
shop *shop* *dul-goor*  
short *short* *bo-gun*  
single room *single room* *ganch* *hoon-né* *ür-röö*  
skin *skin* *ars*  
skirt *skirt* *bang-jil*  
sleep *sleep* *ün-tukh*  
slow *slow* *üd-daan*  
small *small* *ji-jig*  
soap *soap* *saa-vung*  
some *some* *jar-rim*  
soon *soon* *ö-dul-gway*  
south *south* *üm-un*  
souvenir *souvenir* *dürs-khul-een* *ud*  
stamp *stamp* *yó-oo* *pee-ao*  
station (train) *station* *galt tur-gun* *ür-töö*  
stomach *stomach* *gu-dus*  
stop *stop* *v* *jog-sukh*  
stop (bus) *stop* *bus* *jog-sööl*  
street *street* *gö-dumj*  
student *student* *ö-yoo-tun*  
sun *sun* *nar*  
sunscreen *sunscreen* *fang* *shaa-yeey* *shoo-wong*  
swim *swim* *v* *om-bukh*

## T

telephone *telephone* *ö-tas*  
temperature (weather) *temperature* *(weather)* *dü-laa-né* *hum-jöö*  
that *that* *tir*  
they *they* *tund*  
(be) thirsty *(be) thirsty* *un-daa-sukh*  
this *this* *un*  
throat *throat* *hö-le*  
ticket *ticket* *pee-ao*  
time *time* *chag*  
tired *tired* *ya-darch* *bén*  
tissues *tissues* *chaas*  
today *today* *oo-noo-dur*  
toilet *toilet* *jor-long*  
tomorrow *tomorrow* *mar-gaash*  
tonight *tonight* *ü-noo* *or-röö*  
tooth *tooth* *shüd*  
toothbrush *toothbrush* *shü-dun* *umch*  
toothpaste *toothpaste* *yaa gao*  
torch (flashlight) *torch* *(flashlight)* *dee-am-bur*

tour *tour* *n* *ay-lul*  
towel *towel* *al-choor*  
train *train* *n* *galt tur-rug*  
translate *translate* *orch-ö-lukh*  
trousers *trousers* *ü-mud*  
twin-bed room *twin-bed room* *hoi-yur* *or-té* *ür-röö*

## U

underwear *underwear* *do-tur* *ür-mud*  
urgent *urgent* *yaa-rul-té*

## V

vegetable *vegetable* *n* *nog-gó*  
vegetarian *vegetarian* *a* *saa-yó*  
visa *visa* *veez*

## W

walk *walk* *v* *yab-gun* *ya-vakh*  
wallet *wallet* *bag* *jös-un* *bogch*  
wash (something) *wash* *(something)* *v* *ü-gaakh*  
watch *watch* *n* *gar chagh*  
water *water* *n* *üs*  
we *we* *bid*  
weekend *weekend* *ö* *gar-geen* *soolch*  
west *west* *ba-rön*  
when *when* *hu-jöö*  
where *where* *haa*  
who *who* *hun*  
why *why* *yaa-gaad*  
wife *wife* *ukh-nur*  
window *window* *chongk*  
with ... *with* *... té*  
without *without* *oo-gway*  
woman *woman* *um-ug-té*  
write *write* *bi-chikh*

## Y

yes *yes* *teem*  
yesterday *yesterday* *oo-chig-dur*  
you sg inf *you sg inf* *chee*  
you sg pol *you sg pol* *ta*  
you pl *you pl* *ta nar*  
yurt *yurt* *gur*

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