

PRESENT THE
Council for Quality Growth's
2024 FOUR PILLAR TRIBUTE

HONORING

— *the legacy of* —

HERMAN J. RUSSELL SR.
& THE RUSSELL FAMILY

PURE GRIT
BUILT TO LAST

2024 TRIBUTE CHAIRS

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Jay Bailey | Keith Mason |
| Leona Barr-Davenport | Dave Moody |
| Dan T. Cathy | Egbert Perry |
| Cynthia Day | Sylvia Russell |
| David Eidson | T. Dallas Smith |
| Ernest Greer | Jeffrey Tompkins |
| Sheffield Hale | Felker Ward |
| Virginia Hepner | Regynald Washington |
| Doug Hertz | Mack Wilbourn |
| Bob Holder | Bruce Williams |
| Tommy Holder | Ambassador Andrew J. Young |
| John Jackson | |
| Joia Johnson | |
| Cynthia Jones-Parks | |

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024
6:00 PM
GEORGIA WORLD CONGRESS CENTER
GEORGIA BALLROOM



— 35 Years —
FOUR PILLAR
QUALITY | RESPONSIBILITY | VISION | INTEGRITY

COUNCIL
for QUALITY
GROWTH




COME TOGETHER. THRIVE TOGETHER.

At the Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation, we unite the **courage** and **compassion** of our **communities** to take on tough challenges and **thrive together**.



[Blankfoundation.org](https://www.blankfoundation.org)

 Arthur M. Blank
Family Foundation

PURE GRIT BUILT TO LAST



From his humble beginnings in segregated Atlanta, when he shined shoes as a kid to put money in his pocket that his parents could not, Herman J. Russell knew he was going to defy expectations. "To hell with segregation. I'm going to be what I want to be," he used to tell himself. That ambition and grit took him from shining shoes to owning a stand where he also sold candy and shoestrings. From there, he followed in his father's hard-working footsteps and became a master plasterer, paying his way through Tuskegee Institute. Next came civil rights strategist; economic generator; builder; and, ultimately, founder of the largest African American, family-owned real estate development, construction, and airport concessions businesses in the country for 60 years and counting.

"Looking back on all that he's done for our city and the people in it, I guess the only way to do Herman Russell justice is to say that when it came to building Atlanta over all these years, he's played a role in EVERYTHING."

– Ambassador Andrew Young
Foreward, Chicago Review Press, 2014
"Building Atlanta: How I Broke Through
Segregation to Launch a Business Empire"

With pure grit, a vision to succeed, commitment to quality workmanship, responsibility to family and community, and uncompromising integrity, Mr. Russell created an empire that was built to last. He helped forever transform the Atlanta skyline with such projects as Coca-Cola Enterprises, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, luxury high-rise apartments, State Farm Arena, and Mercedes-Benz Stadium, to name a few. His tenacity and can-do spirit resulted in sound

business practices that he instilled in his children. As adults, they have continued to grow their father's legacy to pass on to their children, grandchildren, and future generations.

Born without a silver spoon to make life's harsh realities more palatable, H.J. Russell instilled in his children, Donata Russell Ross, H. Jerome Russell, and Michael Russell Sr., that if a door isn't open, try a window. If the window is closed, try the chimney, but don't give up. That's Pure Grit. Built to Last.



CONNECTING THE WORLD IN THE AIR. STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES ON THE GROUND.

Proud to support the 2024 Four Pillar Tribute.

Congratulations to the honorees — the Russell Family and
the legacy of Herman J. Russell Sr.



Pillars in our community.

Georgia Power is proud to honor the legacy of Herman J. Russell, whose leadership and tenacity helped build the Atlanta we love today. Congratulations to the Russell family for continuing his tradition of excellence, creativity, and innovation.





GOING THE DISTANCE FOR PEOPLE CLOSE TO HOME

Our tracks connect communities to possibilities.

At Norfolk Southern, we are dedicated to supporting the cities and towns in our back yards by connecting them to the marketplaces of the world. That's why we work with the Council for Quality Growth to help support the Four Pillar Tribute to bridge the distance between today's good and tomorrow's better.

See how we lead the way to a greater future at [NorfolkSouthern.com](https://www.norfolksouthern.com)





Thank you to the Russell Family.

It is our pleasure to celebrate your family's commitment to making a positive impact throughout our community.



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LEGACY.
PERSEVERANCE.
COMMITMENT.

Citizens Trust Bank honors the Russell family as foundational leaders inspiring generations to achieve remarkable accomplishments. Your leadership, community stewardship and dedication to success lives on.

CTBCONNECT.COM

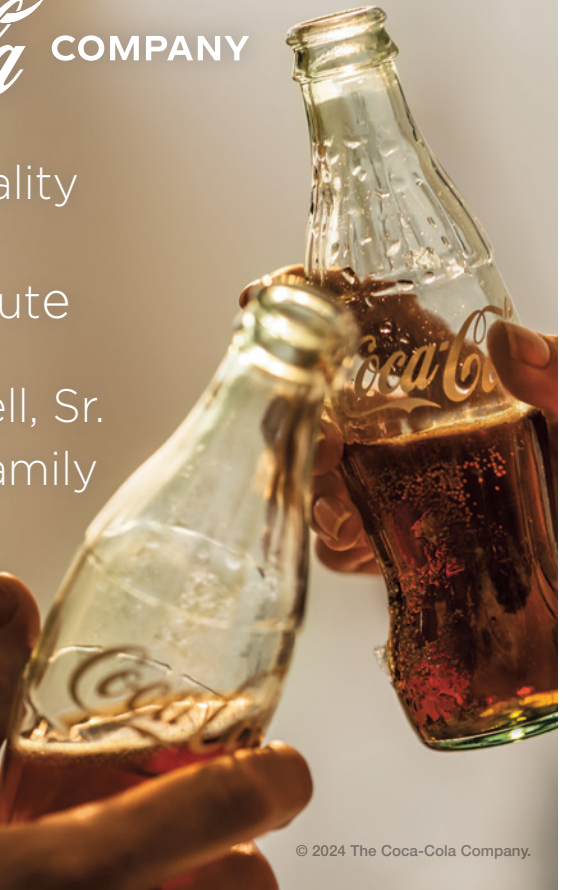


CITIZENS TRUST BANK
A relationship you can bank on

MEMBER FDIC.

THE *Coca-Cola* COMPANY

proud sponsor of
Council for Quality
Growth's
Four Pillar Tribute
to the legacy of
Herman J. Russell, Sr.
& The Russell Family



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CHAMPION SPONSOR

CEO Michael Thurmond *and*
the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners
congratulate

The H.J. Russell Family

on being honored with the prestigious
Four Pillar Award.

*Your legacy of leadership, vision, and integrity
has not only shaped Atlanta but continues
to inspire generations, making our entire region proud.*




DeKalb County
GEORGIA

www.dekalbcountyga.gov



Georgia World Congress Center Authority
proudly joins in celebrating the

H.J. Russell Family

for their remarkable contributions and
enduring legacy.

Your visionary leadership continues to
inspire and shape our community.

Here's to many more years of success!



Georgia World
Congress Center
Authority



BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES TOGETHER

The Home Depot Foundation is proud to honor the legacy of Herman J. Russell Sr. and the Russell family on being the 35th recipient of the Four Pillar Award.

The Foundation works to improve the homes and lives of U.S. veterans, support communities impacted by natural disasters



[HomeDepotFoundation.org](https://www.HomeDepotFoundation.org)





— 35 Years —
FOUR PILLAR
QUALITY | RESPONSIBILITY | VISION | INTEGRITY



2024 Tribute Chairs

Jay Bailey
Leona Barr-Davenport
Dan T. Cathy
Cynthia Day
David Eidson
Ernest Greer
Sheffield Hale
Virginia Hepner
Doug Hertz
Bob Holder
Tommy Holder
John Jackson
Joia Johnson

Cynthia Jones-Parks
Keith Mason
Dave Moody
Egbert Perry
Sylvia Russell
T. Dallas Smith
Jeffrey Tompkins
Felker Ward
Regynald Washington
Mack Wilbourn
Bruce Williams
Ambassador
Andrew J. Young

About the Four Pillar Award

The Four Pillar Award is a prestigious leadership award given to an outstanding individual who has served his or her community, region, and state. Originally presented as the Button Gwinnett Award and Tribute from 1990 to 2004, the Four Pillar Tribute has come to be an unparalleled honor as the Council for Quality Growth has expanded its reach to regional and state-wide members and initiatives. This is the 35th year that the Council for Quality Growth, a not-for-profit trade association with the mission of promoting balanced and responsible growth, has paid tribute to such leaders. The Four Pillar Tribute is a unique honor that celebrates the recipient's philanthropic efforts as well as his or her significant contributions to economic development and the region's quality of life. The "Pillars" represent "Quality," "Responsibility," "Vision," and "Integrity," the principles on which the Council was founded.

About the Council

The Council for Quality Growth, a not-for-profit trade association, is the only organization that works every day to ensure the metro Atlanta region's regulatory environment supports quality growth and development. As the only advocacy organization that operates broadly across the growth and development industry, the Council for Quality Growth brings together and advocates for those who work at the intersection of public policy and private investment, including developers, contractors, engineers, architects, planners, law firms, Community Improvement Districts (CIDs), and financial institutions. The Council is often engaged by the public sector to advise on regulations that protect communities while continuing to encourage economic development. For more information, visit www.councilforqualitygrowth.org.

FOR A HEALTHIER FUTURE TOGETHER
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**NORTHSIDE
HOSPITAL**

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**COUNCIL
for QUALITY
GROWTH**

PROMOTING **balanced** AND **responsible** GROWTH SINCE 1985

Thank You to our Premier Members:



CELEBRATING THE LEGACY OF HERMAN J. RUSSELL SR. AND THE RUSSELL FAMILY



Family patriarch Herman J. Russell Sr.'s legacy is one of entrepreneurship, philanthropy, and lasting impact on this region, state, and beyond. Mr. Russell contributed to many of our nation's most celebrated skylines, including Atlanta's. His imprint on our city is shown through his work on many high-profile projects, including Turner Field, Atlanta City Hall, the Georgia Dome, Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, and Philips Arena. Herman J. Russell Sr. is a trailblazer for his family and aspiring entrepreneurs across the country. He was an influential civic and business leader during the Civil Rights Movement. He's an American

success story – someone that overcame racism and poverty to turn his father's plastering trade into a national real estate empire with a diversified multimillion-dollar business portfolio.

Even with all of his achievements, Mr. Russell's greatest legacy is found in the work continued by his three adult children, Donata Russell Ross, H. Jerome Russell, and Michael Russell Sr. In addition to running their father's namesake, the H.J. Russell & Company, Concessions International, and Russell New Urban Development, they opened the Russell Innovation Center for Entrepreneurs (RICE) in 2018. Together, Donata, Jerome, and Michael are carrying forward their father's legacy while expanding and leaving their own footprint as Georgia's leading African American family in construction, real estate, airport concessions, technology, and philanthropy.

As the 10th anniversary of Mr. Russell's passing approaches, to be honored by the Council for Quality Growth is a fitting tribute. The Russell family embodies the Council's Four Pillars of Quality, Responsibility, Vision, and Integrity in all that they do.



Prominent civil rights leaders gather in 1987, Herman J. Russell, Andrew Young, Richard Arrington, and Jesse Hill.



Herman J. Russell consults with Bob Holder in 1983 on construction of Delta Air Lines building in College Park.



Gov. Joe Frank Harris presents Herman J. Russell with the Atlanta Business League's 1986 CEO of the Year.

ABOUT THE RUSSELL INNOVATION CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURS (RICE). RICE is Atlanta's home for Black entrepreneurs and serves as an economic mobility engine for the Atlanta community. RICE provides entrepreneurs and small businesses with a place to innovate, grow, create jobs, and build wealth. Inspired by Herman J. Russell's legacy of success rooted in service, RICE remains dedicated to its mission to Build. Black. Business. and stands as the largest center in the world dedicated to growing, scaling, and developing Black entrepreneurs.



— 35 Years —
FOUR PILLAR
QUALITY | RESPONSIBILITY | VISION | INTEGRITY



COUNCIL
for **QUALITY**
GROWTH



Donata Russell Ross has been a guiding force as CEO of Concessions International, which specializes in airport food and beverage concessions at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, the most traveled in the world, and other airports throughout the U.S. With her 40-plus years of experience at CI, she has solidified the company's reputation as one of the best in the industry. She is also president of the Herman J. Russell Foundation and serves on the board of H.J. Russell Company, Concessions International, Early Learning Property Management, and the

Russell Innovation Center for Entrepreneurs, also known as RICE. Donata is a proud member of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.



H. Jerome Russell is President of Russell New Urban Development, that leads the family's strategic direction and new business development focus. He oversees the company's real estate portfolio and chairs the Herman J. Russell Innovation Center for Entrepreneurs (RICE). In addition to real estate development, Jerome has experience in property management, beverage distribution, logistics, and banking. Jerome serves on the boards of H.J. Russell & Company, Concessions International, RICE, the Georgia Historical Society, Central Atlanta Progress, Urban Land

Institute, Atlanta Rotary Club, Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, and the Carter Center, among others.



Michael Russell Sr. has been CEO of H.J. Russell & Company for 21 years. Before he was appointed to the helm of the largest African American-owned real estate and construction business in America in 2003, Michael learned every facet of the company, particularly the construction and program management divisions. Michael's civic involvement includes serving on the boards of Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Georgia Research Alliance, and the NACD. He is on the executive committee of the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, Atlanta

Committee for Progress, and he is a member of the Atlanta Rotary Club, AEC Unites, and 100 Black Men of Atlanta.

In carrying on the family tradition, Donata, Jerome, and Michael are laser-focused on uplifting the Atlanta community through their philanthropic efforts while preparing the next generation, G3, to continue the Russell legacy of building quality structures and communities that stand the test of time.





Button Gwinnett Tribute, 1990-2004



1990 **Steve Reynolds**



1998 **J.D. Caswell**



1999 **A. Ray Weeks, Jr.**



2000 **Louise Radloff**



2005 **U.S. Senator Johnny Isakson**



2006 **John Wieland**



2008 **Tom Cousins**



2009 **Mayor Shirley Franklin**



2010 **Arthur M. Blank**



2013 **John C. Portman**

35 Years of Leadership



2014 **Steve Selig**



2015 **Dan T. Cathy**



2016 **Jenny Pruitt**



2017 **Governor Nathan Deal**

Honorees Over the Tribute History

- 1990 Steve Reynolds
- 1991 Wayne Shackelford
- 1992 J.W. Benefield
- 1993 D. Scott Hudgens
- 1994 Wayne H. Mason
- 1995 Virgil R. Williams
- 1996 Paul A. Duke
- 1997 Jim Cowart
- 1998 J.D. Caswell
- 1999 A. Ray Weeks, Jr.
- 2000 Louise Radloff
- 2001 F. Wayne Hill
- 2002 Governor George Busbee
- 2003 Richard L. Tucker
- 2004 Charlie Brown
- 2005 U.S. Senator Johnny Isakson
- 2006 John Wieland
- 2007 John A. Williams
- 2008 Tom Cousins
- 2009 Mayor Shirley Franklin
- 2010 Arthur M. Blank
- 2011 R. Charles Loudermilk, Sr.
- 2012 Mayor Sam Massell
- 2013 John C. Portman
- 2014 Steve Selig
- 2015 Dan T. Cathy
- 2016 Jenny Pruitt
- 2017 Governor Nathan Deal
- 2018 Paul Bowers
- 2019 Larry Gellerstedt III
- 2020 Doug Hertz
- 2021 Ambassador Andrew Young
- 2022 Carol B. Tomé
- 2023 Ed Bastian

2021
Ambassador Andrew Young



2022
Carol B. Tomé

2023
Ed Bastian



A MUSICAL TRIBUTE

featuring H.J. Russell's favorite music

This curated collection of tributes honors the Russell Family with a night of music and legacy through performances of H.J. Russell's favorite artists, including Sam Cooke, Billie Holiday, and Marvin Gaye.



FIVE-TIME GRAMMY AWARD WINNER

CeeLo Green

PERFORMING MUSIC BY SAM COOKE & MARVIN GAYE



This Atlanta native singer and songwriter will perform selections from the legendary Sam Cooke, the “King of Soul,” and Marvin Gaye. CeeLo is known for signature hits such as “Crazy” and “Forget You,” and his rendition of Cooke’s music will bring a touch of soul and nostalgia to the Tribute while honoring one of Herman’s favorite artists.

**DAUGHTER OF ATLANTA'S 54TH MAYOR
MAYNARD JACKSON**

Alexandra Jackson

PERFORMING MUSIC BY BILLIE HOLIDAY



This Atlanta-based vocalist is known for her versatile work in jazz, bossa nova, and R&B. Alexandra has made a name for herself with ability to seamlessly blend genres and channel the emotion and depth of the music she sings. She will perform music by iconic American jazz singer, Billie Holiday, another tribute to Herman’s favorites.

MULTI-TALENTED SINGER & ACTOR

Chae Stephen

PERFORMING MUSIC BY MARVIN GAYE



Chae Stephen, an established R&B and soul artist in Atlanta, will perform selections from the well-known music of Marvin Gaye. Chae’s powerful vocals and emotive style have made him a standout in the contemporary music scene, blending the past and present with his soulful performances.

Musical Performances

- “What’s Going On”** Marvin Gaye
Performed by Chae Stephen
- “Inner City Blues”** Marvin Gaye
Performed by Chae Stephen
- “God Bless the Child”** Billie Holiday
Performed by Alexandra Jackson
- “Pennies from Heaven”** Billie Holiday
Performed by Alexandra Jackson
- “A Change is Gonna Come”** Sam Cooke
Performed by CeeLo Green
- “Ain’t No Mountain High Enough”** Marvin Gaye & Tammi Terrell
Duet performed by CeeLo Green & Alexandra Jackson



TRIBUTE MUSIC BY ATLANTA ALL-STAR JAZZ BAND

Lil’ John Roberts & The Senators

Supporting music throughout these tributes will be provided by Lil’ John Roberts and the Senators, a renowned Atlanta jazz band celebrated for their electrifying performances.



OPENING TRIBUTE BY H.J. RUSSELL’S ALMA MATER

Tuskegee University Golden Voices Choir

A special opening tribute will feature the “Golden Voices” Concert Choir from Herman Russell’s alma mater, Tuskegee University. The Golden Voices promote the rich heritage and legacy of Tuskegee University through their renditions of gospel and classical music.

PRESENT THE
COUNCIL FOR QUALITY GROWTH'S
2024 FOUR PILLAR TRIBUTE

HONORING

the legacy of

**HERMAN J. RUSSELL SR.
& THE RUSSELL FAMILY**

PURE GRIT. BUILT TO LAST.

Thursday, October 10, 2024 | 6:00 p.m. Reception | 7:15 p.m. Tribute
Georgia World Congress Center | Georgia Ballroom

285 Andrew Young International Blvd., NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30313 | Parking is available in the Red Deck

**Musical Tribute
Greetings**

Tuskegee University Golden Voices Choir

Michael E. Paris

President & CEO, Council for Quality Growth

Sally Riker

2024 Chair, Council for Quality Growth

Vice President, Strategy + Growth, Atlas

Special Remarks

The Honorable Brian P. Kemp

Governor, State of Georgia

Welcome

The Honorable Andre Dickens

Mayor, City of Atlanta

Sponsor Recognition

Michael E. Paris, Sally Riker

Invocation

The Honorable Reverend Raphael Warnock

Senator, United States

Dinner

Tribute

Master of Ceremonies

T. Dallas Smith

Founder & CEO at T. Dallas Smith & Company

Quality

Ernest Greer

Co-President, Greenberg Traurig

Responsibility

Jay Bailey

President and CEO, Russell Innovation Center
for Entrepreneurs

Musical Tribute

Lil' John Roberts & The Senators

Chae Stephen

Alexandra Jackson

CeeLo Green

Vision

Keith Mason

Founder, KWM Capital Management, LLC

Integrity

Zane Major, Mori Russell, Benjamin Russell

The 3rd Generation Russell Family

Video Tribute

"Pure Grit. Built to Last."

Award Presentation

Sally Riker

Acceptance

**Donata Russell Ross, H. Jerome Russell
and Michael Russell Sr.**

2024 Four Pillar Honorees

Closing Remarks

Michael E. Paris

Champion



Signature



RESSLER-GERTZ
FAMILY
FOUNDATION

Diamond



Atlanta Fine Homes | Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY



GreenbergTraurig

Atlanta Gas Light



Hartsfield-Jackson
Atlanta International Airport



Atlanta Regional Commission



HOLDER



BANK OF AMERICA

HUDGENS
COMPANY, LP



Children's
Healthcare of Atlanta

JACOBS

JPMorganChase



KEYSTONE

THE FAMILIES OF
WAYNE & KEITH MASON



CITY OF ATLANTA



Wellstar
HEALTH SYSTEM



WEST END

Platinum

Alston & Bird
ATL Airport CIDs
Atlanta Braves
Atlanta Business League
Atlanta Commercial Board of REALTORS
Atlanta History Center
Atlanta Police Foundation
Cadence Bank
Centennial Yards
City of Hope
Clark Construction Group
Comcast
Cousins Properties
Cumberland CID
Develop Fulton
DLA Piper
Equifax

Fox Building Company
Carol & Larry Gellerstedt
Genesis Capital
Grady Health Foundation
HNTB
JAT Consulting
Commissioner Mereda Davis Johnson
Kaiser Permanente
Lilburn CID
Morehouse School of Medicine
NAMC of Greater Atlanta
Niles Bolton Associates
Ohio River South
Paramount Consulting Group, LLC
Peach State Health Plan
Perimeter CIDs
Pinnacle Financial Partners

PNC Financial Group
Proof of the Pudding
Pulte Group
Regent Partners
Russell Innovation Center
for Entrepreneurs
Selig Enterprises
Spelman College
T. Dallas Smith & Company
Taylor English Duma LLP
The Integral Group
Thompson Hine LLP
Town Center CID
Truist
TVS
University of Georgia
WSP

Gold

American Jewish Committee
Arnall Golden Gregory LLP
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Cobb Chamber
Coxe Curry
Dentons
DOMINIUM
Douglas County Chamber

Empire Communities
Gas South
GeorgiaLink Public Affairs Group
Georgia State University
Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce
Hinckley Allen
JLL
Jones Worley Communications
LDG Development
MARTA
Mercedes Benz Buckhead

Metro Atlanta Chamber
Regions Bank
Robinson Weeks Partners
Stellar Services, Inc.
True North 400
Verizon
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Silver

Atlanta BeltLine, Inc.
Corporate Environments
Cresset Capital
Fort Mac LRA
FWW Management, Inc.
Georgia Institute of Technology
Graham & Associates

Hammond Engineering
HBCU All-Stars, Inc.
Hussey Gay Bell
Jackson EMC
Kimley-Horn
MMHB & Associates
Morris, Manning & Martin, LLP

Pacific Group
Piper O'Brien Herr Architects
Russell Landscape Group
The Winter Companies
United Consulting
VHB
Woodward Academy

Bronze

AtkinsRéalis
Atlanta Marriott Marquis
Atlas
CERM
Coastal States Bank
Falcon Design Consultants LLC
Georgia Construction
Aggregate Association
Georgia Research Alliance

Granite Properties
Greater Georgia Black Chamber
of Commerce
The Heery Family
Humphries
Joia Johnson
LEO A DALY
Novare Group
PC Construction

Peregrine Oak
Permit Service Group
(Newborn Permitting Service)
Project Cost Solutions, Inc.
Slade Land Use, Environmental, and
Transportation Planning, LLC
Smith Real Estate Services
South Forsyth CID
United Way

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