

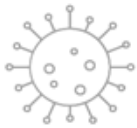


Canadian Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists
Helping Canadians Reduce Radon Risk



COVID-19: Back-to-work

Guidance for Radon Professionals



www.carst.ca

Current version: May 26, 2020

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CARST/C-NRPP COVID-19 STATEMENT

CARST/C-NRPP regards people's health as an important priority.

CARST/C-NRPP and our certified professionals are committed to helping home and building owners protect themselves from the negative health effects of radon exposure. With that same commitment, we recommend that our professionals take an approach of prevention and preparedness with respect to COVID-19, to protect themselves and their employees, as well as the occupants of the buildings where measurement and mitigation activities are conducted.

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Canadian Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists
Helping Canadians Reduce Radon Risk



COVID-19 has imposed limitations, but has also provided an opportunity for our members to set themselves apart and lead by example.



www.carst.ca

The purpose of this document:

Each region across Canada is affected by COVID to various degrees. Regardless of the level of risk within a region, we recommend that all C-NRPP professionals develop company communications and processes to affirm to your clients that you are taking health seriously and setting a positive example. Due to differences in requirements in each province and some regions of Canada, each C-NRPP professional is going to need to determine what measures should be included in their individual work flow.

CARST and C-NRPP have provided links to resources and guidelines that radon professionals can adapt and use.

Our recommendation is that each company complete the following steps:



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The recommendations set by public health authorities differ across the country and from region to region.

As such, the procedures established by C-NRPP professionals may not all be the same.

We want to present a united front of professionalism.

IMPORTANT – COVID procedures should not be a point of competition between certified professionals.

Confirm Provincial and Regional Recommendations:

Confirm that you are allowed to provide your services as provincial and regional recommendations regarding access into buildings and work areas can change. Keep up to date on information as health authorities may restrict activities if COVID-19 cases increase.



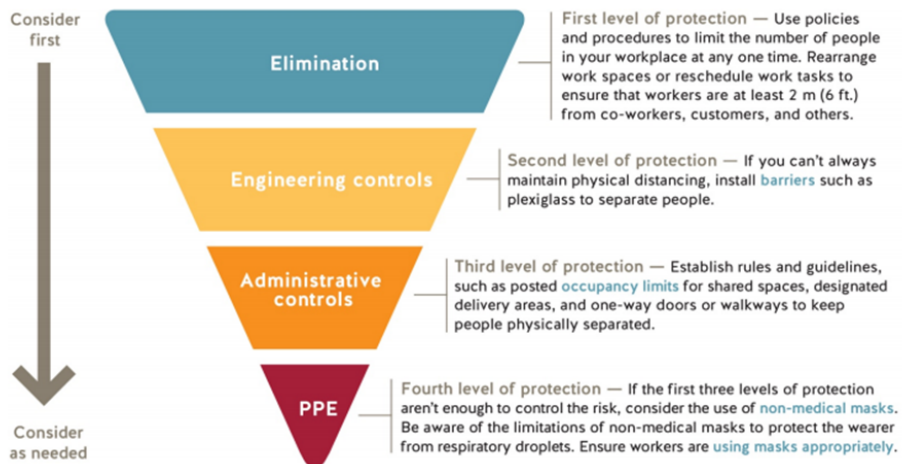
In addition, each region may have specific recommendations on workplace safety requirements with respect to COVID-19. Please make sure you are familiar with the local recommendations where you plan to work.



Regulations may change. Keep up-to-date with your provincial/regional recommendations.



Don't forget your usual Workplace Health and Safety Requirements



<https://www.worksafefbc.com/en/resources/health-safety/checklist/covid-19-safety-plan?lang=en>

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Develop a Company Statement

Company Statements:

We recommend that each company providing professional radon services develop a statement with reference to COVID-19. The statement should consider all stakeholders including employees, sub-contractors, home/building owners and occupants, and should include the concepts of making health a priority and optimizing the client experience. In addition, your company's Workplace Health and Safety policies should be amended to include proper measures with respect to pandemic preparedness.

We recommend that you develop a public facing one-page document that will communicate with your clients both your COVID-19 statement and the health and safety measures that will affect your interactions.

Internal Company Standard Operating Procedures:

We recommend that you develop standard operating procedures (SOPs) to address COVID-19 procedures for your work. You will need to confirm with local recommendations and requirements for your region/province, and include COVID-19 measures as well as usual Health and Safety requirements.

Develop Internal Company Procedures (SOPs)

Here are some things to consider for your SOPs:

- Employee Health Check in - must be Fit for Work
- Consider scheduling work during low-occupancy times within the building (or home)
- Including Physical distancing measures (contactless interactions) between clients and co-workers
- Access to handwashing stations and bathroom facilities
- Contactless interactions with bystanders
- Cleaning and disinfecting surfaces including materials left behind
- Cleaning and disinfecting tools and materials removed from the site
- Selection, use and care of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Suggested phrases of communication for employees
- Suggested public signage
- Good record keeping

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- Dealing with a potential exposure to COVID-19

Homeowner Resources:

We recommend that you develop resources to help you interact with your customers from a distance. Prevention includes reducing your proximity to clients and the length of time of interactions.

Develop
Homeowner
Communications

These resources could include:

- Sending any contracts that need signing in advance for electronic signatures.
- Setting up contactless payments through emailing invoices, and payment by credit cards.
- Setting up meetings through virtual meetings, facetimes or phone calls.
- Developing a homeowner information form to gather relevant information.
- Creating an occupant health questionnaire for buildings where you will work.
- Ensuring that any waiver of liability that needs to be signed is provided for electronic signature.



Information on Safety Equipment and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

The information provided here is strictly informative and it is the duty of the user to ensure compliance with provincial or territorial recommendations and legislation. It is at the discretion of each C-NRPP Professional which PPE to use and when.



Information on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is meant to provide information on use and function of PPE. C-NRPP is not implying or recommending the use of any specific PPE as it is the duty of the user to assess each situation appropriately and select the adequate PPE.

Non-medical masks and face coverings used by the general public to control the spread of infectious illness can vary greatly from the respiratory protection used at workplaces and may not be governed under the same legislation. It is important to understand the differences of public and workplace applications and the limitations of each type of PPE as

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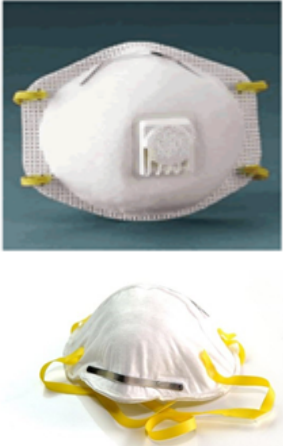

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1F9f9PACVVzTaauDkZAhNdFb3D4.JvNMkfN887r0ORowU/edit?usp=sharing>

well as the legislative requirements for the selection, use and care of PPE that apply to your workplace.

<p>Respiratory protection <i>This is perhaps the PPE element most focused on during outbreaks and pandemics and can be the most complicated PPE to evaluate and select.</i> Proper fit testing and being clean shaven will ensure proper face to respirator seal.</p>		
Type of Equipment	Purpose	Photos
<p>Surgical/ medical mask.</p>	<p>Worn by operating room personnel to protect both the patient and operating room staff from the transfer of microorganisms, bodily fluids and particulate material. Loose fitting, limited filtration.</p> <p>Does not need to be individually fitted.</p> <p>Notes pertinent to COVID: Limit amount of droplets transmitted during breathing and speaking.</p>	
<p>Homemade Masks</p>	<p>Homemade masks are not medical devices and are not regulated like medical masks and respirators. Their use poses a number of limitations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they have not been tested to recognized standards • the fabric vary considerably and are not the same as those used in surgical masks or respirators • the edges are not designed to form a seal around the nose and mouth • they may not provide complete protection against virus-sized particles • they can be difficult to breathe through <p>Notes pertinent to COVID: In many regions, the use of homemade masks has been recommended by public health officials when social distancing is impossible, as they can limit the amount of droplets transmitted during breathing and speaking and are often readily available.</p> <p>These types of masks may not be effective in blocking all virus particles that may be transmitted by coughing, sneezing or certain</p>	

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	<p>medical procedures. They do not provide complete protection from virus particles because of a potential loose fit and the materials used.</p>	
<p><u>N95 Respirator (filtering face-piece)</u></p>	<p>Minimum filtration efficiency of 95%, Must be worn properly Must be National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) approved.</p> <p>Notes pertinent to COVID: If an exhalation valve is present please note that it will only filter on inhaling not on exhaling. This means that unfiltered exhaled air can escape into the surroundings and potentially impact others. Masks without exhalation valves filter during both inhalation and exhalation.</p>	
<p><u>Half Mask/Half Face Air Purifying Respirator</u></p>	<p>Interchangeable filter cartridges; filtration efficiency is determined by the filter used Must be National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) approved.</p> <p>Notes pertinent to COVID: The exhalation valve facilitates filtration only during inhaling not on exhaling. This means that unfiltered exhaled air can escape into the surroundings and potentially impact others.</p> <p>“N,” are not resistant to oil “R” are resistant to oil “P” are strongly resistant to oil or oil Proof 95, 99 or 100 refer to the minimum percentage of filtration</p>	 <p><i>shown here is a P100 filter</i></p>
<p>Respirator and mask resources</p> <p>Masks and respirators: https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medical-devices/masks-respirators-covid19.html</p> <p>Homemade masks: https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks/about-non-medical-masks-face-coverings.html</p>		



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<https://www.quebec.ca/en/health/health-issues/a-z/2019-coronavirus/wearing-a-face-covering-in-public-settings-in-the-context-of-the-covid-19-pandemic/>

Gloves

Medical gloves are essential for health care providers and optional for the rest of us. Anyone who chooses to wear gloves must be aware of the proper way to use and remove them.

<p>Medical gloves</p>	<p>Made of latex, vinyl, synthetic polymer or nitrile.</p> <p>Notes pertinent to COVID: Any contaminant (i.e. virus) on the glove exterior could enter the body if the glove touches your face or other items not covered (e.g. cell phone etc.). If you are wearing gloves you must assume they are contaminated.</p> <p>Some advantages to wearing gloves might include the fact that they provide a physical cue not to touch your face, put your hands in your pockets, scratch an itch, etc.</p> <p>See the following Glove Requirements section for information on how to take off gloves properly. (Illustration and video link)</p> <p>Notes pertinent to COVID: Always wash or sanitize your hands after removing gloves.</p>	
<p>Work Gloves</p>	<p>Work gloves are a key part of the PPE worn by many radon mitigators. However, after a job they must be considered to be contaminated, and should be cleaned between jobs or shifts just as any other tool would be.</p> <p>Notes pertinent to COVID: Any contaminant (i.e. virus) on the glove exterior could then enter the body if the glove touches your face. If you are wearing gloves you must assume they are contaminated.</p>	

Glove resources:

- <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medical-devices/covid19-personal-protective-equipment/gloves.html>
- <https://www.globus.co.uk/how-to-safely-remove-disposable-gloves>

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WDI0Zj573Js&feature=emb_rel_end

Clean hands with soap and warm running water or by applying alcohol-based hand rub (i.e. hand sanitizer) if soap and water are not available before putting on and after taking off gloves. Wash hands with soap and warm running water at earliest convenience. (see image...)

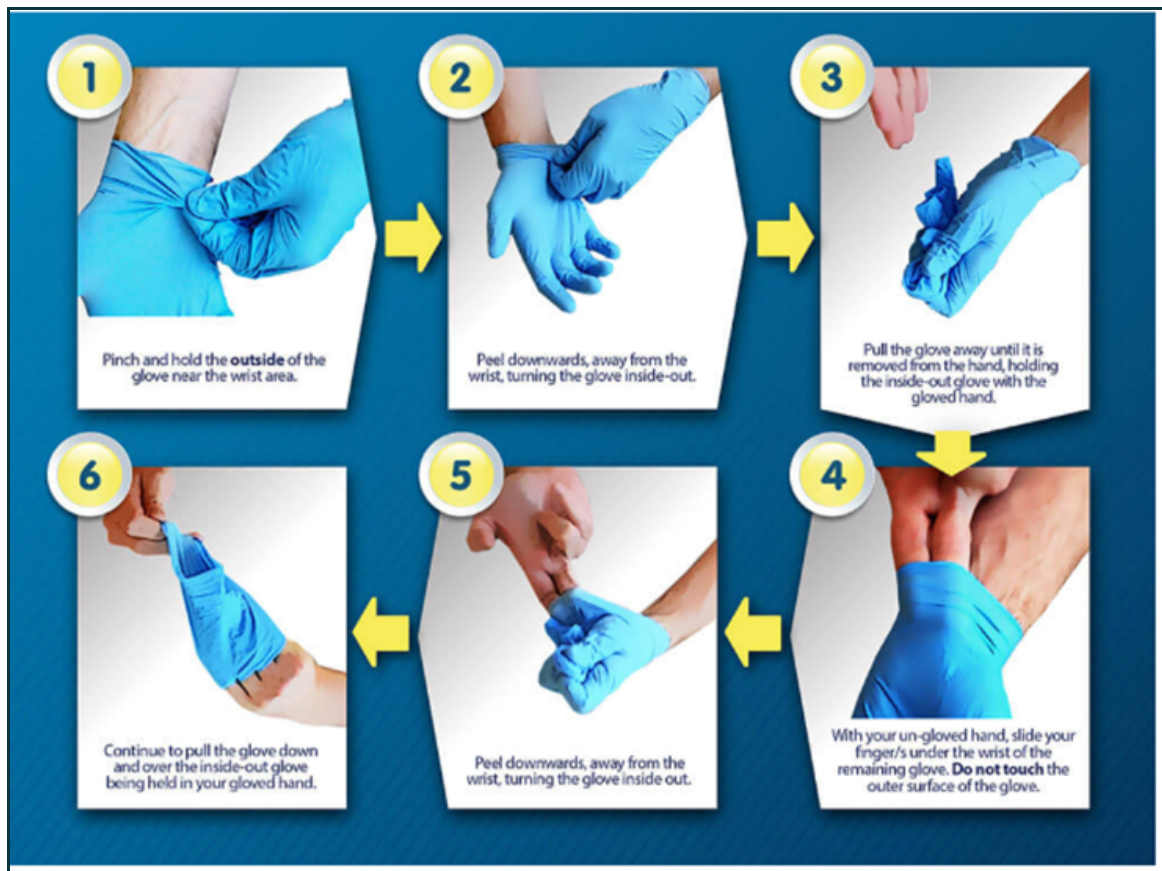
Coveralls

Coveralls

Made of a broad range of materials.

Notes pertinent to COVID: Coveralls are worn by many radon mitigators. However, after a job they must be considered to be contaminated, and should be cleaned between jobs or shifts just as any other tool or piece of equipment would be.





REDUCE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19. WASH YOUR HANDS.



1
Wet hands with warm water



2
Apply soap



3
For at least 20 seconds, make sure to wash:



4
Rinse well



5
Dry hands well with paper towel



6
Turn off tap using paper towel



palm and back of each hand



between fingers



under nails



thumbs

☎ 1-833-784-4397
 @ canada.ca/coronavirus
 ✉ phac.info.aspc@canada.ca




<https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/phac-aspc/documents/services/diseases-maladies/reduce-spread-covid-19-wash-your-hands/eng-handwashing.pdf>

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Online Resources and Links:

Hard surface disinfectants and sanitizers:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/disinfectants/covid-19.html>

Use household chemicals safely

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/home-safety/household-chemical-safety.html>

COVID-19 cleaning products for use, handling or storage in workplaces

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/covid19-industry/disinfectant-sanitizers-cleaners-soaps/workplaces.html>

Cleaning and disinfecting the workplace -

<https://yukon.ca/en/health-and-wellness/covid-19/learn-how-clean-and-disinfect-your-workplace>

https://www.saskatoonhealthregion.ca/locations_services/Services/Germ-Smart/Documents/GS-1%20Environmental%20Cleaning%20and%20Disinfecting%2005-14.pdf

Cleaning and disinfecting your home -

<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/prevention-risks/cleaning-and-disinfecting>

Here are links to the Official COVID-19 websites for each province/territory:

Alberta: <https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx>

British Columbia:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support>

Manitoba: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/index.html>

New Brunswick:

https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/ocmoh/cdc/content/respiratory_diseases/coronavirus.html

Newfoundland and Labrador: <https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/>

Nova Scotia: <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/>

Ontario: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/how-ontario-is-responding-covid-19>

Quebec: <https://www.quebec.ca/en/health/health-issues/a-z/2019-coronavirus/>

PEI: <https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/topic/covid-19>

Yukon: <https://yukon.ca/covid-19>

Nunavut: <https://www.gov.nu.ca/health/information/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

Northwest Territories: <https://www.gov.nt.ca/covid-19/>

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Glove resources_

- <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medical-devices/covid19-personal-protective-equipment/gloves.html>
- <https://www.globus.co.uk/how-to-safely-remove-disposable-gloves>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WDI0Zj573Js&feature=emb_rel_end

Washing Hands:

- <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/reduce-spread-covid-19-wash-your-hands.html>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o9hjmques72l>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sDUJ4CAYhpA>

Links to assist with developing Company Internal Procedures & Homeowner Communications

<https://www.ccohs.ca/products/publications/covid19/>

Alberta: <https://www.alberta.ca/biz-connect.aspx>

British Columbia:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/business/businesses-covid19>

Manitoba: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/restoring/guidance.html>

New Brunswick: <https://www.worksafenb.ca/media/60996/embracing-the-new-normal.pdf>

Newfoundland and Labrador:

<https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/files/Workplace-March-20th-Infograph.pdf>

Nova Scotia: <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/working-during-covid-19/>

Ontario: <https://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/>

Quebec:

Here is the English checklist:

<https://www.cnesst.gouv.qc.ca/salle-de-presse/covid-19-info-en/Documents/DC100-2146A-I-Daily-Checklist.pdf>

And here is a guide to COVID in the workplace

<https://www.cnesst.gouv.qc.ca/salle-de-presse/covid-19-info-en/Documents/DC100-2146A-Guide.pdf>

Here is a link to a checklist for all construction sites:

<https://www.cnesst.gouv.qc.ca/salle-de-presse/Documents/liste-verification-construction-COVID-19.pdf>

<https://www.quebec.ca/en/employment/reopening-construction-during-covid-19-pandemic/>

Quebec CNESST specific to construction sector:

<https://www.cnesst.gouv.qc.ca/salle-de-presse/covid-19-info-en/Pages/covid-19-QR-construction-sites.aspx>

PEI: <https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/publication/covid-19-operational-plan-template>

Yukon: <https://yukon.ca/en/industry-specific-guidelines-and-recommendations-covid-19>

Nunavut: <https://www.gov.nu.ca/health/information/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

Northwest Territories: <https://www.gov.nt.ca/covid-19/>

Other useful COVID-19 resources

- <https://www.acgih.org/coronavirus>
- <https://www.osler.com/en/resources/regulations/2020/managing-the-coronavirus-covid-19-for-employers>
- [General Information on COVID-19](#)
- [COVID-19 Resources for Health Professionals](#)
- [Mental and Physical Well-being During the Pandemic \(PDF\)](#)
- [Canadian Lung Association COVID Resources.](#)

CAHPI – COVID Recommendations:

- https://www.cahpi.ca/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=439&catid=82&lang=en&Itemid=1927

Internachi

- <https://www.nachi.org/covid-19-course.htm>
- <https://www.nachi.org/covid-19-guide.htm>

Enhanced Cleaning Guidelines during the COVID-19 -

<https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/covid19/pdf/cleaning-COVID-19.pdf>

Pandemic for DFO/CCG Custodial Buildings Cleaning and Disinfection Routine After Symptomatic Employee is Removed from the Workplace -

<https://www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/publications/NSOP-PONEN/508-eng.html>

Radon Laboratory COVID-19 links:

AccuStar: <https://www.accustarlabs.com/coronavirus>
Radonova: http://radonova.com/radonova_covid_19/
RSSI : <https://www.rssi.us/>
SRC : <https://www.src.sk.ca/news/src-response-covid-19>
Radon North: <https://www.radonnorth.com/covid-19>
[Resource from Radon North](#)

[Canada Post Disruption Notices](#)

Financial Concerns:

[Canadian Government Resources for Businesses](#) (updates regularly)

[Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy \(CEWS\)](#): Starting April 27, 2020, eligible employers can apply for the CEWS in CRA My Business Account or through a separate online application form.

- [Government announces Commercial Rent Relief for small businesses.](#)

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- [Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan: Support for Canadians and Businesses](#)
- [Applying for Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy](#)
- [CMHC - COVID-19 Response](#)

Check your provincial utility company for contact information on what to do if you are unable to pay your bills.

Downloadable Resources

[Be Prepared](#)

[Travelling Recommendations](#) - [Les voyageurs revenant au Canada](#)

[Vulnerable Populations and COVID-19](#)

[Reduce the Spread of COVID-19: Wash your Hands](#) [LAVEZ VOS MAINS](#)

[Know the Difference: Self-Monitoring, Self Isolation and Isolation for COVID-19](#)

[APPRENEZ LA DIFFÉRENCE : AUTO-SURVEILLANCE, AUTO-ISOLEMENT ET ISOLEMENT POUR LA COVID-19](#)

[How to Isolate at Home When you Have COVID-19](#)

Provincial Links:

[Alberta Employers Tip Sheet](#)

[Alberta Worker Tip Sheet](#)

[British Columbia WorkSafe Information](#)

[Manitoba Workplace Information](#)

[New Brunswick WorkSafe Information](#)

[New Brunswick Guidance for Businesses](#)

[Newfoundland and Labrador COVID info](#)

[Nova Scotia Alerts](#)

[Nova Scotia Order of the Health Protection Act](#)

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[Prince Edward Island - Employers FAQs](#)

[Saskatchewan Workplace Information](#)

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