



A FAILURE OF IMAGINATION: Kwikset Smartkey® and Insecurity Engineering

ONE OF THE MOST SECURE and
INSECURE LOCKS IN AMERICA

KWIKSET SMARTKEY



#1: IS SMARTKEY SECURE?

Brian: 06/25/2013 1105 A.M.



#2: IS SMARTKEY SECURE?

Satima: 06/24/2013 4:26 P.M.



#3: IS SMARTKEY SECURE?

Raymond: 06/25/2013 3:58 P.M.



KWIKSET LOCKS

A Spectrum Brands Company

- ◆ MILLIONS IN USE IN AMERICA AND CANADA
- ◆ HOMES, APARTMENTS, BUSINESSES
- ◆ INEXPENSIVE: COST: \$20-\$30
- ◆ MODELS:
 - Pin tumbler, 5 and 6 pin
 - Smartkey, 5 pin
 - Deadbolts
 - Electronic + override



ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR LOCKS IN U.S.

- ◆ MILLIONS SOLD EVERY YEAR
 - COMMON KEYWAY: WEISER, BALDWIN
- ◆ FOR MORE THAN FIFTY YEARS
- ◆ DIVERSE PRODUCT LINE
 - Deadbolts
 - Rim
 - Lever handle
 - Electronic



KWIKSET DISTRIBUTION



TAYLOR SECURITY & LOCK



WIDE PRODUCT LINE



HOMES, APARTMENTS, BUSINESS, COMMERCIAL





KWIKSET, WEISER, BALDWIN: The Basics

- ◆ PIN TUMBLER AND SMARTKEY
- ◆ 5 or 6 PIN CONVENTIONAL CYLINDERS
 - Many configurations
- ◆ 5 PIN SMARTKEY PROGRAMMABLE
- ◆ COMMON KEYWAYS, NO SECURITY
- ◆ NO DUPLICATION PROTECTION
- ◆ NOT HIGH SECURITY
- ◆ MAINLY RESIDENTIAL AND APARTMENTS

KWIKSET HISTORY



- ◆ ORIGINAL PIN TUMBLER DESIGN
 - Rim cylinder
 - Deadbolt
 - Key-in-knob design
- ◆ EASILY COMPROMISED
- ◆ MOST POPULAR UNTIL 2008
 - Smartkey introduced to Canada and U.S.

PIN TUMBLER v. SMARTKEY





PIN TUMBLER DESIGN

- ◆ NOT SECURE
- ◆ Easy to pick
- ◆ Easy to bump
- ◆ Easy to impression
- ◆ Easy to mechanically bypass
- ◆ Can be master keyed
- ◆ Easy to determine the Top Level MK
- ◆ Limited number of combinations

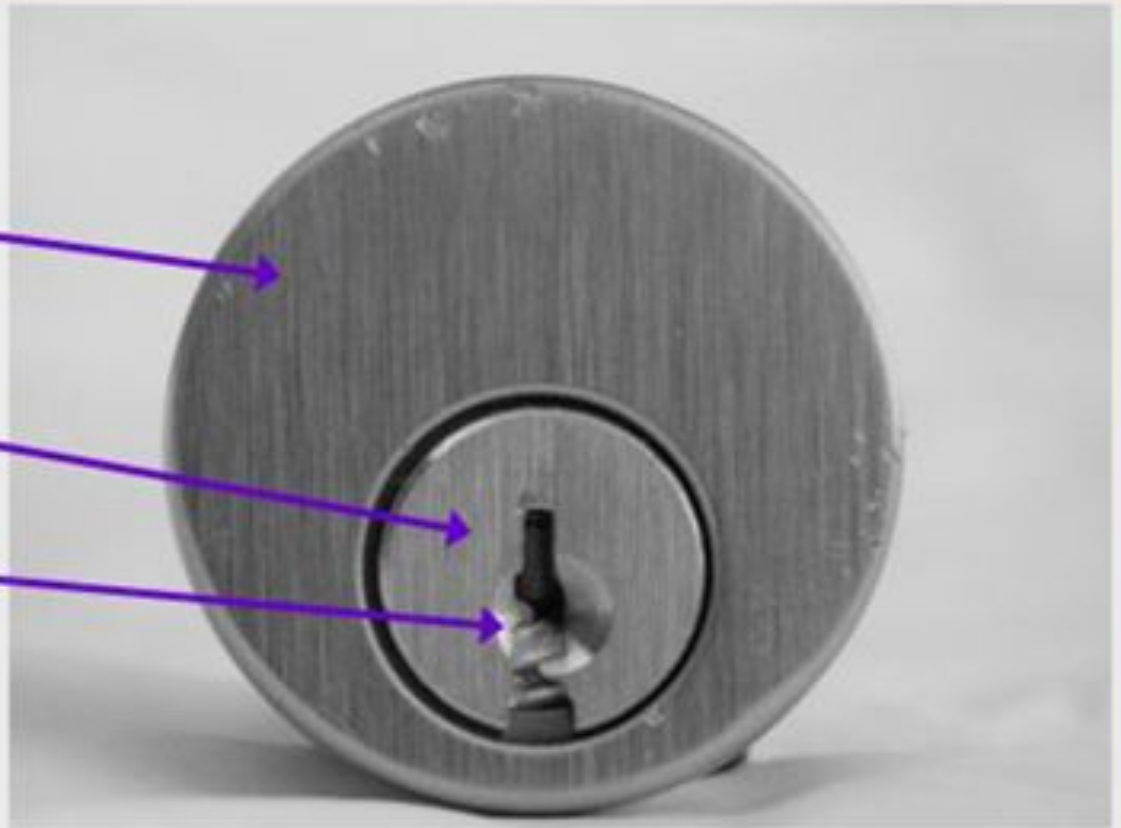
PIN TUMBLER DESIGN: How it works



Shell

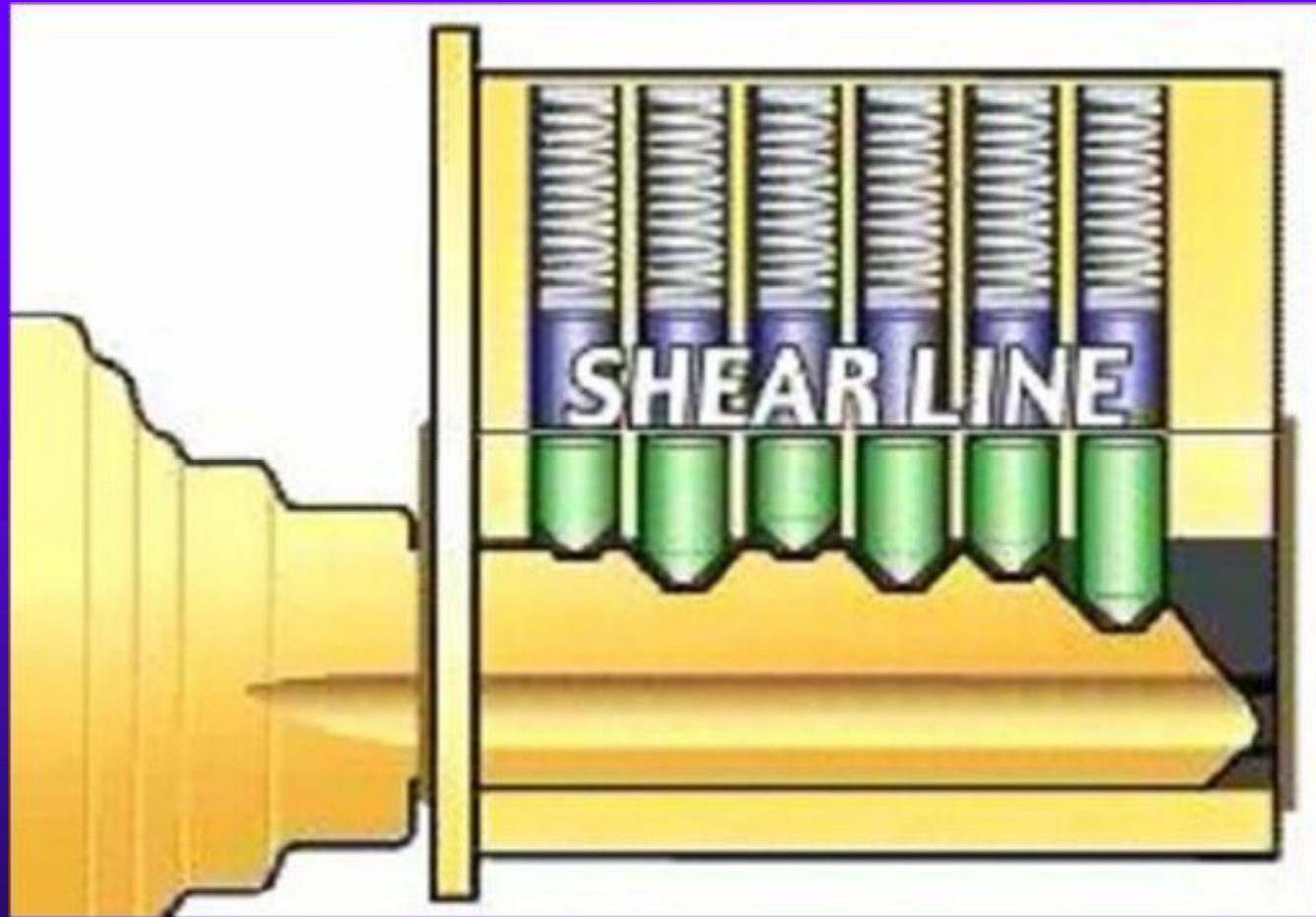
Plug

Keyway slot

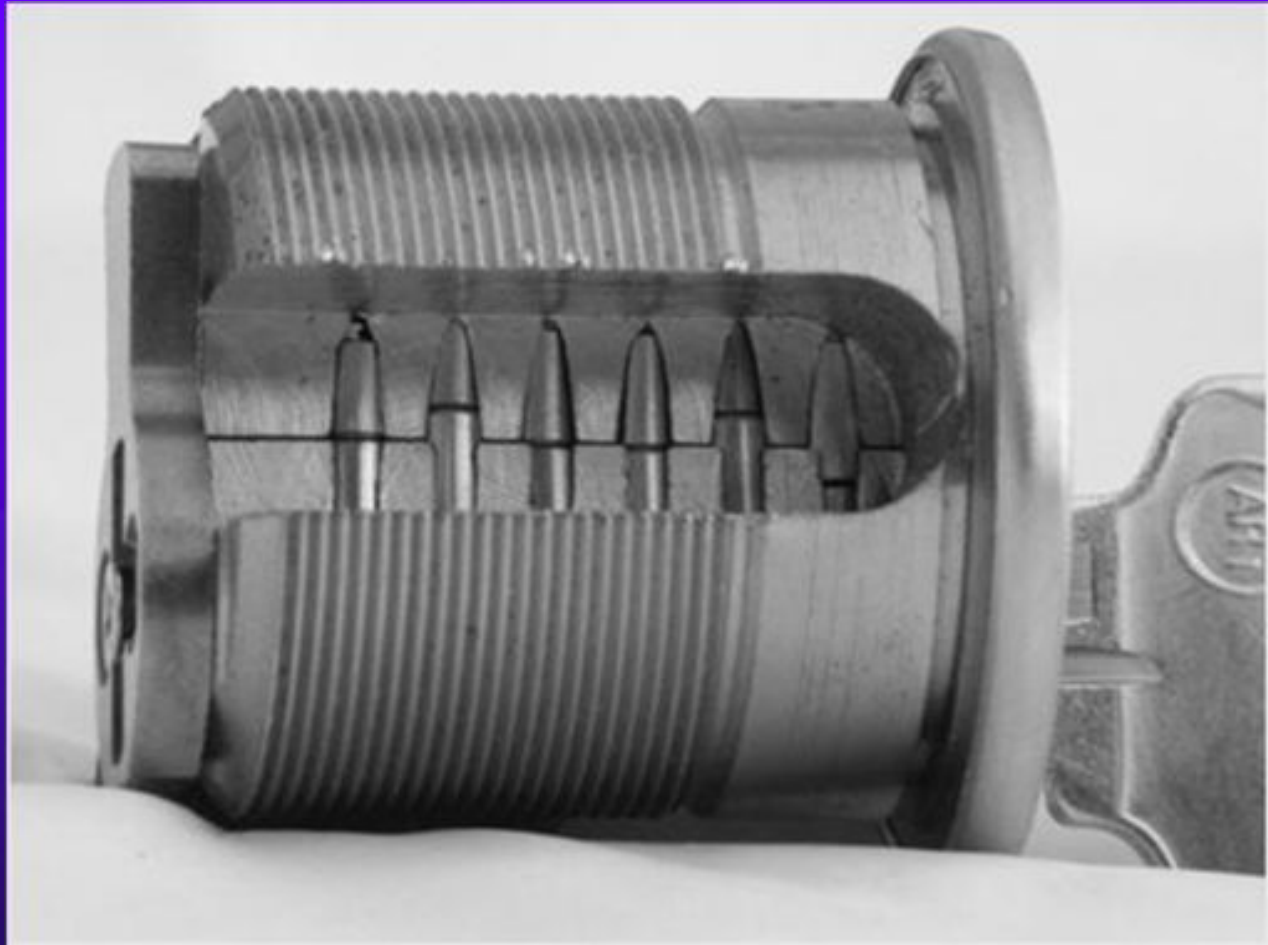


PIN STACKS = SECURITY:

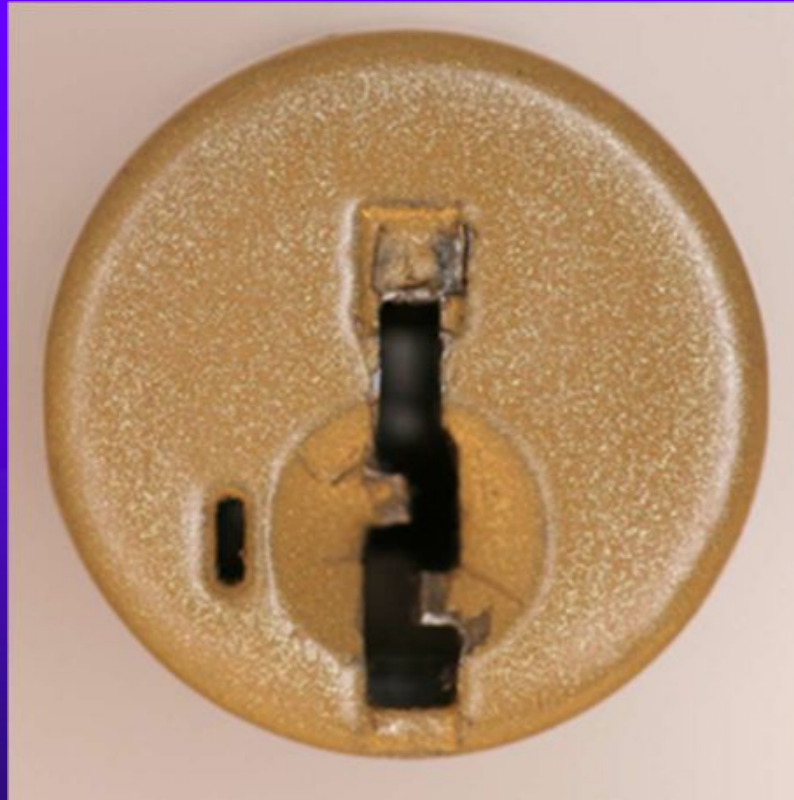
Plug can turn: pins at shearline



LOCKED: PINS NOT AT SHEARLINE



KWIKSET SMARTKEY: Not a pin tumbler lock





SMARTKEY ATTRIBUTES

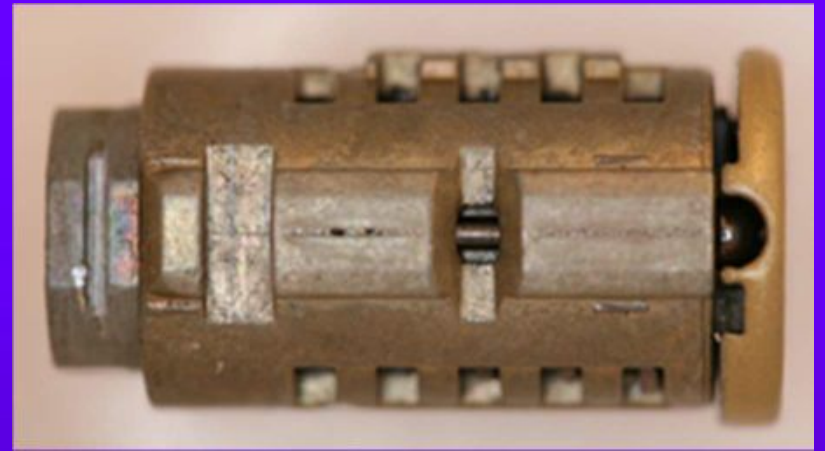
- ◆ 5 PIN ONLY 6 DEPTH INCREMENTS
- ◆ SINGLE SIDEBAR SECURITY
- ◆ EXTREMELY PICK RESISTANT UL437
- ◆ CANNOT BE BUMPED
- ◆ CANNOT BE IMPRESSIONED
- ◆ INSTANT PROGRAMMABILITY TO ANY KEY
- ◆ CANNOT BE MASTER KEYED



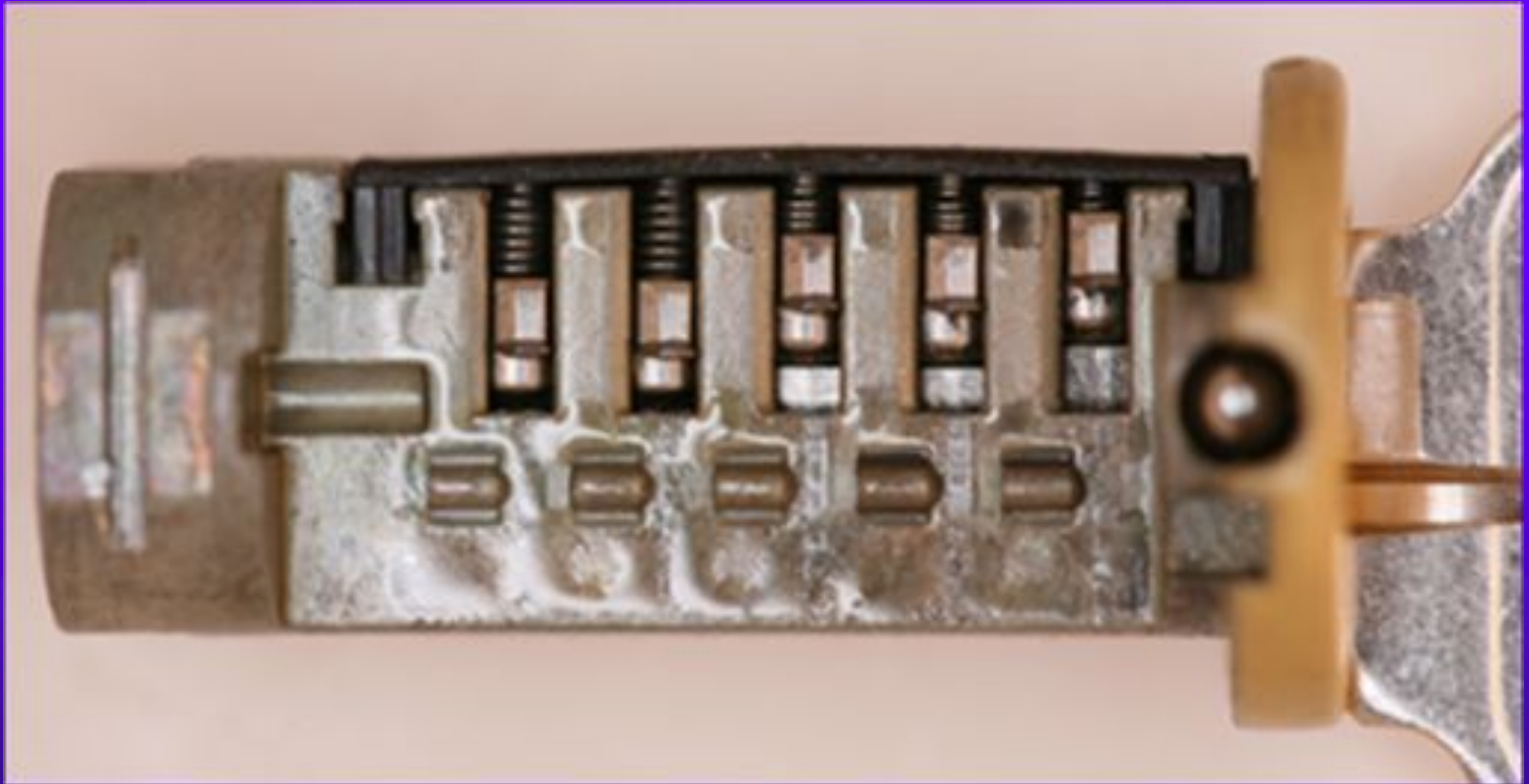
MORE ATTRIBUTES

- ◆ ONE PRIMARY KEYWAY
- ◆ BHMA 156.5 GRADE 1 RATING
- ◆ UL 437 RATING
- ◆ SPECIAL “KEY CONTROL DEADBOLT”
AS ALTERNATIVE TO MK SYSTEM

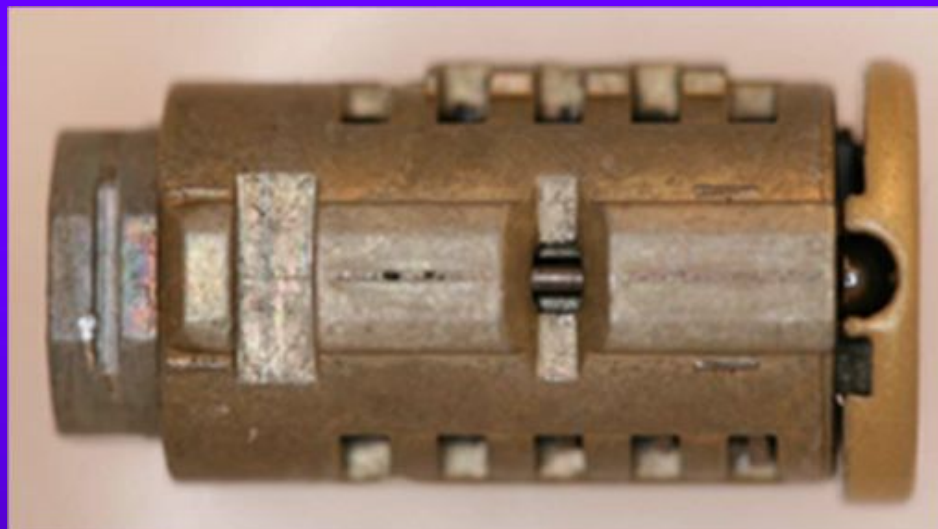
SMARTKEY DESIGN



PROGRAMMABLE SLIDERS

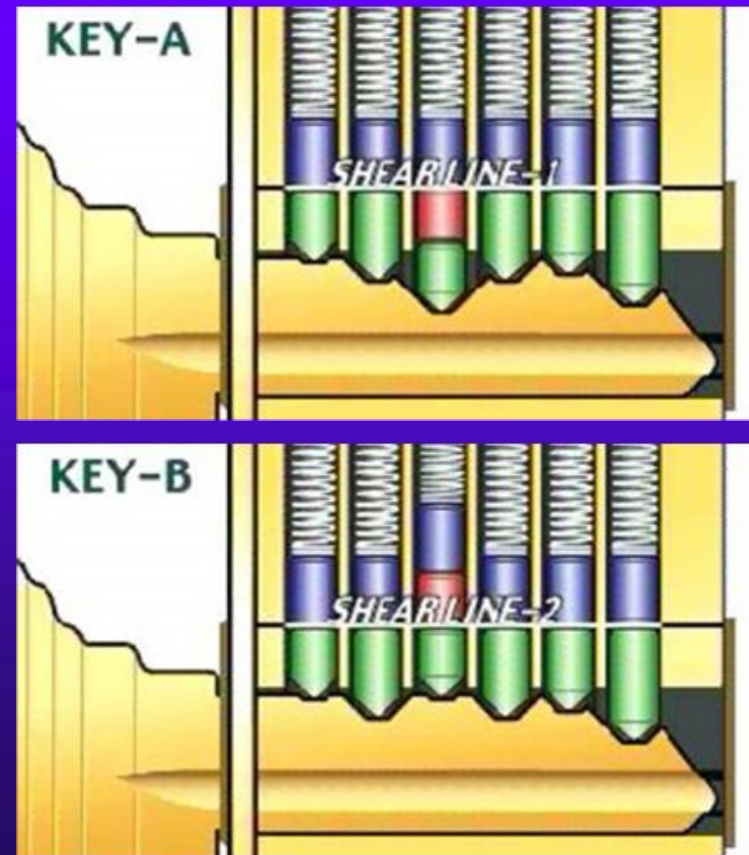
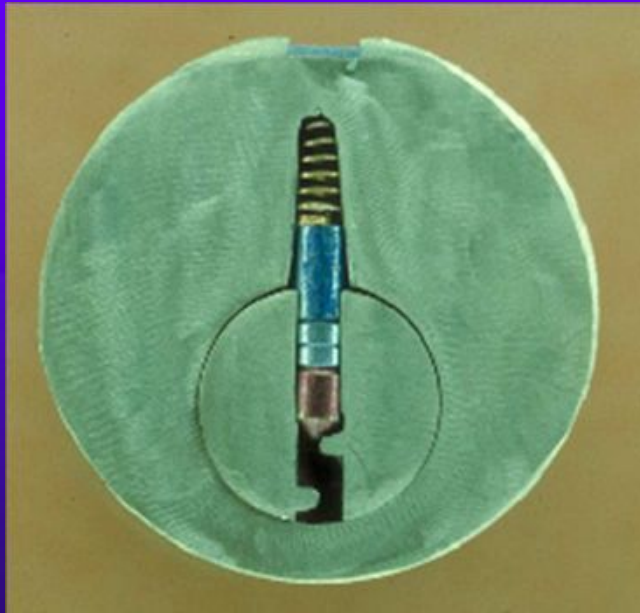


SIDEBAR = SMARTKEY SECURITY



MASTER KEY SYSTEMS: Pin Tumbler v. Smartkey

◆ CONVENTIONAL MK SYSTEMS





CONVENTIONAL MK SYSTEM ATTRIBUTES

- ◆ ONE KEY OPENS MANY LOCKS
 - Only bottom pin and master pin per chamber
- ◆ DIFFERENT LEVELS OF KEYING
 - Can reduce number of change keys
- ◆ EXPENSIVE TO REKEY OR ADD KEYS
 - Must disassemble cylinder to rekey
- ◆ CROSS KEYING BETWEEN LOCKS
AND SYSTEMS



MK SYSTEM SECURITY

- ◆ INHERENT INSECURITY
- ◆ MUST HAVE AT LEAST TWO SECURITY LAYERS
- ◆ EASIER TO COMPROMISE ENTIRE SYSTEM
 - Multiple shear lines
 - Unintended key combinations will open lock
 - Easier to pick, bump, impression, decode
 - Extrapolation of TMK



KWIKSET KEY CONTROL: The Alternative to Master Keying

- ◆ TWO INDEPENDENT CORES
- ◆ TWO SEPARATE AND DISTINCT KEYS
 - Supposed to maintain security of key blanks
 - Control key only from factory
- ◆ INSTANTLY REPROGRAMMABLE
- ◆ NO CROSS KEYING OR INCIDENTAL MASTER KEYS
- ◆ NOT A REAL MK SYSTEM
- ◆ ONLY ONE LEVEL OF KEYING



KWIKSET “KEY CONTROL”

Positive Attributes

- ◆ NO LOCKSMITH REQUIRED
- ◆ 46,656 THEORETICAL COMBINATIONS
- ◆ GOOD FOR FACILITIES THAT NEED ONE MK LEVEL ONLY
- ◆ GREAT FOR CONSTRUCTION MK
- ◆ NO DISASSEMBLY OF CYLINDERS
- ◆ TWO INDEPENDENT SHEAR LINES WITH NO INTERACTION LIKE CONVENTIONAL SYSTEMS



KWIKSET “KEY CONTROL”

More positive attributes

- ◆ INSTANT ABILITY TO REPROGRAM
- ◆ TWO SEPARATE KEYWAYS
- ◆ CANNOT DERIVE CONTROL KEY FROM CHANGE KEY
- ◆ LIKE CORBIN “MASTER SLEEVE” SYSTEM 75 YEARS AGO, INHERENTLY MORE SECURE
- ◆ LITTLE CHANCE OF ONE SYSTEM OPENING ANOTHER



KWIKSET “CONTROL KEY”

The Bad

- ◆ NO WARRANTY FOR COMMERCIAL
- ◆ NOT FOR COMPLEX OR COMMERCIAL SYSTEMS
- ◆ CAN BE COMPROMISED IN 15 SECONDS
- ◆ EASY TO DECODE CONTROL KEY
- ◆ EASY TO REPLICATE CONTROL KEY
- ◆ NO PATENT PROTECTION ON KEYS



SECURITY: YOU GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR

- ◆ DO YOU EXPECT A \$20-\$30 LOCK TO PROVIDE ANY SECURITY?
 - Some buyers cannot afford higher security
 - What is the minimum they are entitled to?
- ◆ KWIKSET KNOWS THESE LOCKS HAVE SERIOUS VULNERABILITIES
- ◆ DOES THE PUBLIC HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW HOW EASY TO OPEN?
 - Should there be warnings on packaging?



KWIKSET SMARTKEY: INSECURITY ENGINEERING

- ◆ MILLIONS OF PEOPLE AND FACILITIES AT POTENTIAL RISK
 - COVERT ENTRY
 - FORCED ENTRY
- ◆ KWIKSET “Highest grade of residential security available.”
 - True but misleading
 - Open in less than thirty seconds



FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY

- ◆ BHMA GRADE 1 RATING
- ◆ “Highest grade of residential security”
- ◆ UL 437 PICKING RATING
- ◆ VIRTUALLY BUMP PROOF
- ◆ USERS ARE NOT AWARE OF RISKS
- ◆ LOCKS CAN BE OPENED IN SECONDS
- ◆ FAILURE TO DISCLOSE
VULNERABILITIES



KWIKSET ADVERTISING and MISREPRESENTATIONS

- ◆ FALSE OR MISLEADING STATEMENTS BY TECH SUPPORT AND SALES
- ◆ 8 SEPARATE INTERVIEWS:
 - “Cannot be opened except by drilling”
 - “No maintenance problems”
 - “Video on YouTube not true: lock was tampered with”
 - “No way can be opened with a screwdriver”
 - “The problem has been dealt with”



SMARTKEY DESIGN ISSUES

- ◆ SIDEBAR SHOULD PROVIDE MORE SECURITY THAN PIN TUMBLER LOCK
- ◆ ONLY ONE LAYER OF SECURITY
- ◆ SMALL FRAGILE SLIDERS
- ◆ PROGRAMMING PROBLEMS
- ◆ LOW TOLERANCE, LIMITED DIFFERS
 - 243 Key combinations
 - All the same blank
- ◆ CAST METAL EASILY COMPROMISED



MORE DESIGN ISSUES

- ◆ PLUG DESIGN CAN BE WARPED
- ◆ SLIDER DESIGN
- ◆ ABLE TO DECODE THE SLIDERS
- ◆ SLIDERS EASILY JAMMED
- ◆ TAILPIECE DESIGN AND ACCESS
- ◆ NO KEY DETENT FOR PROGRAMMING



SMARTKEY: METHODS OF DEFEAT

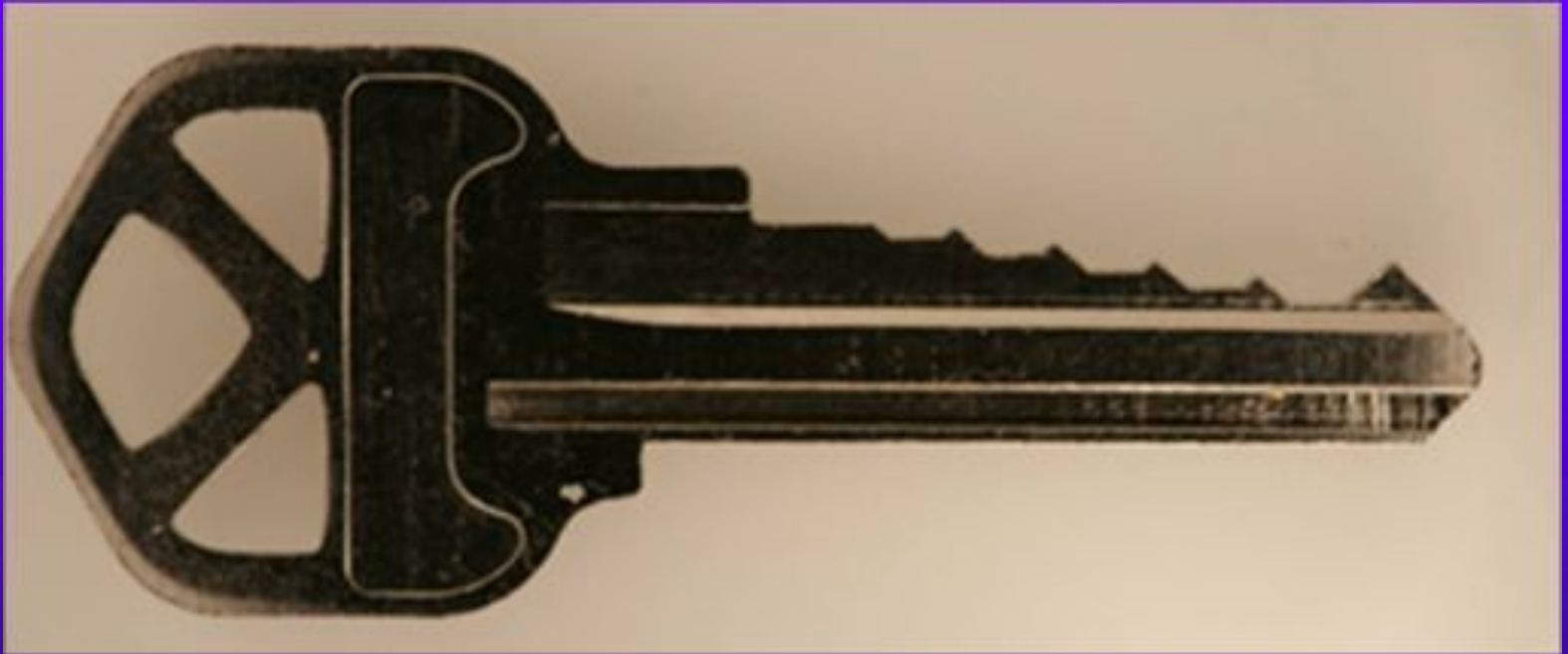
- ◆ TRYOUT KEYS
- ◆ TAILPIECE, WIRE THROUGH KEYWAY
- ◆ VISUALLY READ SLIDER POSITION
- ◆ TORQUE THE PLUG AND OPEN
- ◆ REPLICATING CONTROL KEY
- ◆ DECODING OF THE MASTER KEY



TRYOUT KEYS

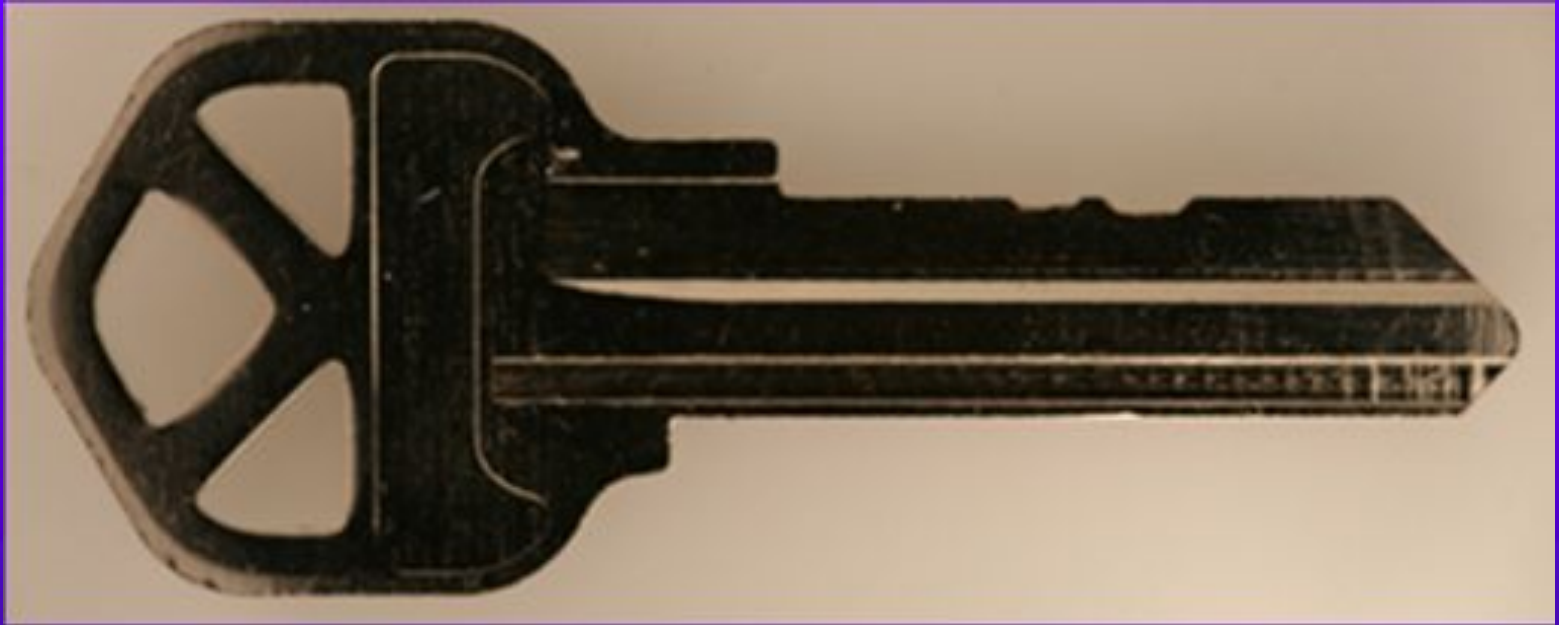
- ◆ BITTING = 6 DEPTHS @.023"
- ◆ 5 SLIDERS
- ◆ UNIVERSE OF KEYS = 3 to 5th = 243
- ◆ #1.5 = DEPTHS 1-2
- ◆ #3.5 = DEPTHS 3-4
- ◆ #5.5 = DEPTHS 5-6

DEPTH INCREMENTS AND TOLERANCE



DEPTHS 1-2-3-4-5-6

DEPTH INCREMENTS 1-2



DEPTHS 1-2 = 1.5

DEPTH INCREMENTS 3-4



DEPTHS 3-4 = 3.5

DEPTH INCREMENTS 5-6



DEPTHS 5-6 = 5.5

TRYOUT KEY SET

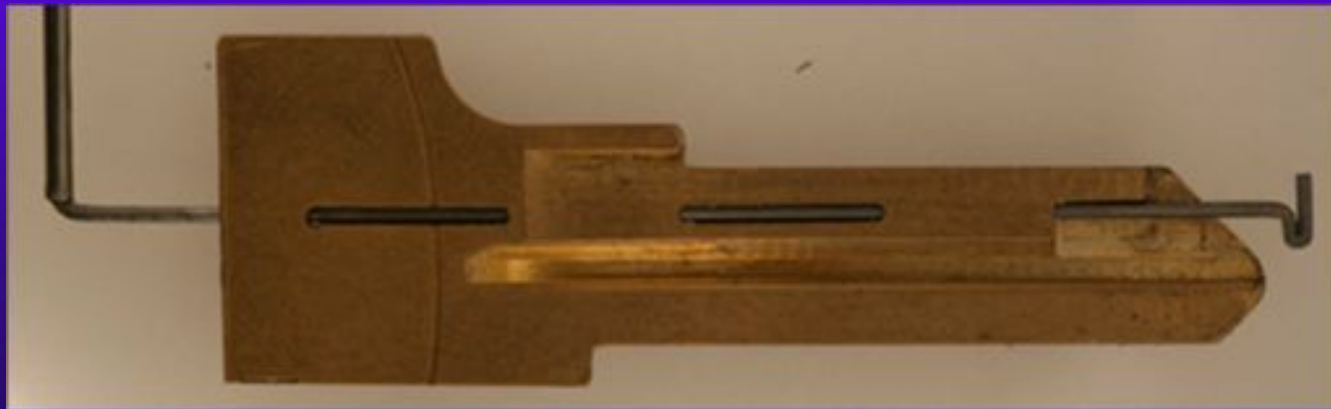




TAILPIECE DESIGN

- ◆ SAME DESIGN FOR PIN TUMBLER AND SMARTKEY
- ◆ HOLLOW AND SOLID TELESCOPING
- ◆ PLUG CAP NOT SUFFICIENT
- ◆ ZIG ZAG WIRE THROUGH KEYWAY
 - No trace
 - No damage
 - Less than 30 seconds

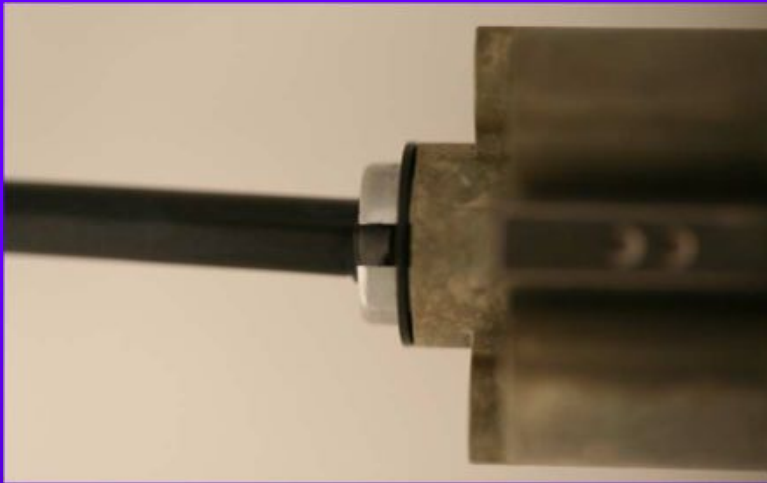
KEY-IN-KNOB ATTACK: Tailpiece access



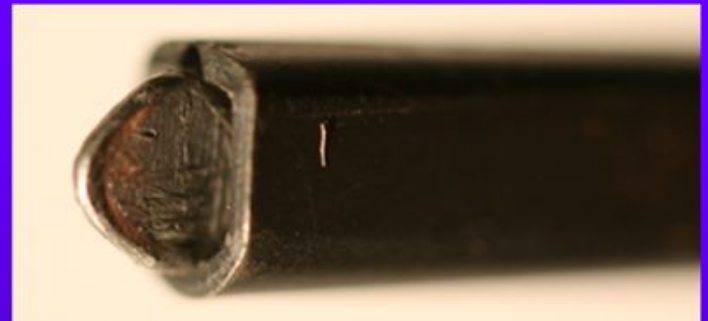
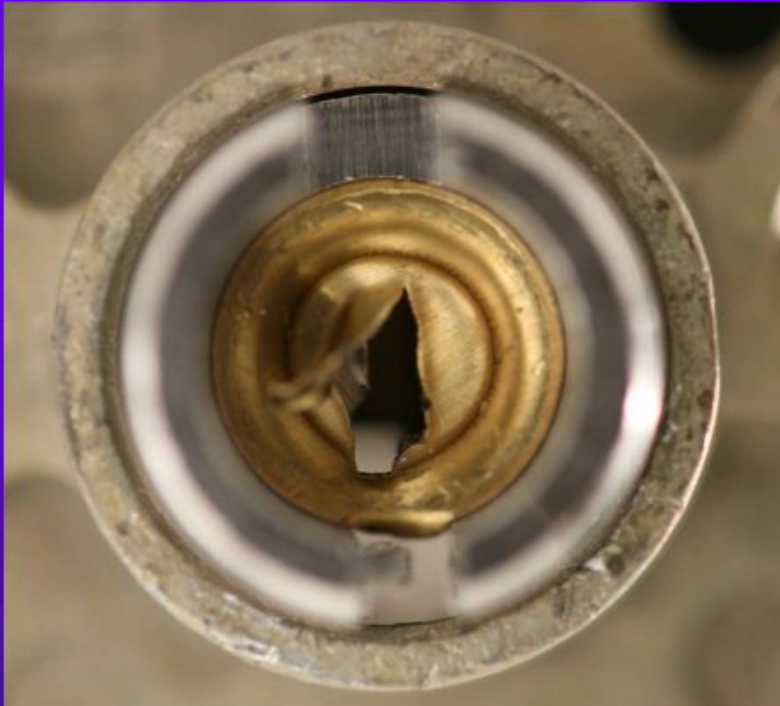
KEY-IN-KNOB ATTACK



TAILPIECE AND WIRE



TAILPIECE ATTACK





VISUAL DECODING SLIDERS

- ◆ SLIDER TO TUMBLER INTERFACE
- ◆ CAN DETERMINE POSITION OF SLIDER AND KEY CODE
- ◆ INSERT BORESCOPE OR MIRROR TO VIEW POSITION



TORQUE THE PLUG

- ◆ BELIEVE VIOLATES THE BHMA 156.5
- ◆ Formal complaint filed
- ◆ HOW THE LOCK CAN BE COMPROMISED: DESIGN ISSUES
 - Warp sliders or keyway
 - Application of 110 pound force inches
 - Set sliders to specific position
 - Apply torque with 4” screwdriver and wrench
 - OPEN IN ABOUT FIFTEEN SECONDS

SLIDER DESIGN AND TORQUE ATTACK



TORQUE AND BHMA 156.5

REQUIREMENT = 300 lbf-in

OPEN in 112 lbf-in



112 Pounds Force Inches = OPEN



KEY CONTROL: NONE



SMART KEY LOCKS AND KEY CONTROL





DECODING THE LOCK OR CONTROL KEY

- ◆ KEY CONTROL BLANK ONLY AVAILABLE FROM FACTORY
- ◆ NOT THE SAME AS CHANG KEY
- ◆ SPECIAL DECODER TO READ THE SLIDERS



MAKING THE CONTROL KEY

- ◆ SEPARATE KEYWAYS ARE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE INTERCHANGEABLE
- ◆ THE REPRESENTATION: CONTROL KEYS ARE SECURE

CHANGE KEYS AND CONTROL KEYS





SUMMARY: SMARTKEY INSECURITY

- ◆ ONE OF MOST POPULAR AND INEXPENSIVE LOCKS IN US. AND CANADA
- ◆ CONSUMER FRIENDLY
- ◆ FILLS CERTAIN NEEDS
- ◆ SECURE AGAINST CERTAIN ATTACKS
 - Picking
 - Bumping



BURGLARS: THEY DON'T PICK LOCKS

- ◆ PICK RESISTANT
- ◆ BUMP PROOF
- ◆ ALL OF THE SECURITY IS MEANINGLESS
IF THE LOCK CAN BE OPENED IN 15
SECONDS
- ◆ PATENTS MEAN NOTHING
- ◆ BHMA RATINGS MEAN NOTHING
- ◆ COULD BE MADE SECURE
- ◆ YOU GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR



A FAILURE OF IMAGINATION: INSECURITY ENGINEERING

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