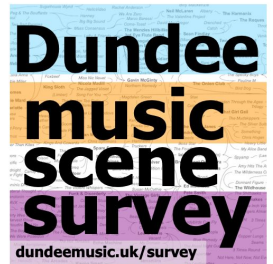


# Dundee Music Scene Survey

Responses: August 2024

a to z of topics & graphs



thank you x

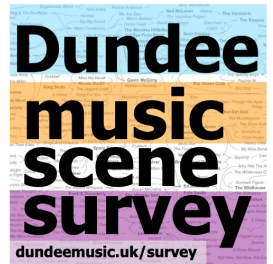
First of all, a big thank you to everyone who spent time adding their responses to this survey! It's been awesome to read (& re-read) what you wrote, and explore your ideas for so many ways to improve things for the scene in Dundee - and very heartening to feel the positivity coming from so many directions!

Going forward, we hope to build on the positive vibes, and form a loose collective - championing the Dundee music scene and improving things where possible.

Everyone is welcome to get involved, have their say, and collaborate on exciting music-related ventures . . .

Ed Muirhead, Dundee Music

www: [dundeemusic.uk](http://dundeemusic.uk)  
insta: [@dundeemusic.uk](https://www.instagram.com/dundeemusic.uk)



## responses

The following pages group most of the responses in related topics - certain themes came up again & again.

Skim through them, see what people have said, debate the pros and cons, get inspired, spot your answers.

Mostly positive, though there's also cliques and creepy behaviour, which we should be aware of & stamp out.

What's next?

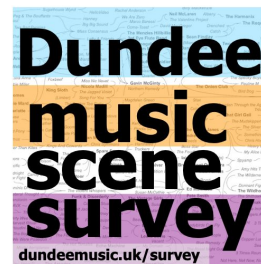
There's already some wheels in motion, it would be great to have some help, our collective voice will be stronger than one or two alone.

mail [news@dundeemusic.uk](mailto:news@dundeemusic.uk) / insta [@dundeemusic.uk](https://www.instagram.com/dundeemusic.uk)

## a to z of topics . . .

- accessibility
- cliques
- collaboration
- collectives
- connections
- creative ideas
- creepy behaviour
- event ideas
- festivals
- paying for music (10 pages!)
- promotion
- songwriters
- support
- zines
- & advice

# Comments by topic



## accessibility

“Accessibility for disabled people is often non-existent in these venues and a lot of them have stairs which make it difficult for disabled people to navigate them.”

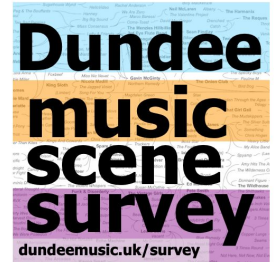
“As a disabled person with a disabled partner accessibility is a big thing that discourages me, i like to have a seat if I or my partner might need it and my partner sometimes uses a wheelchair so level entry is important for us to go to gigs together.”

“More accessibility for people (e.g. wheelchair access)”

“More accessible venues. My wife's mobility stops her getting into a lot of venues”

“Some venues very inaccessible”

# Comments by topic



## cliques

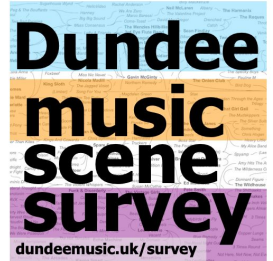
“... cliqueness shown by certain musicians and bands. It's not about what you know and how you good you are it's all about who you know ...”

“Everyone needs to come together. Scene has become quite cliquey which makes gigs have less turn out”

“I want to get more involved but there seems to be a lot of large egos and cliques that make it feel unapproachable, especially as a woman”

“The clique-y vibe and nature of how they book bands is definitely off putting”

# Comments by topic



## collaboration

“Bands need to stop seeing themselves as in competition and start working more closely together to help grow the scene”

“I guess the utopia would be for greater collaboration across venues and promoters to try and cross populate audiences”

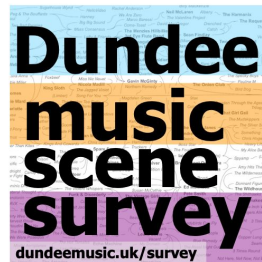
“I hope for the musicians of Dundee to stand together as I believe that is the only way for the scene to get back up to speed.”

“I think bands need to work together more/promote to increase the crowd”

“More band to band interaction and arranging gigs together and help promote each other”

“More of the bands need to work together to build regular crowds.”

# Comments by topic



## collectives

“I'd love to perform more and host more events with the purpose of collective prosperity.

I'd love to see people collaborate more for the fun of it.”

“I wish there was enough bands and artists that music collectives based on genres were a possibility, I also feel the Dundee music scene is quite two faced in some aspects and wish everyone got along a bit better to help everyone grow a bit more.”

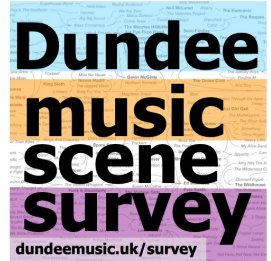
“There seems to be different music little scenes in Dundee doing their own thing ie, the acoustic singer/songwriters, the metal bands, the hardcore punks, the more jangly indie bands and a few electronic artists.

Maybe it would be an idea for more communication between these groups, to try and grow the local scene to benefit everyone.

To share knowledge and give support.”



# Comments by topic



## connections

“A more connected music scene”

“A more connected ecosystem of bands helping one another”

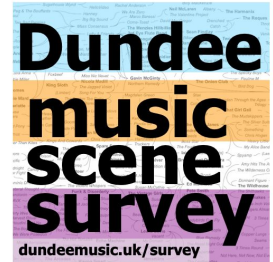
“More knowledge of people to work with.  
Recording facilities, producers, promoters, etc”

“Possibly an agency type idea where all local bands can be found  
with details, genres etc plus availability.”

“Some kind of hub/focal point for local performers.  
Could help bring local performers closer together and help grow the  
local scene”

“Wish there was something like Girls Rock School Edinburgh /  
Glasgow here in Dundee. Encouraging women/nb/trans to get  
involved in music.”

# Comments by topic



## creative ideas

“Access to funding for recording music”

“Have some sessions and easier access to help with writing (for me anyway) and good studio access for those who don’t know how it all works”

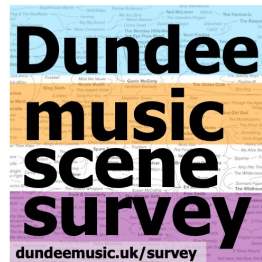
“Having session musicians working along with creative songwriters, help to link up like minded musicians hoping to form a band”

“I wish more workshops were there for songwriting or just the production process.”

“I would love to hear more from experimental musicians in Dundee & provide a platform for them to showcase, share & discuss their work”

“More opportunities to record, budget friendly places even if it's to record a rough demo.”

# Comments by topic

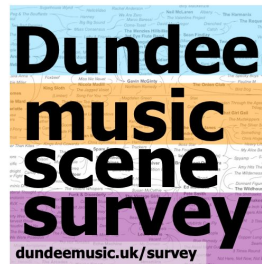


## creepy behaviour

“More people would go to shows if there was less creepy behaviour to women / general unwelcoming vibes”

“Sick of places that don't pay their staff or are run by actual predators”

# Comments by topic



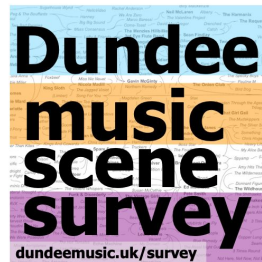
## event ideas

“A few music nights that showcase three or four bands for free beer or petrol money. you're on for 30 mins, use the house kit and backline, get to meet other bands, share ideas, maybe build a following. run it like a list "I want to play", ok, you're at the bottom of the list, I'll let you know when you're a month out. "I've just played", cool, do you want to play again? you'll go to the bottom of the list, but you know the drill. maybe you start in one venue, but maybe you grow, you never know.”

“It would be brilliant to have a music venue in Dundee with a night solely dedicated to putting on original music where the musicians were paid to do so. Also, I think to have more established bands on at venues more regularly and have local musicians supporting would be brilliant for the Dundee music scene.”

“Maybe a once a month Dundee City showcase hosted on a rotational basis over different venues and booked on a sympathetic multi genre music basis”

# Comments by topic



## festivals

“Festivals in the Stadiums + Keiller Centre”

“Get back Almost Blue”

“Live music events (mini festivals in particular) for local bands. Silverburn (in Leven) is a great influence that could be taken on board for the Dundee area.”

“There needs to be a multi venue day festival, for example Glasgow has Tenement Trail, Edinburgh has Stag & Dagger”

Dundee Festivals in 2024 include:

WestFest - Jun 2 (7 local original acts + touring acts)

Pure Damage Fest - Jun 8 (3 local original acts + touring acts)

LexFest - Aug 2-3 (12 local original acts, 2 venues)

Mak A Racket Fest - Aug 31 (3 local original acts + touring acts)

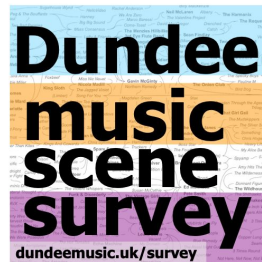
Punktoberfest - Oct 25-26 (6+ local original acts + touring acts)

Substance - Oct 25-26 (7 local original acts)

Metalfest - Apr 20 & Dec 7 (8 local original acts + touring acts)

[dundeemusic.uk/gigs/?festival](https://dundeemusic.uk/gigs/?festival)

# Comments by topic



## paying for music

“Absolutely - especially vinyls. Streaming services can be taken away at any point in time. Physical releases can't be.”

“All fair and well, but the actual bands who are producing this music should be receiving more than 0.3p a stream”

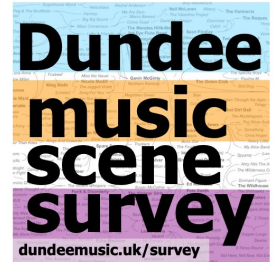
“As long as it's supporting the artist but I do think streaming platforms are overpriced”

“Buying vinyl. Listening online!”

“Depends on the band and the price. Less likely to pay for local bands that may play another venue that is free to attend.”

“Extremely happy to pay, specifically for local bands (even if I can listen to their music for 'free' on Spotify)”

# Comments by topic



## paying for music

“Fair. Wish more would go to the musicians and writers.”

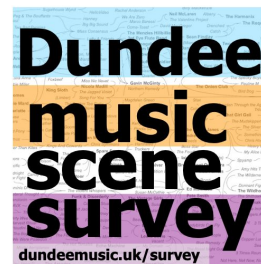
“Getting more people to pay for music would require a culture change or a pivot to a new business model”

“I prefer having physical copies such as vinyl”

“Hard question - streaming is great for discovering new music of course and putting you on a path to then support a band whether by going to shows, buying merch or music. However it's harder than ever monetarily (I've certainly been to less shows this year than last year and likely less than 2022 as well).”

“I am happy to pay for music and do often, although I do use spotify because it's very convenient, i do wish they would pay artists fairly and i do agree something needs to change”

# Comments by topic



## paying for music

“I believe in paying as musicians and performers work hard at what they do so should be paid”

“I feel streaming should pay more to the artists who put in the art and money into their creation. Too many streaming services taking a big cut”

“I feel that fans should pay for music that they really enjoy and even more so after experiencing a great gig put on by said band”

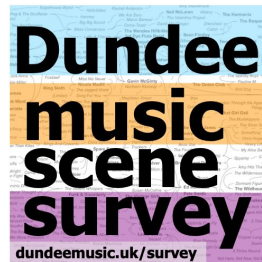
“I have no issues paying for music - no one else should either”

“I like paying a Spotify subscription but am happy to pay for vinyl for specific artists”

“I like the idea of physical copies for a release especially new single/album”



# Comments by topic



## paying for music

“I love collecting Vinyl especially Scottish independent artist”

“I pay for Spotify, buy vinyl sometimes, tickets sometimes, merch sometimes. When I was a student I was already returning CDs to Fopp when I had finished with them. If we were playing music to get rich, we'd have given up as soon as Simon Cowell started on telly.”

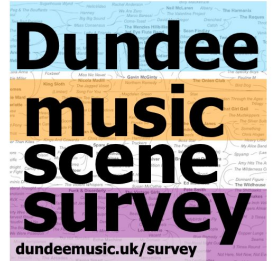
“I still buy physical. Happy to pay for it.”

“I think buying vinyl, alongside live shows, is the best source of income for an up and coming band. Buying music on platforms like iTunes helps combat the lack of income from spotify a lot.”

“I think it's important, especially for local musicians, they deserve support for their efforts”

“I think it's good to support artists”

# Comments by topic



## paying for music

“I think the way music is paid for already makes good sense”

“I'd happily pay but understand that's a bit old fashioned”

“I'll only pay for a live act OR a physical product - 100% Not paying for download”

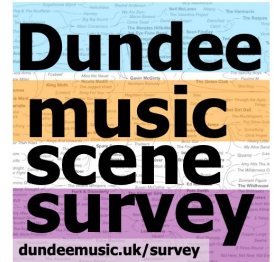
“I'm happy to pay and while I often discover new music via Bandcamp and Spotify I will then buy a physical copy”

“I'm happy to support the local music scene”

“If I like an artist, I would be willing to pay to listen but am selective”

“If it helps support bands, independent labels or venues then it's a good thing”

# Comments by topic



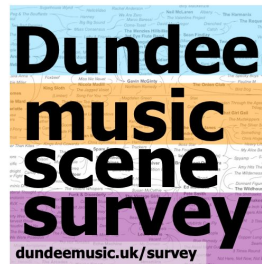
## paying for music

“If there is a band that I really like and want to support I will pay for any stuff they may have on platforms like bandcamp to help support them”

“If you don't, it will disappear”

“It's down to principle. For a long time I have recognised the importance of buying music in order to support other artists, but as a dj/music commentator without a consistent income stream, it does not make sense to spend my savings when I can download music for free. However, I have recognised that any music I have paid for, I have had to carefully consider. Meaning that I have a far stronger relationship with this part of my collection. Thus, I have ceased using Souseek and other free resources and decided to prioritise quality over quantity and am exclusively purchasing music.”

# Comments by topic



## paying for music

“It’s important that if you like a track, you contribute on a platform such as Bandcamp, this supports artists and means they can help produce new material”

“It’s good to pay for music and supporting artists is brilliant but everyone should be able to hear music with no barrier of payment”

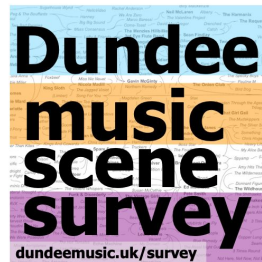
“More money needs to go towards the artists”

“More music venues should pay bands and artists for their live performances in Dundee”

“Music is work and getting paid is essential long-term. I’m not afraid to do work for free cause I love it. We’ll all get paid.”

“Never really been a fan of paying for music”

# Comments by topic



## paying for music

“No issues if it's going to the musicians”

“No problem paying”

“Pay for it per month to have unlimited access in app”

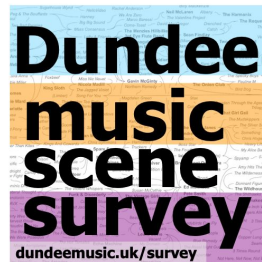
“Should all be free”

“Streaming is what is happening now and for the foreseeable future. It sucks for the artist but very convenient for future consumer.”

“Student deals can be very helpful!”

“Subscriptions have devalued music to the point where it is not possible for musicians to be paid fairly from it”

# Comments by topic



## paying for music

“There aren’t many options”

“Those days are gone unless on physical product”

“We all should pay for the hard work musicians”

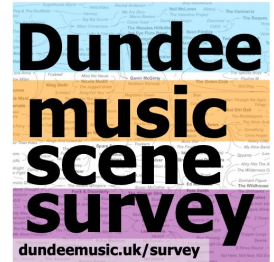
“Will do it for DIY acts, but usually physical copies only”

“Wouldn't generally buy to download, but would buy vinyl of something I'd like to keep”

“Wouldn't pay for streaming, so not using spotify etc, not a good model for musicians”

“Yes no problem as long as the band is good and the venue pay the band well”

# Comments by topic



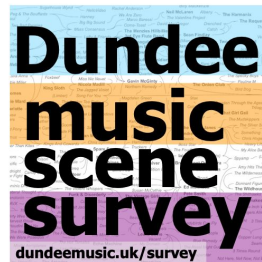
## paying for music

“Yes you should pay for music. Unfortunately record labels scalping music lovers in the 90s led to Napster and then the current model of streaming music and the devaluing of music as art and the horrifically small amount artists get paid. I use spotify so I am part of this too. I wish I knew the answer! But go see local live music and if you enjoy the band buy the merch and support them.”

“You it needs to be paid for in some way”

“You probably should, 🦋🦋 arrrrrr”

# Comments by topic



## promotion

“Better advertisement of what is on”

“I just don’t see much promotion of gigs at all in Dundee”

“I think more people who go to gigs if promoters and artists were able to put posters up around the city centre ... I often find out about events when they have already happened or on the day of.”

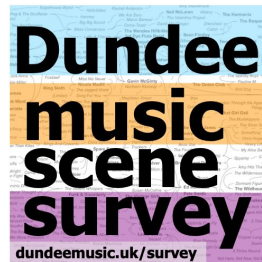
“It would be wonderful to see better promotion and attendance of original material.”

“Materialised promotion. Posters and flyers”

“Maybe bands/artists need to be doing more creative promotion? Often you get the poster of a gig shared on social media ... it does not give any info of the type of band/genre or really giving anything interesting.”



# Comments by topic



## promotion

“More awareness”

“More dynamic promotion from both venues and bands”

“More effective promotion of shows would be helpful!”

“More original music promotion, less cover bands.”

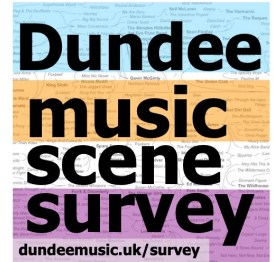
“More promotion”

“Physical promotion”

“We need a promoter who will regularly bring in touring bands and be a regular on the circuit.”

“You are lucky to know about (gigs) in advance or at all”

# Comments by topic



## songwriters

“I wish more workshops were there for songwriting or just the production process.”

“I would love to help others get involved in music and songwriting but wouldn't know where to start.”

“Open songwriter discussions behind lyrics / how to write”

“Singer songwriter get together for writing songs”

“Songwriters group sharing songs, arrangements”

“Songwriters sessions”

“Songwriting meet ups for collaborations my fave”

# Comments by topic



## support

“A musicians helpline based locally would be a great start.”

“A support group for younger musicians who are getting involved in the industry. A lot of Dundonian musicians aren't business trained & unfortunately some of them make wrong choices which stunt their career growth.”

“A scheme to train new musicians in stagecraft & business management”

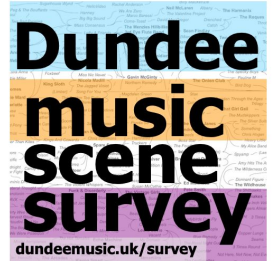
“Better support from bars, promoters & local press to promote & pay local talent.”

“Having some way for bands to get their music heard locally rather than Spotify to build a community. Local radio or platform dedicated to promoting Dundee bands”

“Masterclasses from gigging musicians, demonstrating equipment, software, setups, as well as offering booking advice.”

“Music education (courses)”

# Comments by topic



## zines

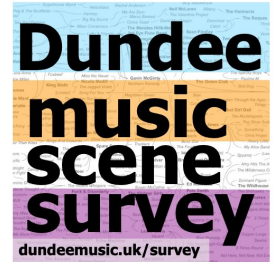
“I think something like a local music magazine would go a long way, in a city where I feel some very talented bands and musicians really needs something to showcase them in one spot”

“Many years ago I used to write a zine and then later a website while based in Dundee. I feel the scene and variety of gigs and venues has dwindled since the 90s and would love to see it back to the way it was attracting bigger names and interest”

“Seems to be rekindling, fanzines are a good way of collating and publishing music scene info. Perhaps a documentary YouTube channel would add more drive?”

“Zines need to be made/promoted more as they have a local feel about them bringing a sense of stronger community”

# Comments by topic



## & advice

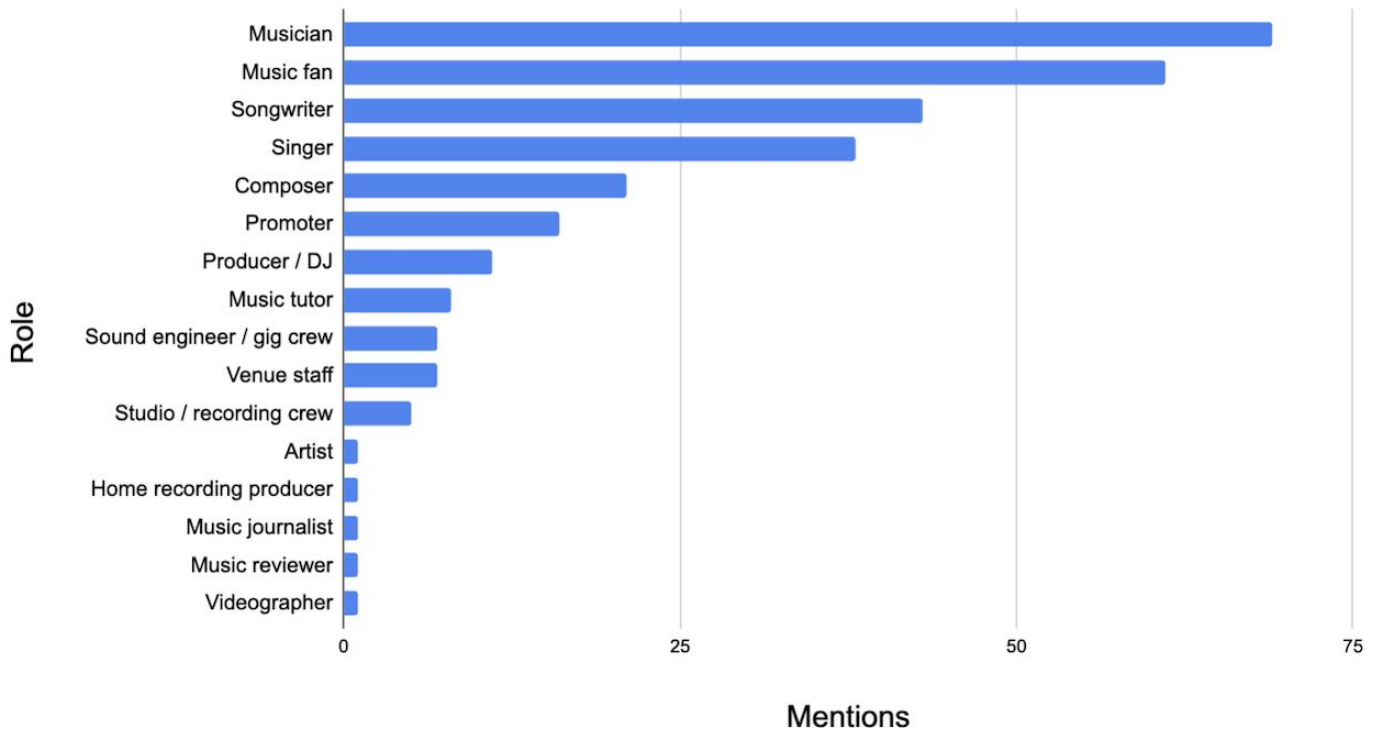
“Just have fun, a lot of musicians take things far too seriously, which can show in their performances live and promoting etc. if you just take a fun approach it takes the pressure off a bit and lets the musicians be themselves a bit more.”

“Only advice i could give to anyone is just be you cause if you’re trying to be someone else it’s never gonna work”

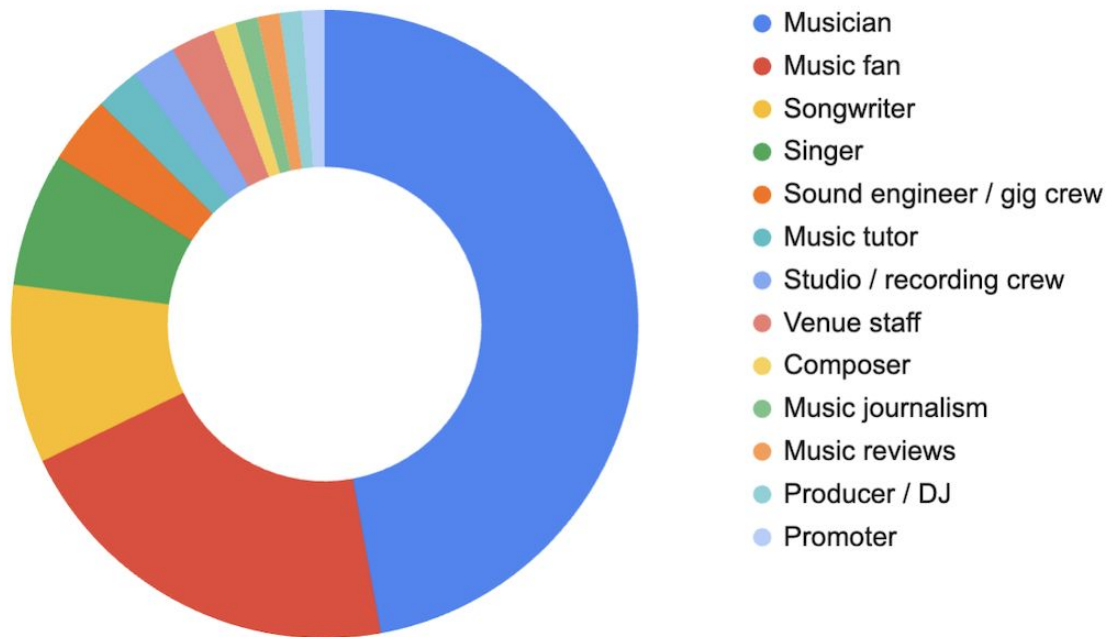
# graphs

- Roles in music scene
- Role pie chart
- Involvement in music scene
- Involvement pie chart
- Venues mentioned more than once
- Venue pie chart
- Listening in past 12 months
- Listening pie chart

## Roles in music scene

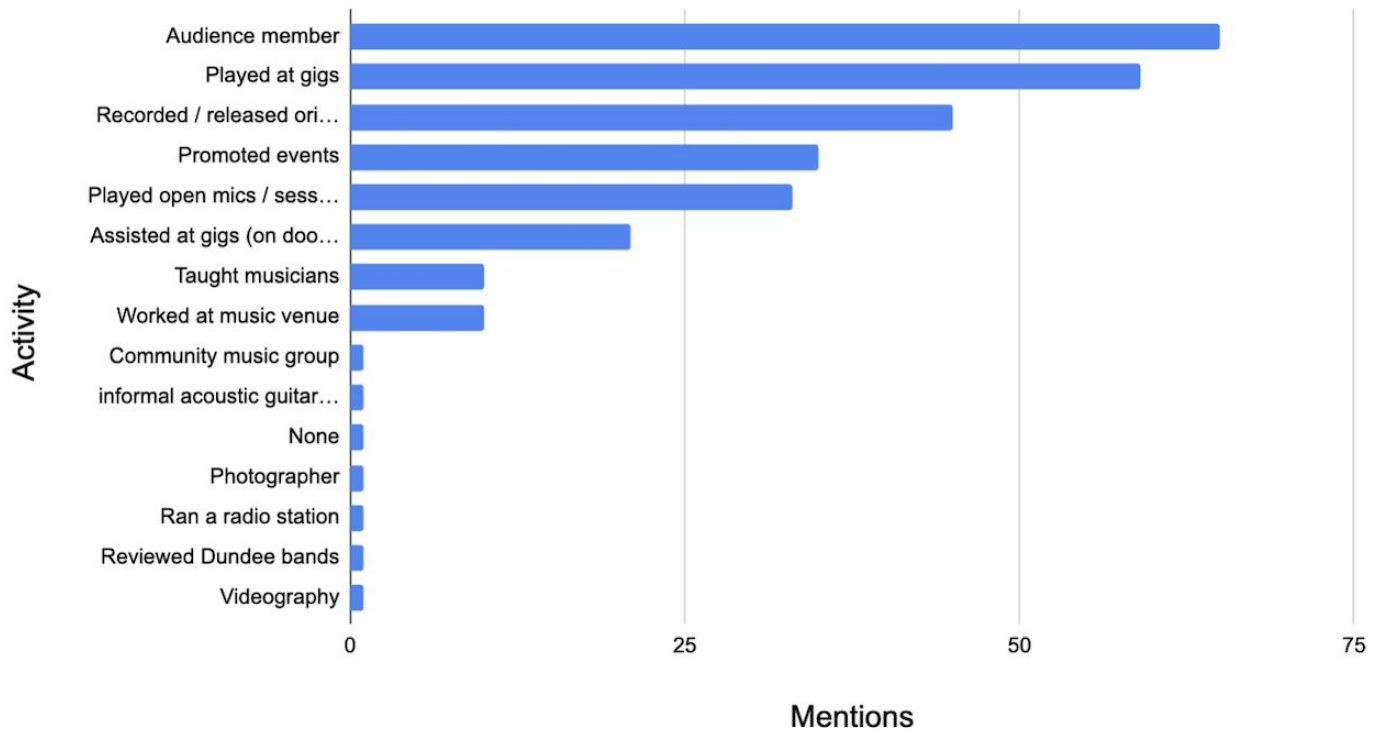


## Role: What did you spend most time doing?

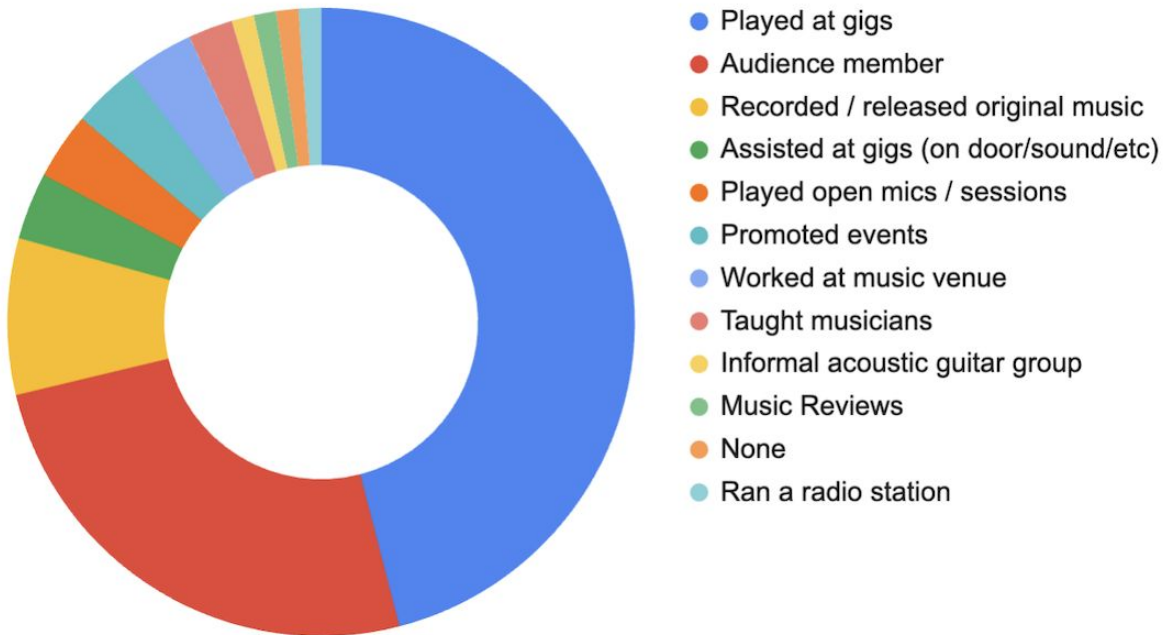




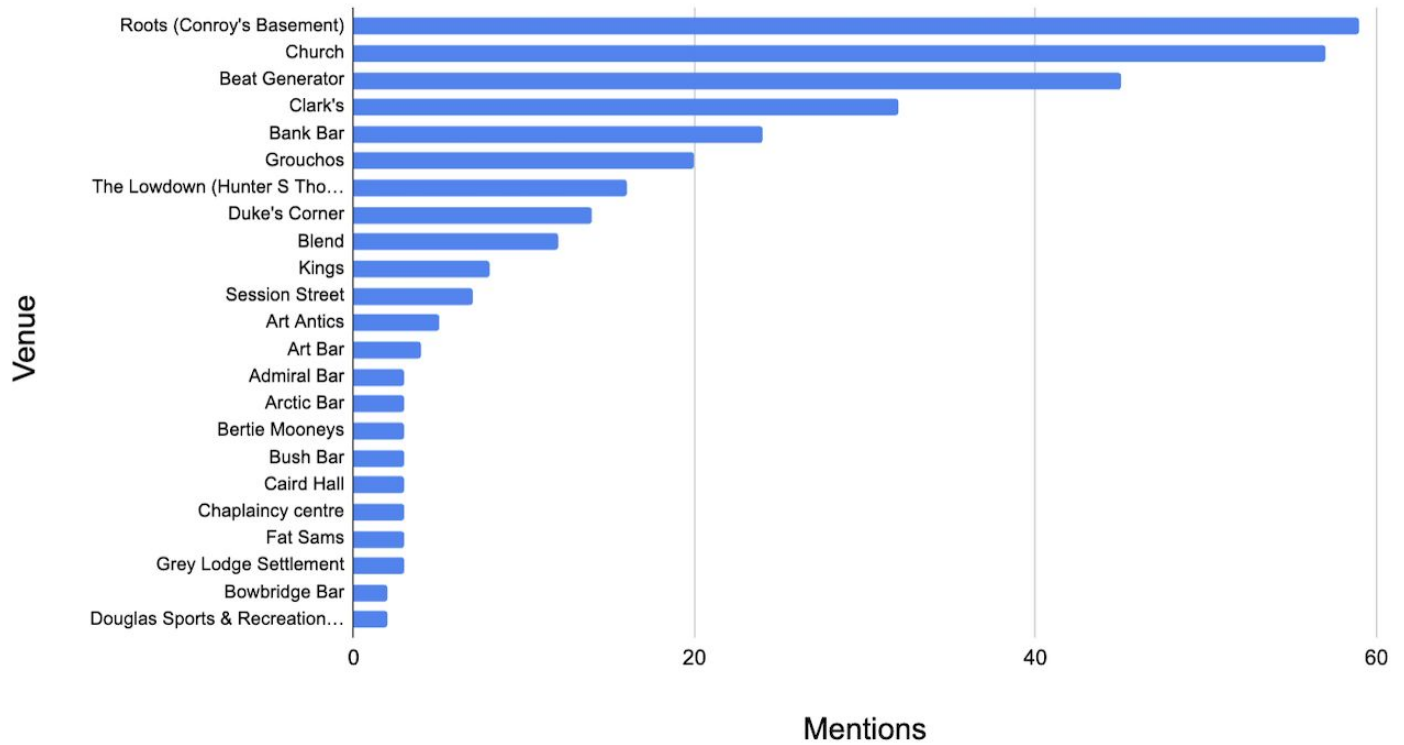
## Involvement in music scene



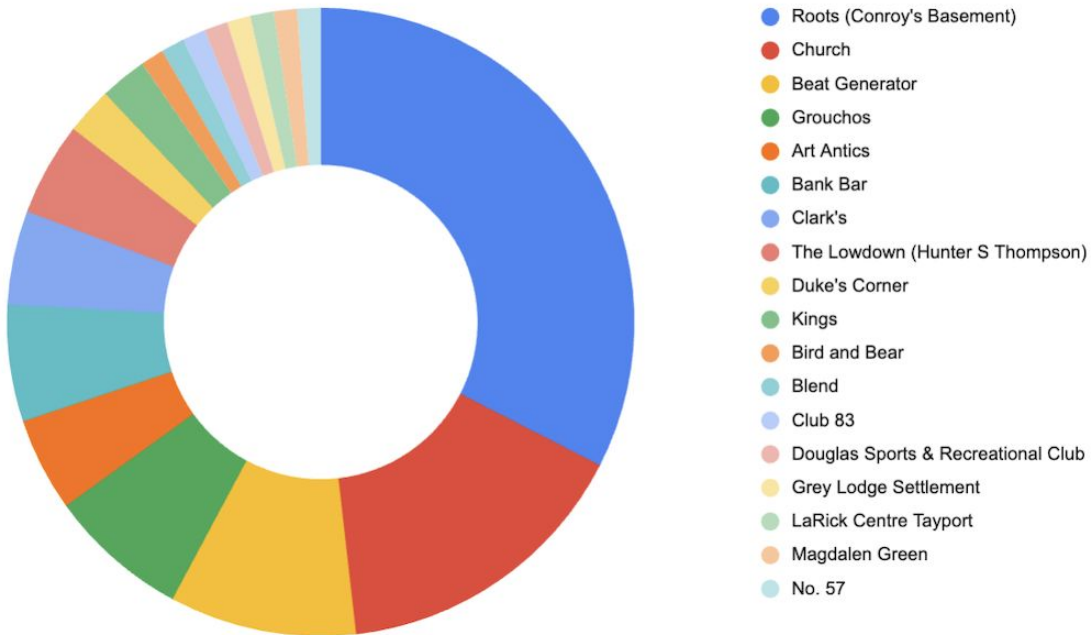
## Involvement: What did you spend most time doing?



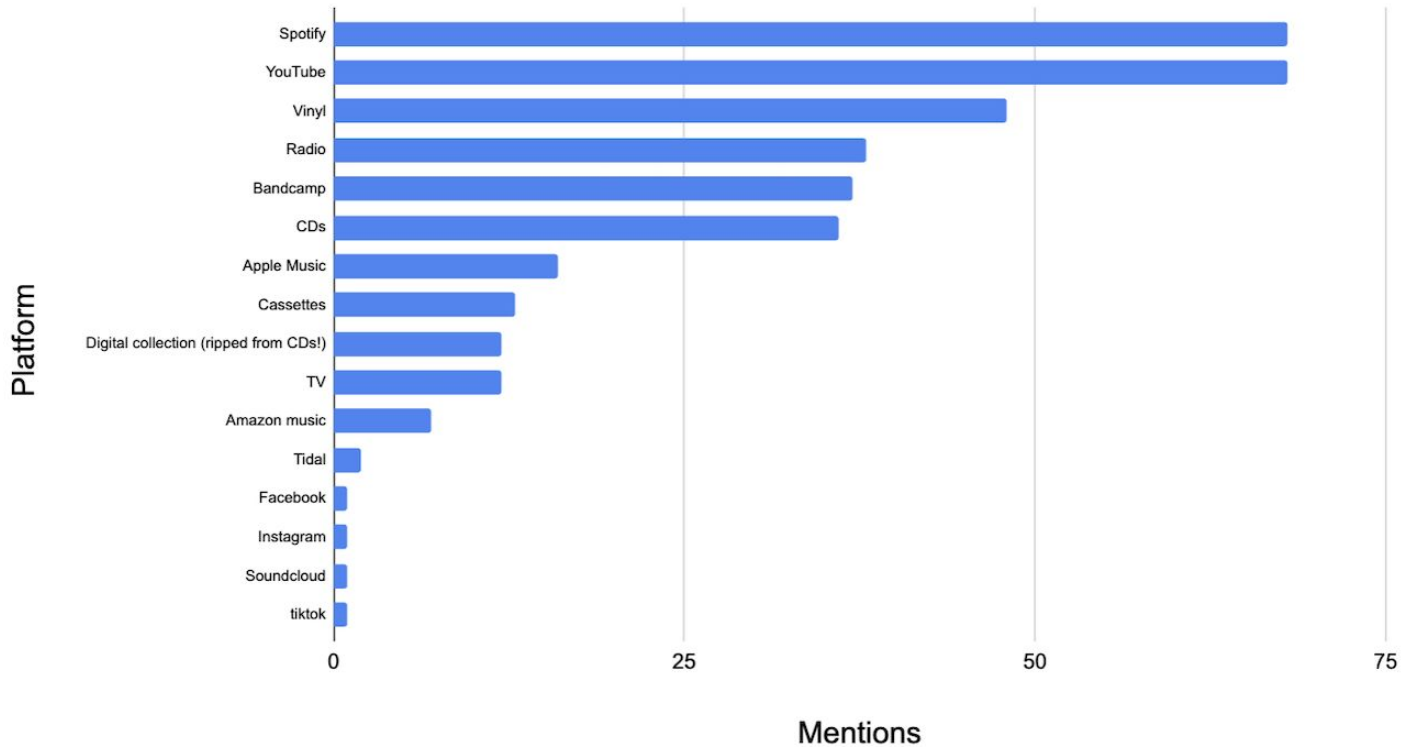
## Venues mentioned more than once



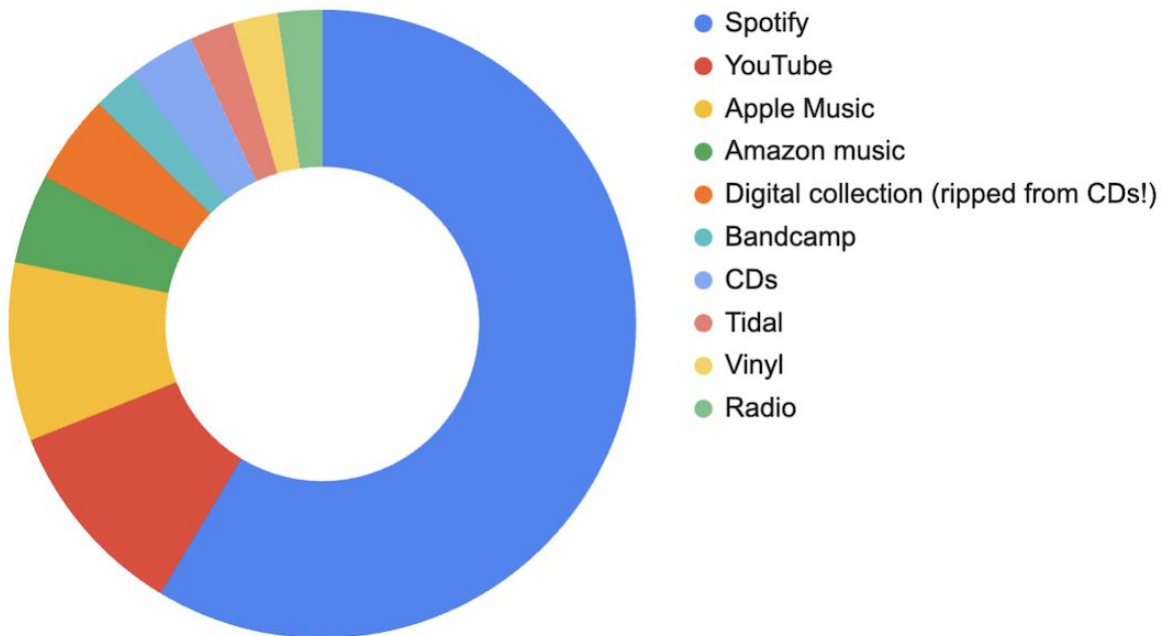
## Venues: Where did you go the most?

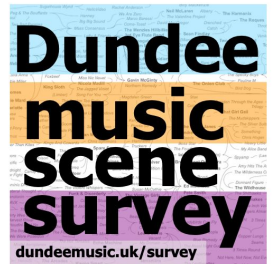


## Listening: How have you listened to music in the past 12 months?



## Listening: What do you use the most?





## bands / acts

You've seen 200+ different bands in Dundee in a year!  
Names of those you could remember coming next . . .

Most local ones listed: <http://dundeemusic.uk/bands/>  
along with links to their sites, gigs and releases . . .

Also, many Dundee acts connected among the 700+  
on the Dundee music map: <http://dundeemusicmap.uk>

2 Stoned Birds  
A Guy Called Gerald  
Acid Boner  
Adam and the Observers  
Adam Ross  
Aftershocks  
ALLDEEPENDS  
Amazing local ish bands  
Amyl & The Sniffers  
Andrew Acoustic  
Andrew Baird  
Andrew Christian  
Andrew Wasyluk  
Anne-Marie  
Arms Against  
Around 7  
Arsenic Annie  
Aussie Pink Floyd  
Banshee Heathens  
Bastille  
BDRRM  
Beach Freak  
Below the Neck  
Bernstrum and the Men  
Bex Lennon  
Bleaks  
Bluebells  
Bohemian Monk Machine  
Bombay Bicycle Club  
Boo Hewerdine  
Bosh and The Joys  
Broken Chanter  
Callum Gibson  
Callum Mackie  
Carcass  
Carol Hodge  
Cask  
Casual Drag  
Catalysis  
Cherish the Ladies  
Cherry Bombz  
Chin Up  
Cleavers  
Coffin Mulch  
Concept Car  
Connor Liam Byrne & The Bad Kissers  
Crashdown  
Crocodile Tears  
Cundeez  
Dallas cowboys  
Danger Zone  
Daniel Richardson  
Dave and Paul  
David Delinquent and The I.O.U.s  
David Webster

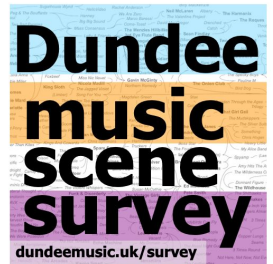
DD Dragon  
Deacon Blue  
Demi McMahon  
Denara  
Desert Kites  
Dinosaur Death Punch  
DJ SHINE  
Dog Eared  
Dylan  
Echo Machine  
Ed Muirhead  
Edenbank  
Egang (DJ)  
el search  
Elle Diabolo  
Fannyboot  
Footloose Bruce  
Frank Turner  
Fuzzy  
Fyfe and Isla Galbraith  
Gallus  
Gary Clark  
Gavin McGinty  
Guano  
Guevara  
Headroom  
Hey Lonely Planet  
High Voltage  
holy snakes  
I'll Complexo  
Icerink  
igetbulliedbytheghostsinmyattic  
James  
James Liandu  
James McNulty  
Jay Ohms  
Jay Salazar  
Jazz Band  
JCHC shows  
Johnny Scullion  
Joker in the hole  
Josh Boyd  
Josh Moncrieff  
Journey North  
Jutebox  
Kaddish  
Kakihara  
Kathryn Joseph  
Katie Nicoll  
Kay McNeil  
KM3  
Knives Chau Fan Club  
Kris Drever  
Kullens  
Lewis Capaldi

Linzi Clark  
Loads  
Local  
longsong  
Lots of singer songwriters  
Lucy Spraggan  
LYNX  
Man of Moon  
Marc De'Luca  
Marcel & St John  
Marley Davidson  
Matthew Gallon  
Miami Vince  
Midnight Alleys  
milhouse collective  
Mitsubishi suicide  
Mixed Methods  
Moni Jitchell  
Monooka  
Moonlight Zoo  
Muddle  
Mungo's HiFi  
Mutralith  
My Rushmore  
Neave Marr  
Nick Shane  
None because they don't have  
guaranteed seats  
Omanoid  
Others too  
Parliamo  
Pete Smith  
Polar Bears in Purgatory  
Portable heads  
Post Ironic State  
Pure Sound  
Randolph's Leap  
Random Hand  
Raye  
Razorlight  
Recently Echo Machine  
Red Vanilla  
Reefer Madness  
Rianne Downey  
Rituals  
Robert Miller  
Rockshift  
roomfore  
Roseanne Reid  
Rudeface  
Ruvellas  
Sam Walker  
Scouting for girls  
Self Esteem  
Shambolics



Sinderins  
Smokey Reaper  
Sorcha  
Sound Theft  
Spare Snare  
Spencer Shek  
Stand Alone Artists  
Stay in Nothing  
Stevie mccrorie  
Strange Affair  
Tequila Rose  
The 1975  
The Apogetics  
The Bucky Bombs  
The Columbus  
The Curvy Squares  
The Eddies  
The Froobz  
The Guillotines  
The Marx  
The Medinas  
The Naebodys  
The Overbites  
The Root Notes  
The Sewer Cats  
The Sixties  
The Tolerates  
The Wolves  
Theo Bleak  
There's too many to list  
as a sound engineer  
Too many!  
Translation  
Trauma Bonds  
Triple As  
Truth Ruiner  
Two Wheels Good  
TWOCANNNDANN  
UME  
Visiting Friends  
War Within  
Wreaking Joy





thanks again

Thanks for contributing and reading this . . .

To get involved, contact via the links below.

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