Modern French Pastry

Modern French pastry has revolutionized the world of baking by blending traditional techniques with innovative flavors, contemporary aesthetics, and cutting-edge culinary trends. This evolution reflects both a respect for centuries-old methods and a desire to push creative boundaries, making modern French pastries a captivating subject for both pastry chefs and enthusiasts alike. In this comprehensive guide, we will explore the history, key characteristics, popular types, innovative techniques, and future trends shaping modern French pastry.

Understanding Modern French Pastry

Historical Roots and Evolution

French pastry has a rich history dating back to the Middle Ages, with iconic creations like croissants, éclairs, and mille-feuille. Traditionally, these pastries were characterized by meticulous craftsmanship, classic ingredients like butter, sugar, and flour, and adherence to regional styles. Over time, especially in the 20th and 21st centuries, chefs began experimenting beyond classical boundaries, incorporating global influences, modern plating, and novel flavor combinations.

Defining Features of Modern French Pastry

Modern French pastry distinguishes itself through several key features:

1. **Innovative Flavors:** Combining traditional ingredients with unexpected elements such as spices, herbs, or savory components.
2. **Artistic Presentation:** Emphasizing visual appeal with intricate designs, layering, and plating techniques.
3. **Fusion Techniques:** Merging French pastry methods with other culinary traditions.
4. **Use of Modern Tools:** Incorporating techniques like spray painting, airbrushing, and molecular gastronomy.
5. **Focus on Quality and Sustainability:** Prioritizing organic, local, and seasonal ingredients.

Key Components of Modern French Pastry

Reinvented Classics

While traditional pastries remain foundational, modern chefs reinterpret classics with new flavors and forms:

1. **Croissants:** Filled with inventive jams, spices, or savory ingredients like ham and cheese.
2. **Éclairs:** Glazed with vibrant colors, flavored creams, or topped with edible gold.

3. **Mille-Feuille:** Incorporating unexpected fillings such as fruit compotes or exotic spices.

Innovative Techniques and Ingredients

Modern pastry chefs leverage advanced techniques:

1. **Spherification:** Creating gelled spheres that mimic liquids like fruit juices or flavored syrups.
2. **Molecular Gastronomy:** Using foams, airs, and gels to add texture and flavor complexity.
3. **Airbrushing and Edible Painting:** Enhancing visual appeal with detailed designs and gradients.

Ingredients also expand beyond traditional items:

1. Plant-based alternatives
2. Exotic spices like saffron, cardamom, and matcha
3. Superfoods such as chia seeds and acai

Popular Modern French Pastry Types

Contemporary Takes on Classics

Many traditional pastries have been reimagined in the modern era:

1. **Gourmet Macarons:** Featuring unique flavor combinations like yuzu-ginger, pistachio-saffron, or lavender-vanilla, often with artistic shells.
2. **Deconstructed Pastries:** Presenting layered elements

separately to emphasize texture and flavor contrasts.
3. **Fusion Desserts:** Combining French techniques with other cuisines, such as matcha mille-feuille or tiramisu-inspired éclair.

New and Emerging Pastries

Beyond classics, modern pastry also explores new forms:

1. **Savory Pastries:** Incorporating ingredients like mushroom duxelle, smoked salmon, or goat cheese into traditional shapes.
2. **Plant-Based Pastries:** Using vegan butter, aquafaba, and alternative flours to create dairy- and egg-free options.
3. **Miniature and Bite-Size Pastries:** Perfect for tasting menus, featuring intricate designs and layered flavors.

Techniques and Tools Shaping Modern French Pastry

Advanced Baking and Decorating Techniques

Modern pastry chefs utilize a range of techniques:

1. **Tempering Chocolate:** Achieving glossy and stable surfaces for decoration.
2. **Spray Painting and Airbrushing:** Creating gradient effects and detailed artwork.

3. **Caramel and Sugar Work:** Sculpting delicate structures or decorative accents.
4. **Layering and Assembly:** Building complex textures through precise layering.

Innovative Equipment

Cutting-edge tools include:

1. **Siphons and Whippers:** For making mousses, foams, and whipped creams.
2. **Molecular Kits:** For creating gels, spheres, and other innovative textures.
3. **Silicone Molds and Stamps:** For consistent shapes and intricate patterns.

Future Trends in Modern French Pastry

Sustainability and Ethical Sourcing

The future of French pastry is leaning toward environmentally conscious practices:

1. Using locally sourced, seasonal ingredients
2. Reducing waste through creative reuse of scraps
3. Choosing eco-friendly packaging

Health-Conscious and Functional Pastries

As consumers become more health-aware, pastry chefs are experimenting with:

1. Gluten-free flour blends
2. Reduced sugar formulations
3. Incorporation of superfoods and functional ingredients like probiotics

Technology and Innovation

Emerging tech such as 3D food printing may revolutionize pastry design, allowing for:

1. Highly detailed and customized shapes
2. Rapid prototyping of new designs
3. Enhanced precision in flavor layering

Where to Experience Modern French Pastry

Many pastry shops and bakeries worldwide now showcase modern French pastries. Notable destinations include:

1. **Paris:** Ladurée, Pierre Hermé, and Fauchon are renowned for their innovative takes.
2. **New York:** Dominique Ansel Bakery offers inventive pastries blending French techniques with American flair.
3. **Tokyo:** Patisseries like Hidemi Sugino combine Japanese

aesthetics with French pastry mastery.

Conclusion

Modern French pastry stands at the exciting intersection of tradition and innovation, continuously evolving to delight the senses and challenge the norms of pastry arts. By embracing new techniques, ingredients, and sustainable practices, pastry chefs are redefining what it means to enjoy a classic treat. Whether through stunning visual presentations or groundbreaking flavor combinations, modern French pastry remains a vibrant and dynamic field that continues to inspire bakers and connoisseurs around the world. As this culinary art form progresses, future innovations promise even more delectable and visually stunning creations, ensuring that the legacy of French pastry remains forever fresh and inspiring.

Modern French Pastry: A Fusion of Tradition and Innovation
French pastry has long been celebrated worldwide for its delicate textures, intricate techniques, and refined flavors. While classics like croissants, éclairs, and macarons have established France's culinary reputation, the contemporary scene is witnessing an exciting evolution—where tradition meets innovation. Modern French pastry is a dynamic blend of time-honored methods and creative experimentation, reflecting both a deep respect for heritage and a desire to push boundaries. In this article, we will explore the essence of modern French pastry, highlighting its key characteristics, notable trends, innovative techniques, and some exemplary creations shaping the current landscape.

Whether you're a pastry enthusiast, a professional chef, or a curious food lover, understanding this vibrant movement offers insight into how French pastry continues to evolve while honoring its storied past.

The Foundations of Modern French Pastry

Rooted in Tradition, Driven by Innovation

Modern French pastry is not a departure from tradition; rather, it’s a dialogue with history. Classic elements—such as pâte feuilletée (laminated puff pastry), choux pastry, and almond-based fillings—remain central. However, contemporary pastry chefs reinterpret these elements through innovative techniques, flavors, and presentation styles. This approach often involves: - Reimagining Classic Flavors: Infusing traditional recipes with unexpected ingredients or flavor combinations. - Refined Techniques: Incorporating modern culinary science to enhance texture, stability, and visual appeal. - Aesthetic Minimalism: Embracing clean, elegant designs that emphasize form as much as flavor. - Sustainable and Local Ingredients: Prioritizing seasonal, organic, and locally sourced components. The result is a pastry landscape that respects the craftsmanship of the past while embracing the possibilities of today’s culinary innovations.

Notable Trends in Modern French Pastry

Several key trends define the current era of French pastry. These trends reflect broader shifts in gastronomy, aesthetics, and consumer preferences.

1. Fusion Flavors and Global Influences

Modern French pastry chefs are increasingly drawing inspiration from global cuisines. Think matcha-flavored éclairs inspired by Japanese green tea, yuzu-infused tarts, or incorporating exotic spices like cardamom and saffron. This fusion broadens flavor profiles and appeals to adventurous palates. Examples include: - Miso caramel croissants: blending French pastry techniques with umami-rich Japanese ingredients. - Tropical fruit mille-feuille: layered pastry with mango, passion fruit, and coconut.

2. Minimalist Aesthetics and Artistic Presentation

While traditional French pastry often favored ornate decorations, current trends lean toward minimalist, clean designs that highlight the pastry's structure and natural beauty. The focus is on symmetry, subtle color contrasts, and precise finishes. Key features: - Monochrome or muted color palettes. - Geometric shapes and symmetrical arrangements. - Use of negative space and simple garnishes.

3. Health-Conscious and Sustainable Creations

With increasing awareness of health and sustainability, modern French pastry incorporates: - Reduced sugar content without sacrificing flavor. - Alternatives to dairy or gluten-free options. - Use of organic, seasonal ingredients. - Eco-friendly packaging and sourcing practices.

4. Innovative Textures and Techniques

Modern pastry chefs experiment with textures—combining crispy, creamy, airy, and chewy elements in a single creation. Advanced techniques include: - Nitrogen flash-freezing for dramatic presentation. - Deconstructed desserts that showcase individual components. - Use of gels, foams, and edible spheres to add visual and textural interest.

Innovative Techniques Shaping Modern French Pastry

The evolution of French pastry relies heavily on technological advances and scientific understanding. Here are some techniques that have revolutionized contemporary pastry craft:

1. Sous Vide and Precision Cooking

Chefs utilize sous vide to cook fillings or infuse flavors uniformly, resulting in perfectly textured creams and custards. This method

ensures consistency and enhances flavor integration.

2. Molecular Gastronomy

Incorporating techniques like spherification, foams, and gels allows for playful and unexpected presentations. For example, fruit juices transformed into edible caviar or foams atop delicate tart shells.

3. Tempering and Enrobing

Advanced tempering ensures glossy, crisp chocolate coatings and decorative elements that elevate the visual appeal and texture.

4. Airbrushing and Edible Art

Use of edible colors and airbrushing enables subtle gradients, metallic finishes, and intricate designs, transforming pastries into edible artworks.

5. Deconstruction and Layering

Deconstructed desserts separately present components that, when combined, offer complex flavor and texture experiences—think layered parfaits with distinct yet harmonious elements.

Questions & Answers About modern french pastry

No	Question	Answer
1	What are some popular modern French pastries gaining popularity worldwide?	Modern French pastries like the Paris-Brest, Saint-Honoré, and croissant variations with unique fillings are gaining popularity for their innovative flavors and presentation. Additionally, decadent entremets and choux-based desserts with creative fillings are trending.
2	How has the concept of 'deconstructed' pastries influenced modern French pastry making?	Deconstructed pastries break traditional structures by reimagining classic desserts with separated components, allowing chefs to showcase flavors and textures more creatively. This approach has led to visually stunning and innovative desserts that challenge conventional presentation.
3	What role does seasonal and local ingredients play in modern French pastry trends?	Using seasonal and local ingredients is central to modern French pastry trends, emphasizing freshness and sustainability. Chefs incorporate local fruits, herbs, and dairy to create desserts that reflect regional flavors and are environmentally conscious.

4	Are vegan or gluten-free French pastries becoming mainstream in modern pastry shops?	Yes, there is a growing demand for vegan and gluten-free French pastries, leading pastry chefs to develop innovative recipes that maintain traditional flavors while accommodating dietary restrictions, making these options more accessible and trendy.
5	How has technology influenced the development of modern French pastries?	Technological advancements like 3D printing, advanced piping tools, and innovative refrigeration techniques have allowed pastry chefs to push creative boundaries, resulting in more intricate designs, textures, and presentation styles in modern French desserts.
6	What are some signature techniques used in modern French pastry craftsmanship?	Signature techniques include precision lamination for flaky pastries, mirror glazes for a glossy finish, spray techniques for delicate textures, and innovative flavor infusions. These methods help create visually stunning and complex flavor profiles characteristic of modern French pastry.

French pastry, modern pâtisserie, contemporary French desserts, innovative French confections, French pastry arts, gourmet French sweets, artisanal French baking, nouvelle pâtisserie, French dessert techniques, modern pastry chefs

Modern French Pastry eBook Resource

Modern French Pastry eBooks provide structured digital knowledge.

Core Discussion

Digital books help readers maintain productivity.

Practical Use

Modern French Pastry eBooks support consistent study routines.

Conclusion

Digital reading improves access to information.

Modern French Pastry eBooks are suitable for learners at different experience levels.

Modern French Pastry eBooks contribute to long-term intellectual resilience.

Modern French Pastry eBooks allow readers to highlight, annotate, and bookmark key sections, enhancing long-term retention and review efficiency.

Modern French Pastry eBooks support sustainable learning

practices by reducing material waste.

By offering instant access, Modern French Pastry eBooks eliminate delays often associated with traditional publishing and physical distribution.

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Beginners and advanced learners alike benefit from flexible content depth.

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Modern French Pastry eBooks help bridge theoretical understanding and practical application.

Many learners appreciate Modern French Pastry eBooks for their ability to consolidate large amounts of information into structured formats.

Centralized content improves trust and reliability.

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Modern French Pastry eBooks are frequently referenced during planning and execution phases.

The portability of Modern French Pastry eBooks ensures access across devices such as smartphones, tablets, and laptops.

Reusable content supports long-term learning goals.

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By offering instant access, Modern French Pastry eBooks eliminate delays often associated with traditional publishing and physical distribution.

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Readers often experience higher consistency when learning with Modern French Pastry eBooks compared to traditional formats, as digital access removes common barriers such as location and time constraints.

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By offering structured content, Modern French Pastry eBooks help learners build foundational knowledge before advancing to more complex topics.

Professionals in fast-changing industries use Modern French Pastry eBooks to stay updated without committing to rigid learning schedules.

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Readers can study Modern French Pastry at their own pace, revisiting complex sections while skipping familiar topics to optimize learning efficiency and personal relevance.

Modern French Pastry eBooks are frequently updated to reflect current standards, practices, and emerging trends.

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Content remains relevant through updates.

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Modern French Pastry eBooks provide measurable educational value.

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For educators, Modern French Pastry eBooks provide a reliable medium to distribute standardized learning materials consistently.

Readers can study Modern French Pastry at their own pace, revisiting complex sections while skipping familiar topics to optimize learning efficiency and personal relevance.

Digital Modern French Pastry books serve as long-term reference assets that can be revisited repeatedly without degradation or wear.

Modularity supports targeted learning without unnecessary repetition.

Reliable content builds trust.

By centralizing knowledge, Modern French Pastry eBooks reduce the need to search across multiple fragmented resources.

Digital materials eliminate printing and logistics expenses.

Modern French Pastry eBooks reduce environmental impact by minimizing paper usage, contributing to more sustainable knowledge consumption practices.

Modern French Pastry eBooks align with modern digital productivity systems.

Centralized content improves trust and reliability.

Dedicated reading reduces multitasking.

Modern French Pastry eBooks encourage self-paced learning, allowing individuals to revisit complex concepts multiple times without pressure or limitation.

Modern French Pastry eBooks help establish sustainable learning routines by lowering the friction between intent and action. When information is immediately accessible, learners are more likely to follow through on their educational goals.

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Readers benefit from Modern French Pastry eBooks by reducing distractions found in unstructured web content.

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Many professionals rely on Modern French Pastry eBooks for skill

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Standardization ensures consistent understanding.

Modern French Pastry eBooks are suitable for beginners seeking foundational knowledge as well as advanced readers refining specific skills or deepening existing expertise.

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The modular design of Modern French Pastry eBooks allows readers to focus on specific sections.

By presenting information in a fixed and organized format, Modern French Pastry eBooks help reduce ambiguity often found

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Accessibility across age groups and experience levels enhances inclusivity.

Clear documentation improves knowledge transfer.

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Modern French Pastry eBooks are particularly valuable for independent learners who prefer flexible and self-directed educational resources.

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Ultimately, Modern French Pastry eBooks offer an efficient, scalable, and flexible approach to continuous learning.

Navigation tools improve efficiency when reviewing specific topics.

The adaptability of Modern French Pastry eBooks makes them suitable for beginners, intermediate learners, and advanced

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The adaptability of Modern French Pastry eBooks supports evolving learning needs.

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By presenting information in a fixed and organized format, Modern French Pastry eBooks help reduce ambiguity often found in fragmented online sources.

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The digital format of Modern French Pastry eBooks allows rapid revision, correction, and content expansion.

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One key advantage of Modern French Pastry eBooks is their ability to integrate seamlessly into digital lifestyles.

Digital materials ensure consistent knowledge transfer across teams.

The digital format of Modern French Pastry eBooks supports efficient information delivery without compromising depth or clarity.

The digital format of Modern French Pastry eBooks supports efficient information delivery without compromising depth or clarity.

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Compatibility with devices enhances accessibility.

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Complete FAQ Guide for Using PDF Files Effectively

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Unlike editable document formats, PDFs are designed to remain stable. Fonts, images, spacing, and page layouts stay consistent whether viewed on Windows, macOS, Linux, Android, or iOS. This reliability makes PDF an ideal choice for distributing structured content such as manuals, guides, ebooks, research papers, and instructional resources like Modern French Pastry.

Why PDF is widely used for digital content

The popularity of PDF files is driven by their universal compatibility and ease of sharing. Most devices come with built-in PDF viewers, eliminating the need for specialized software. This allows users to access Modern French Pastry instantly without technical barriers. Additionally, PDFs support advanced features such as hyperlinks, bookmarks, embedded media, and interactive elements, making them versatile for many use cases.

Another advantage of PDF files is their suitability for long-term storage. PDF standards are well-documented and widely supported, reducing the risk of format obsolescence. Institutions, educators, and professionals rely on PDFs to archive important materials securely, ensuring continued access to content like Modern French Pastry over time.

Optimizing PDF readability for better user experience

Readability is crucial, especially for long documents. Adjusting zoom levels, page layouts, and display modes can greatly enhance comfort during reading sessions. Many PDF readers offer features such as continuous scrolling, dual-page view, and night mode. These options allow users to customize how they interact with Modern French Pastry based on their preferences and devices.

Clear typography and sufficient spacing also play an important role. Well-structured PDFs reduce eye strain and improve comprehension. On smaller screens, readers that support text reflow can adapt content dynamically, making Modern French

Pastry easier to read without constant zooming or scrolling.

Navigation tools in PDF documents

Efficient navigation transforms large PDFs into practical reference tools. Bookmarks allow quick access to major sections, while clickable tables of contents improve usability. These features are especially valuable when working with extensive materials such as Modern French Pastry.

Page thumbnails provide visual orientation, helping users locate specific sections quickly. Combined with internal links and structured headings, navigation tools save time and enhance productivity when using PDF documents regularly.

Search functionality and information retrieval

One of the strongest benefits of PDFs is searchable text. Instead of scanning pages manually, users can locate specific terms or topics instantly. This feature is particularly useful for study, research, and professional reference involving Modern French Pastry.

Advanced PDF readers offer enhanced search options, including result highlighting and navigation between matches. These tools help users analyze content efficiently, especially in documents containing technical or repeated terminology.

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PDF annotation tools allow users to highlight text, add

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Managing PDF file size and performance

Large PDF files may load slowly, especially on older devices or limited hardware. Optimizing PDFs improves performance without sacrificing quality. Techniques such as image compression, font optimization, and removal of unnecessary metadata help reduce file size while preserving content clarity in Modern French Pastry.

For extremely large documents, splitting content into smaller PDF sections can improve navigation and responsiveness. This approach also makes file sharing faster and more reliable.

Security and protection in PDF files

PDFs offer various security options, including password protection, restricted editing, and controlled printing permissions. These features help protect the integrity of Modern French Pastry when sharing it publicly or privately.

While security is important, it should not hinder usability. Applying appropriate protection based on audience and purpose ensures that content remains accessible while preventing unauthorized modifications or misuse.

Avoiding corrupted or unreadable PDF files

PDF corruption can occur due to interrupted downloads, storage errors, or incompatible software. To minimize risk, users should download files from trusted sources and verify file integrity when possible. Keeping backup copies of Modern French Pastry provides added security against data loss.

Updating PDF readers regularly also helps prevent compatibility issues. New versions often include bug fixes and improved support for modern PDF standards, ensuring smoother performance.

Cross-device access and synchronization

Modern workflows often involve multiple devices. PDFs support seamless cross-platform access, allowing users to open the same file on desktops, tablets, and smartphones. Cloud storage services enable synchronization, ensuring that the latest version of Modern French Pastry is always available.

For users who annotate PDFs, syncing features help maintain consistency across devices. Understanding how annotations are stored and synchronized prevents accidental loss of notes and highlights.

Organizing a digital PDF library

As collections grow, organization becomes essential. Clear folder structures, descriptive filenames, and consistent naming conventions make it easier to manage PDF documents. Proper organization ensures that Modern French Pastry can be located quickly when needed.

Regular library maintenance—such as deleting outdated files and consolidating duplicates—keeps storage efficient and reduces confusion over multiple versions of the same document.

Accessibility considerations for PDF documents

Accessible PDFs are usable by a wider audience, including those using assistive technologies. Features such as selectable text, logical heading structure, and alternative text for images improve accessibility. When Modern French Pastry follows these practices, it becomes more inclusive and easier to navigate.

Accessibility enhancements also benefit all users by improving clarity, structure, and overall usability of the document.

Best practices for academic and professional use

In academic and professional environments, PDFs often serve as official records. Maintaining clean formatting, accurate metadata, and consistent structure increases credibility. When distributing Modern French Pastry, attention to detail reinforces trust and professionalism.

Including proper references, citations, and hyperlinks within PDFs allows readers to explore related materials efficiently, adding depth and value to the document.

Long-term archiving and backups

PDFs are well-suited for long-term archiving due to their stability and standardization. Storing multiple backups of Modern French Pastry—both locally and in cloud environments—protects against hardware failure and accidental deletion.

Clear version labeling helps users track updates and revisions, preventing confusion when multiple editions exist over time.

Future-proofing your PDF usage

Although technology evolves, PDFs remain adaptable. Staying informed about updated standards and tools ensures continued compatibility. Periodically reviewing storage methods, reader software, and security practices helps keep Modern French Pastry accessible in the future.

Using widely supported PDF features rather than proprietary extensions increases the likelihood that files will remain usable across platforms and devices for years to come.

Final thoughts on PDF best practices

PDF files are more than static documents; they are powerful containers for structured information. By applying effective navigation, organization, security, and accessibility strategies,

users can maximize the value of Modern French Pastry. With consistent habits and thoughtful management, PDFs remain a reliable solution for learning, research, and professional documentation without unnecessary technical issues.