

Apple Response to WG2 N4127

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Apple includes glyphs mapped to Unicode's Private Use Areas in fonts it ships with its operating system for two main purposes: one, to provide access to dingbats or other symbol elements, and two, to meet internal software requirements. Apple feels that, absent evidence of widespread use, dingbats and similar glyphs are not suitable for general-purpose encoding. As for the glyphs Apple uses internally, although we do not prevent their use by end users, neither do we encourage it in any way, and we feel that such glyphs are also unsuitable for encoding.

Apple feels that, in general, characters should be encoded in the Universal Character Set only on the basis of demonstrated need for general text interchange. The mere inclusion of a glyph in the private use area of a widely-distributed font does not *ipso facto* provide evidence for such a need. There is certainly no obligation on the part of the UTC or WG2 to review glyphs available in Apple's fonts in order to avoid the appearance of favoritism while evaluating proposals to encode various Microsoft dingbat fonts.

As a general survey of the glyphs found in the private use areas of Apple fonts, N4127 naturally includes several versions of Apple's corporate logo. This logo represents Apple's intellectual property and brand, and its formal encoding in the Universal Character Set is, of course, out of the question.