Proposal to add Katakana Letter Small Ne to Unicode

Kentaro Bimbatti
kbimbatti@umass.edu
15 January 2025

1. Introduction

This proposal is for a small Katakana Ne (ネ), sometimes used in Japanese in place of the Hiragana Ne (ね) at the end of sentences. It indicates a softer, friendlier tone than would be present otherwise, and would fit in snugly with other small variants for kana in the Small Kana Extension block.
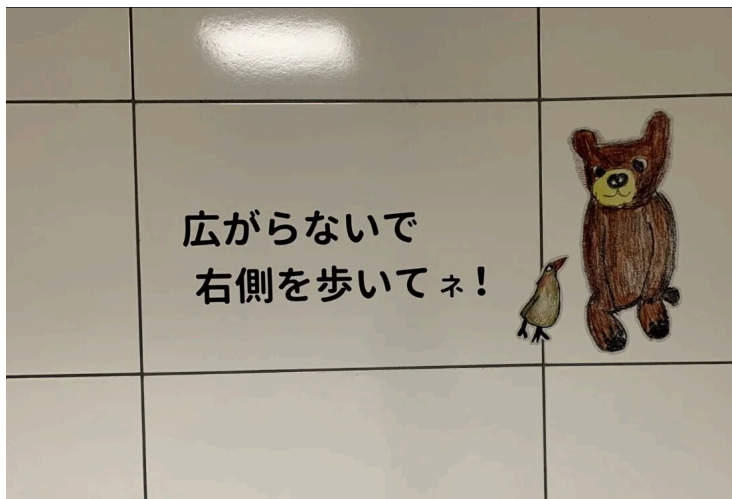
2. Properties

U+1B15E KATAKANA LETTER SMALL NE

1B15E;KATAKANA LETTER SMALL NE;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;

3. Usage

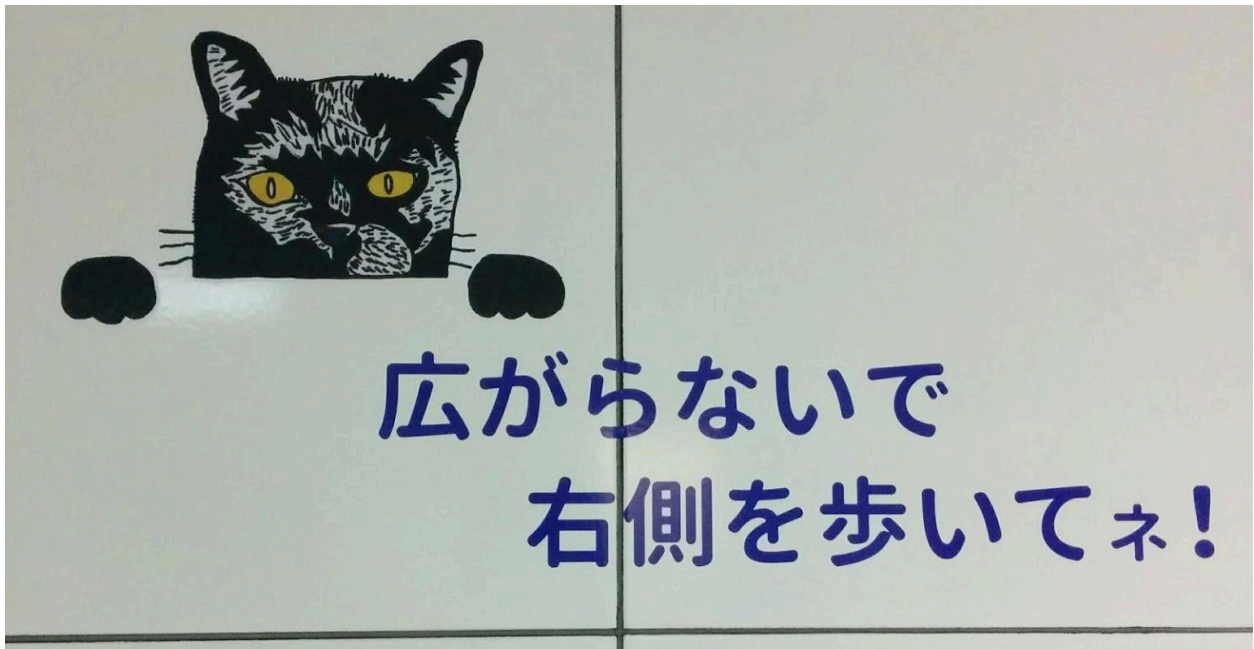On public signage for the subway in Fukuoka Prefecture.

https://note.com/ohoshintaro/n/n8d42a8b55111

https://goughlui.com/2020/04/11/visited-fukuoka-city-subway-japan-mar-2020/

https://id.foursquare.com/v/%E9%87%91%E5%B1%B1%E9%A7%85-kanayama-sta/4c6b59209669e21eb504ab51/photos

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MPdm1DiWYZs

広がらないで
右側を歩いてネ!

https://s-fukuokajin.amebaownd.com/posts/543816/

Use in 1968 Pepsi Advertisement

ペプシがなければ
はじまりませんネ!!

コーラはペプシ
PEPSI

PEPSI

https://aucview.aucfan.com/yahoo/b1108662794/

Use in Album Covers

素敵だネ…。

男性アーティストベスト8セレクション

西麻由美

https://www.suruga-ya.jp/product/detail/234011247

https://aucfree.com/items/m1091705359

https://www.fanfan1.com/products/detail/735198

https://page.auctions.yahoo.co.jp/jp/auction/m1039235037

Use in Book Covers

https://www.kaitakusha.co.jp/book/book.php?c=8001

https://bookmeter.com/books/4002021
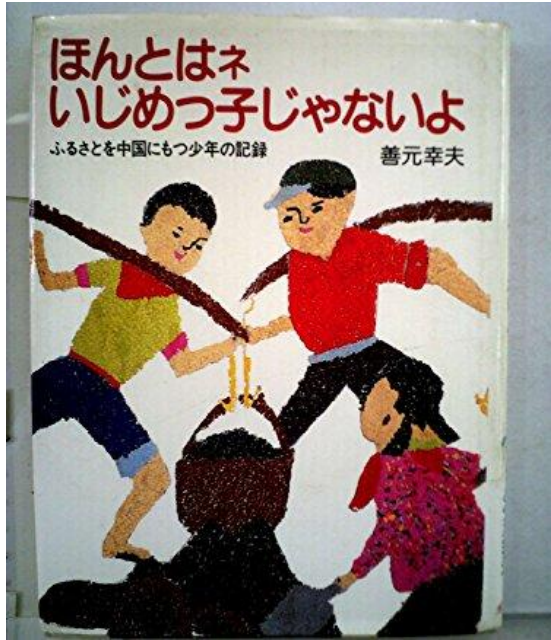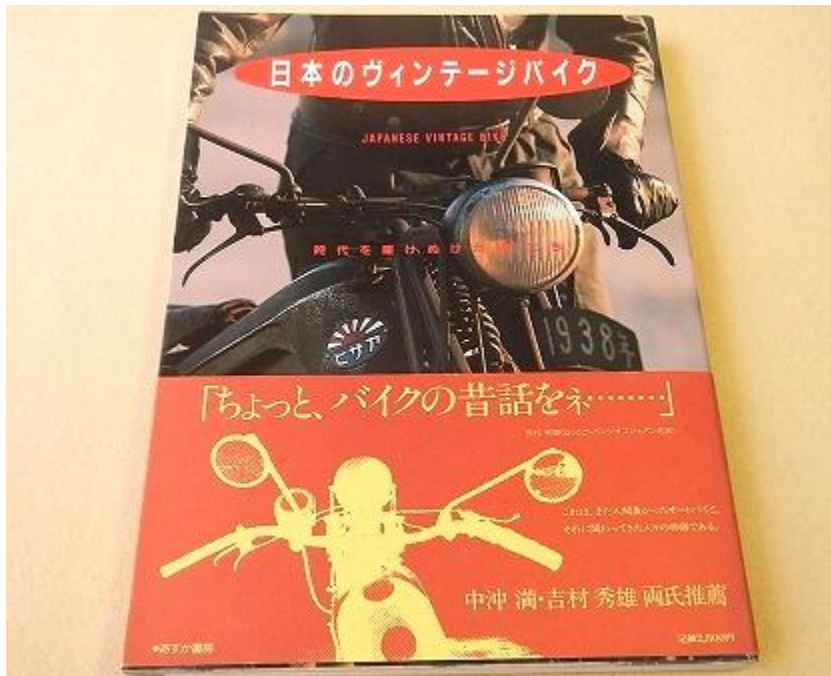
https://www.kosho.or.jp/products/detail.php?product_id=483090127

Usage in Video Games

https://www.yugiyahiranonetshop.com/product/39882

Usage in Anime

Dragon Ball, episode 91
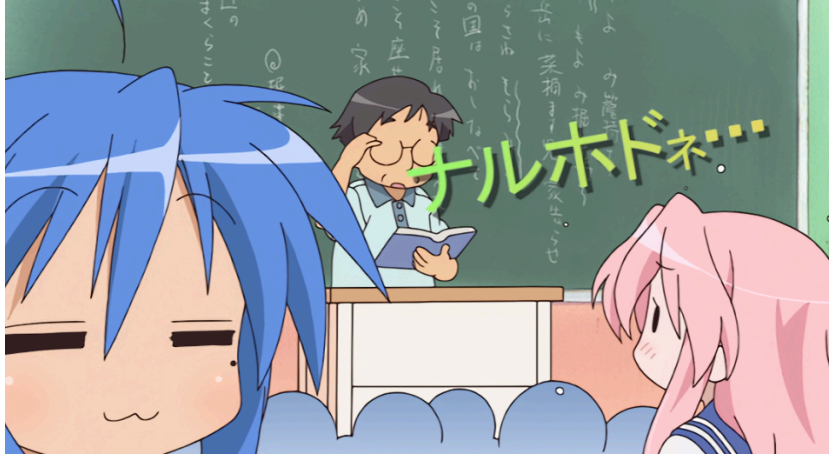
In *Lucky Star*, Episode 7.

A. Administrative

1. **Title:** Proposal to add Katakana Letter Small Ne
2. Requester's name: Kentaro Bimbatti
3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution): Individual Contribution
4. Submission date: 15 January 2025
5. Requester's reference (if applicable):
6. Choose one of the following:
    This is a complete proposal: Yes
    (or) More information will be provided later:

B. Technical – General

1. Choose one of the following:
    a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters):
        Proposed name of script:
    b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block: Yes
        Name of the existing block: Small Kana Extension
2. Number of characters in proposal: 1
3. Proposed category (select one from below - see section 2.2 of P&P document):
    A-Contemporary   x   B.1-Specialized (small collection)   B.2-Specialized (large collection)
    C-Major extinct   D-Attested extinct   E-Minor extinct
    F-Archaic Hieroglyphic or Ideographic   G-Obscure or questionable usage symbols
4. Is a repertoire including character names provided?
    a. If YES, are the names in accordance with the "character naming guidelines"
        in Annex L of P&P document? Yes
    b. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review? X
5. Fonts related:
    a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font to the Project Editor of 10646 for publishing the standard?
    -
    b. Identify the party granting a license for use of the font by the editors (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.):
    -
6. References:
    a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided? Yes
    b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources)
    of proposed characters attached? Yes
7. Special encoding issues:
    Does the proposal address other aspects of character data processing (if applicable) such as input,
    presentation, sorting, searching, indexing, transliteration etc. (if yes please enclose information)? No

8. Additional Information:
Submitters are invited to provide any additional information about Properties of the proposed Character(s) or Script that will assist in correct understanding of and correct linguistic processing of the proposed character(s) or script. Examples of such properties are: Casing information, Numeric information, Currency information, Display behaviour information such as line breaks, widths etc., Combining behaviour, Spacing behaviour, Directional behaviour, Default Collation behaviour, relevance in Mark Up contexts, Compatibility equivalence and other Unicode normalization related information. See the Unicode standard at http://www.unicode.org for such information on other scripts. Also see Unicode Character Database (

) and associated Unicode Technical Reports for information needed for consideration by the Unicode Technical Committee for inclusion in the Unicode Standard.

C. Technical - Justification

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before?   No
       If YES explain
2. Has contact been made to members of the user community (for example: National Body,
       user groups of the script or characters, other experts, etc.)?   No
             If YES, with whom?
             If YES, available relevant documents:
3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example:
       size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included?   Yes
       Reference: Section 2
4. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare)   Common
       Reference: Section 2
5. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community?   Yes
       If YES, where? Reference:
6. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&P document must the proposed characters be entirely
       in the BMP?   No
             If YES, is a rationale provided?
             If YES, reference:
7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?
8. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing
       character or character sequence?   No
             If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?
             If YES, reference:
9. Can any of the proposed characters be encoded using a composed character sequence of either
       existing characters or other proposed characters?   No
             If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?
             If YES, reference:
10. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function)
       to, or could be confused with, an existing character?   Yes
             If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?   Yes
             If YES, reference: Section 3
11. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences?   No
       If YES, is a rationale for such use provided?
             If YES, reference:
       Is a list of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images (graphic symbols) provided?
             If YES, reference:
12. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as
       control function or similar semantics?   No
             If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary)

13. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility characters?   No
       If YES, are the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic characters identified?
             If YES, reference: