

Mirror Ball Emoji Proposal

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Date: November 12th, 2018; updated August 23rd, 2019

Update: Disco Ball ---> Mirror Ball

Reference Emoji: Elephant

Sort location: events, after confetti ball and before tanabata tree

CLDR Short name: mirror ball

CLDR Keywords: mirror ball | disco ball | disco | party | dance | mirror ball | glamour | glitter

Images



Full size:

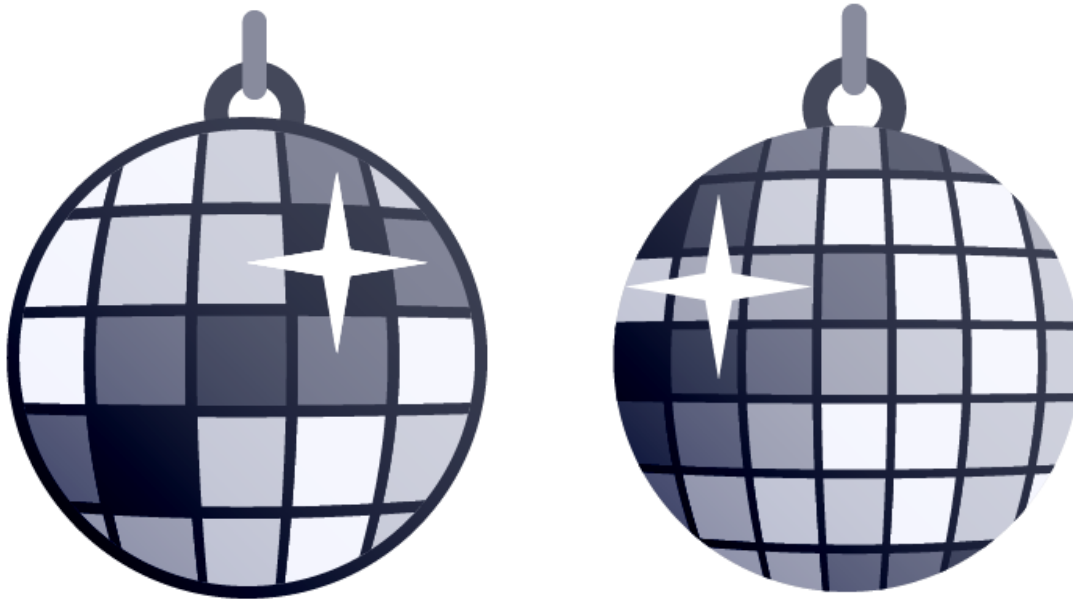


72pix (color, bw):

18pix (color, bw):







Credit: Apee Messer. Free for use in context of this proposal.

Abstract

This proposal requests the addition of the MIRROR BALL to the Unicode emoji library. The mirror ball, more popularly known as “disco ball”, is an object that is known all over the world and stands for party, music, dancing, positive emotions as well as glitter and glamour. According to Emojipedia.org, the disco ball has been one of the most requested emoji for many years.¹

Introduction

The disco ball is a sphere covered with hundreds or thousands of small mirrors. Since the 1920s² it has been a very popular object used in nightclubs, bars or discos. The iconic decoration reflects light in all directions and transforms every room - no matter how big its size - into a glamorous space in which people can dance or dream. Having existed for 100 years, it has become a timeless object and is used in countless bars or clubs worldwide. Over and over, people have tried to build the largest disco ball in the world³ and there was even a satellite in space that looks like a disco ball called

¹ <https://blog.emojipedia.org/top-emoji-requests-2018/>

² "Produce Novel Lighting Effect in Hall", *Illustrated World*, 35(4). June 1921, p. 692.

³ <http://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/world-records/largest-disco-ball/>

“humanity star”⁴. We believe that the disco ball emoji should find its way into our devices, not only because it is so often requested as an emoji, but also in order to allow users to transform their digital conversations into their own little parties.

Names

CLDR Short name: mirror ball

CLDR Keywords: mirror ball | disco ball | disco | party | dance | mirror ball | glamour | glitter

Selection Factors Inclusion

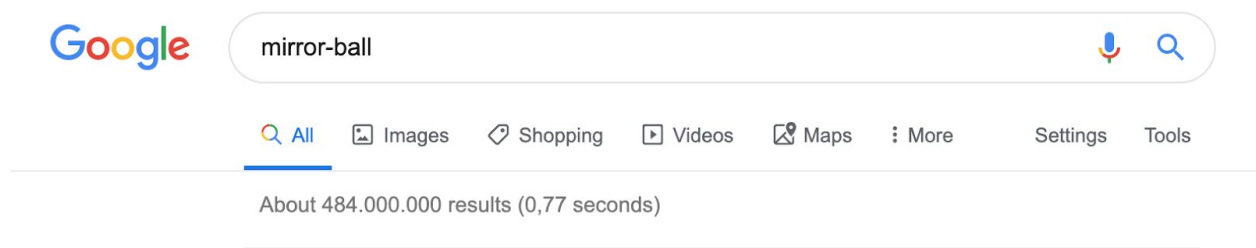
A. Compatibility

There are some sticker apps for Facebook and iMessage that feature a disco ball either fully shown or as a smaller part of the sticker.

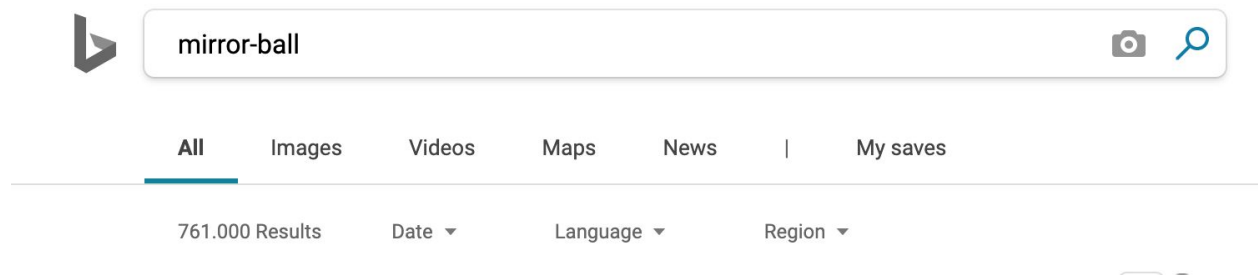
B. Expected Usage Level

Frequency

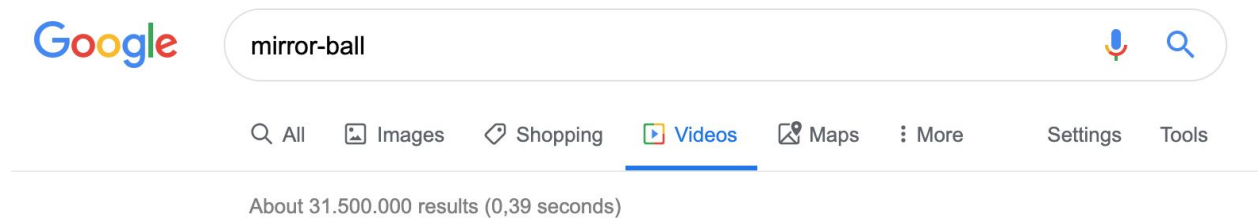
Google Search yield results in a similar range to the reference number in the guidelines (500M), while Bing does not (25M):



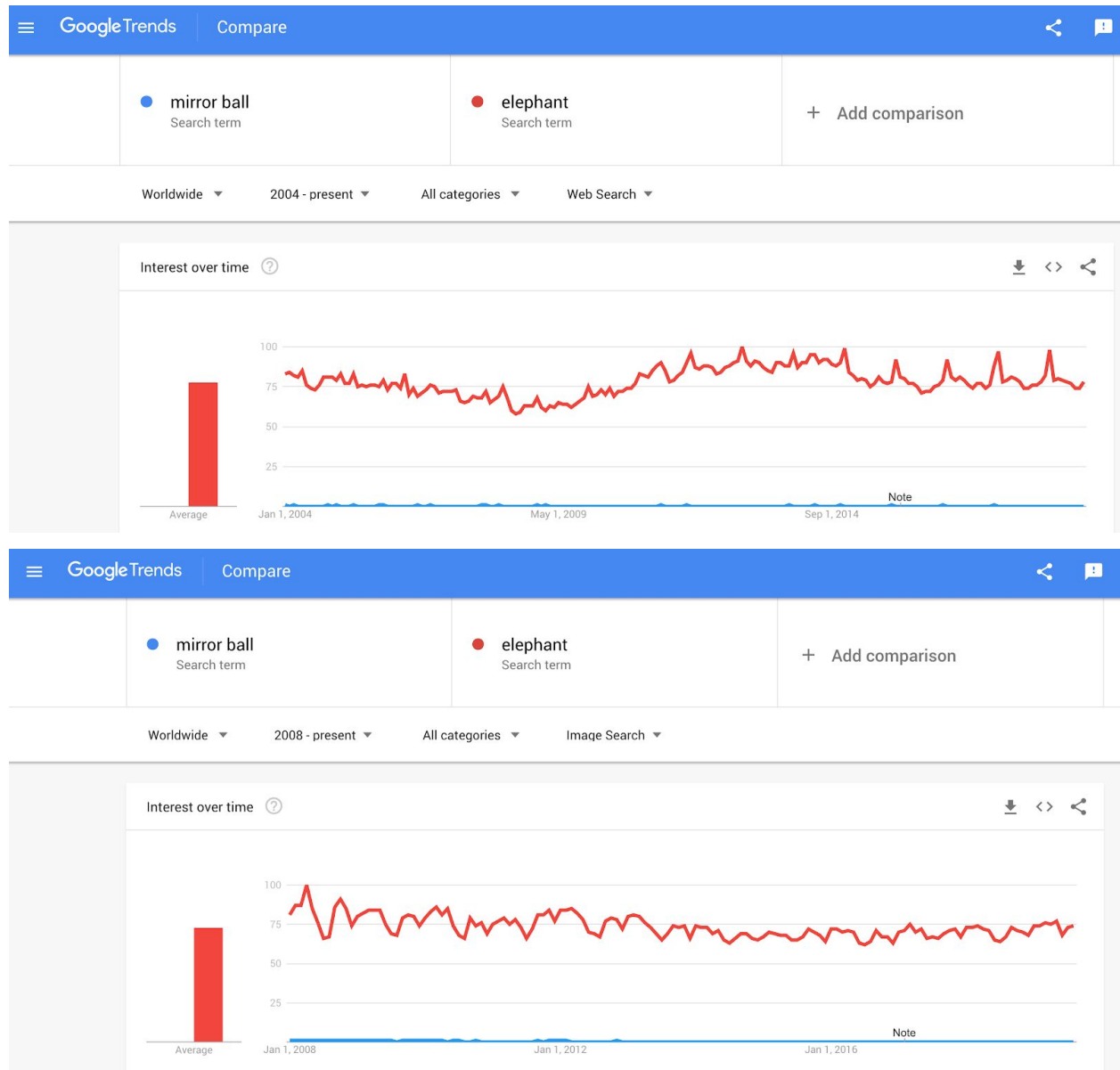
⁴ It fell back to earth after only two months because of a malfunction, which should not lessen the chances of this proposal to be approved.
<https://www.theverge.com/2018/3/22/17144208/rocket-lab-humanity-star-satellite-new-zealand-astronomy>



Google video search places “Mirror-Ball” below the reference number (75M) but in the same range:



The following Google Trends data shows the term "disco ball" and “mirror ball” are not as common as “elephant”:



Multiple Usages

A DISCO BALL emoji can be used in many different ways. Primarily it stands for party, dancing and music. While the WOMAN DANCING (💃) and MAN DANCING (🕺) characters express specific, gendered dance moves, the disco ball represents a wider sense of party, glitz and glamour. As reflective textures are increasingly common in everyday commodities, the disco ball emoji would also be useful to describe reflective materials.

Use in Sequences

n/a

Breaking new ground

No

C. Image Distinctiveness

The most visually similar existing emoji is the CRYSTAL BALL (🔮), which is very different in both color and meaning. A disco ball consists of hundreds of small mirrors that do not reflect the light equally but in many different directions. Therefore the design features bright and dark mirrors on the surface as well as some sparkling very bright reflections. Other similar emoji include 🟡💎, but not of them could play the role that DISCO BALL would fill.

D. Completeness

The disco ball emoji will complete the DANCING MAN (💃) and DANCING WOMAN (🕺) as they also represent party, dancing and having a good time. The disco ball emoji could also be a more timeless expression of party and complete the set of the PARTY POPPER (🎉) and the CONFETTI BALL (🎊), which by some people are perceived as rather childish.

E. Frequently requested

The disco ball emoji is one of the most requested emojis “over multiple years”⁵ by the six million unique monthly visitors of Emojipedia. Furthermore several tweets and Instagram posts show people requesting the disco ball emoji already since 2009:



nice but still no disco ball emoji

[Tweet übersetzen](#)





NicLeech
@NicMLEech

World, please.
It is time.
We NEED a #discoball emoji.
RT if this 🙌💃 or this 🙌🕺 just really
doesn't cut it.



jonathan_coslovi • Folgen
Los Angeles, California

jonathan_coslovi Make America Disco
Again, the world needs a disco ball emoji,
this is my campaign poster! •

-
-
-

#discoball #discoballemoji #emoji
#losangeles #mada #humpday
#winewednesday

jonathan_coslovi -

-
-
-
-
-

#friends #club #party #house #housemusic
#techno #live #igla #music #springbreak
#werk #work #gay #travel #gayla #weho
#gayhollywood #workhardplayhard #iggay
#champagne #tequila #love #festival



Gefällt 115 Mal

21. SEPTEMBER 2017



sexhairpartyfly • Folgen

sexhairpartyfly Ill be waiting for the disco ball emoji! 🕺🕺🕺 #exchange #richiehawtin #technofamily #justdance #discoballemojiplease #photog nataliinnaa 😊 elevatemobileapp 📱



Gefällt 63 Mal

25. JANUAR 2016



.°*~°~*~°~ @zesty_zachery · 25. Nov. 2016

i swear if there isn't a **disco ball emoji** by 2018 im switching to a sidekick

🌐 Tweet übersetzen



1



15



51



Anabel Englund @anabelenglundz · 16. März 2014

Whys there no **disco ball emoji**?

🌐 Tweet übersetzen



4



50



75



Holy GoLightly @MadamBetteNoire · 5. Dez. 2014

I really feel like a **disco ball emoji** is an imperative necessity.

🌐 Tweet übersetzen



1



13



23





nursesigns • Folgen

nursesigns How the fuck is there no #disco ball emoji yet? ● #discoballemoji #dancehall #reggae #soundsystem #sign #art #handpaintedsign #signpainting #nursenegril #poetry #dubpoetry #dub #rasta #dancehallsigns #westmoreland #negril #jamaica

perrylevy Crisp

noele1225 Great sign , cute guy

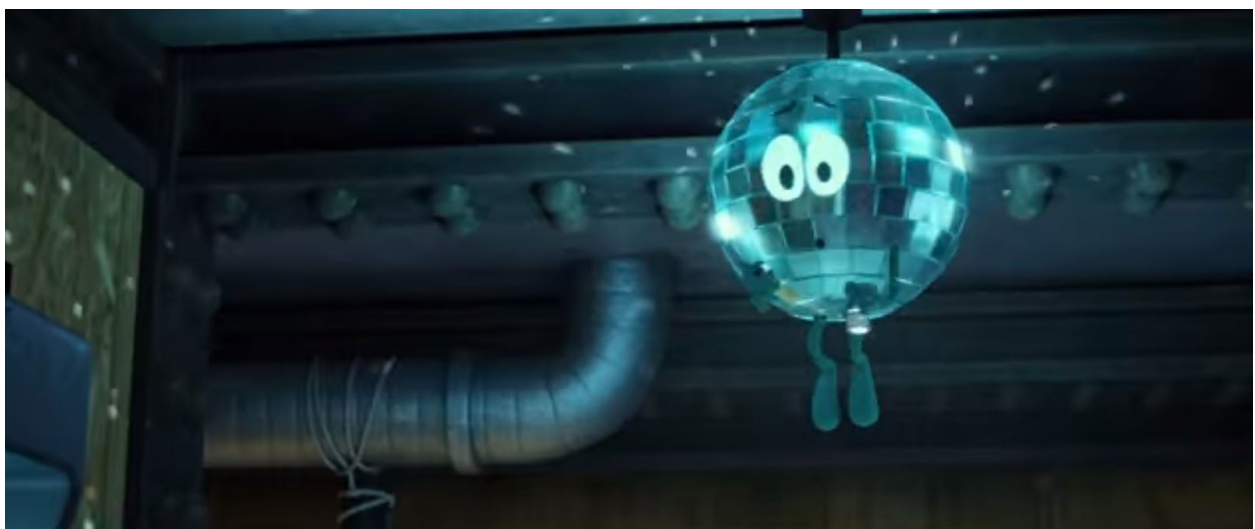


Gefällt 138 Mal

23. APRIL 2016

The disco ball in popular culture

The disco ball is often used in popular culture within music, film, fashion and gaming. For example Madonna, U2 and Pink Floyd used spectacular disco balls as important part of their world tours. The disco ball was also used in many famous movies, from Casablanca to The Emoji Movie (which actually features a talking disco ball emoji that is unfortunately stuck in the losers lounge, which should not be taken as a misgiving for this proposal).





Many different celebrities also used the disco ball as an inspiration for their fashion: Katy Perry, Kim Kardashian and Lady Gaga to name a few.

In the very popular game Fortnite there is a hidden challenge: in Season 4, week 5 Fortnite challenges players to dance with others to raise a disco ball.



To put all in a nutshell we believe that the DISCO BALL is an iconic object worldwide that would be among the most used symbols in the lexicon.

Selection Factors Exclusion

F. Overly Specific

The disco ball emoji is not overly specific because it is a clearly defined and unique object.

G. Open Ended

There are no sub categories of disco balls. The disco ball is also no object of another superordinate category. Therefore we don't see any risk of a floodgate after the disco ball emoji is released.

H. Already Representable

At the time of writing there is no possibility to express the disco ball using other emojis. The DANCING MAN and DANCING WOMAN emoji represent very specific and gendered dance moves. The crystal ball emoji comes closest in its design, but is far off in meaning. Additionally, there are no other emojis which represent a club or bar atmosphere like lighting or audio technique (laser lights, spotlight, disco light, big speakers). The emoji that most closely expresses the sentiment of the DISCO BALL is probably the sparkles (✨), but without any context of festivity.

I. Logos, brands, UI icons, signage, specific people, deities

There are no major logos, brands or specific people exclusively associated with the disco ball.

J. Transient

As argued earlier in this proposal the disco ball is a timeless object. It is said that the first disco balls or mirror balls were already widely spread in many nightclubs in Berlin in the 1920s.⁶ To this day, the disco ball has not lost any of its charm. Through pop culture it became even more popular so that it is now and in the future a consistent part of everyday life.

⁶ Produce Novel Lighting Effect in Hall", Illustrated World, 35(4). June 1921, p. 692.

K. Faulty Comparison

The look of the disco ball is unique as there are no other globular objects covered with sparkling mirrors.

L. Exact Images

The proposal does not request an exact image.

Sort location

- events
- after confetti ball and before tanabata tree

Other Information

(optional)

Character Properties

The other character properties are suggested to be defined as follows.

General Category: So

Canonical Combining Class: 0

Bidirectional Class: ON

Decomposition Type: Decomposition Mapping:

Numeric Type:

Numeric Value:

Bidirectional Mirrored: N Unicode 1 Name:

ISO Comment:

Simple Uppercase Mapping: Simple Lowercase Mapping: Simple Titlecase Mapping:

Author Bios

Gero Simone (gero.s.fm@gmail.com) is a host at the German youth radio called 1LIVE. The disco ball emoji was an idea by his listeners who also participated in finding good arguments for this proposal.

Theo Schear (tschea@gmail.com) is the author of the accepted Juice Box emoji proposal, and a brilliant dancer who offers dance tutorials at 1-800-DanceNow.com.