



Inflatable Face Emoji Proposal

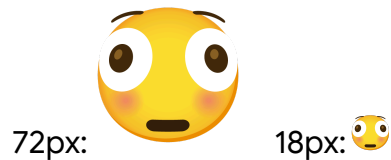
Author: Jennifer Daniel

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I. Identification

Sample Image	Proposed Unicode and CLDR name	Possible CLDR English keywords	Closest Unicode Emoji
	Inflatable Face	Vulnerable, light, airy, bloated	

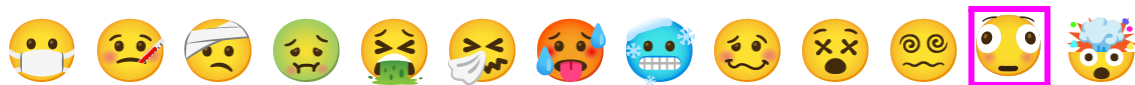
II. Images



License

We certify that the images have appropriate licenses for use by the UTC.

III. Sort location



II. Selection factors — Inclusion

A. Compatibility

n/a

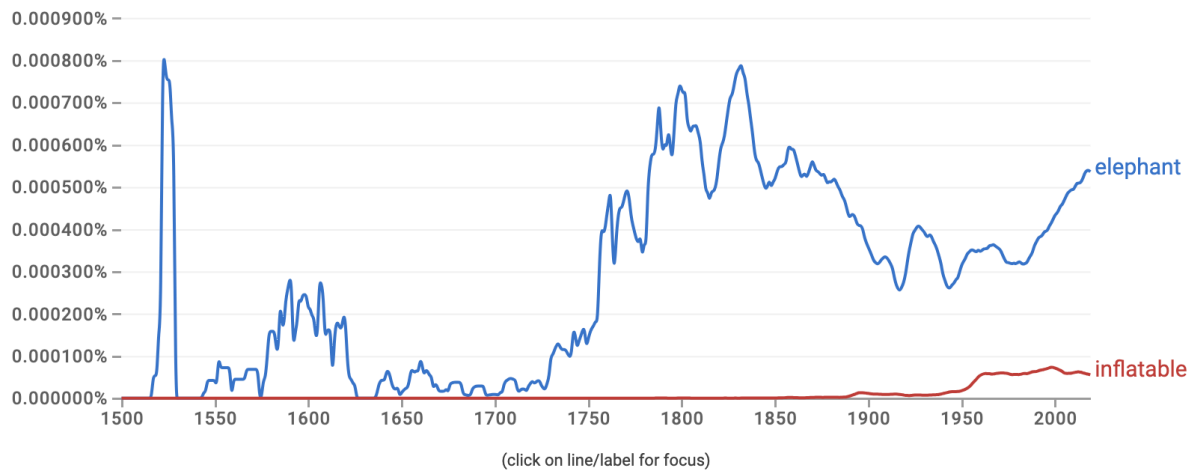
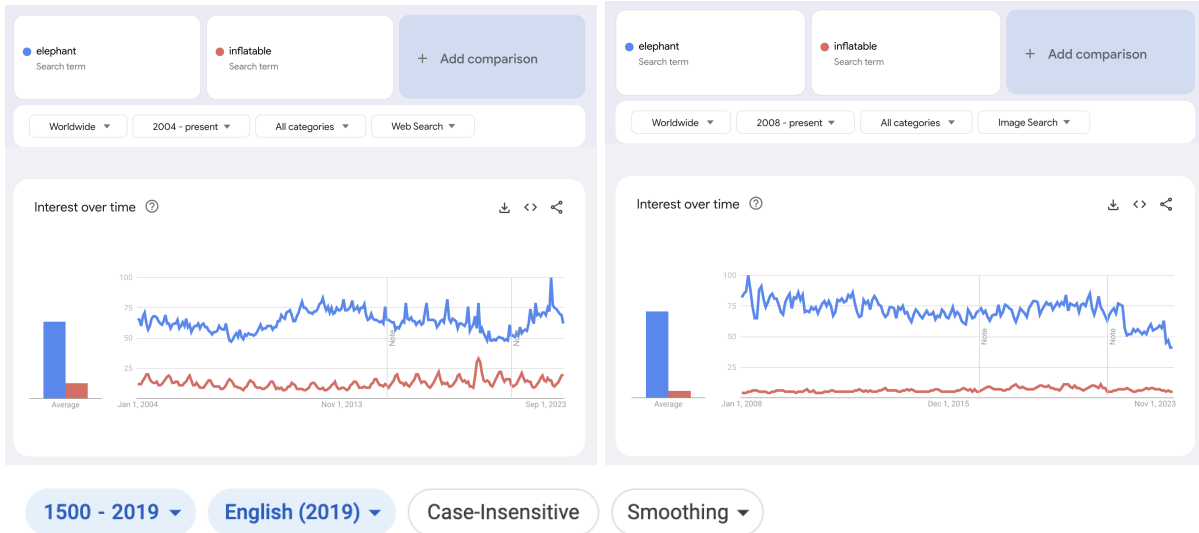
B. Expected use

1. Frequency

Since 2020, this emoji has appeared in Android keyboards and is shared in all apps that support stickers via [Emoji Kitchen](#). It is the eighth most popular drawing in the experience available in Google Search, indicating that this expression could perform well over-median once included in the Unicode Standard

Search term	Google Search	Google Video Search	Google Books
inflatable	284,000,000	23,300,000	2,300,000

inflatable for Google Trends Web Search, Google Trends Image Search, and Google NGram Viewer



2. Multiple usages

“Inflate” implies expanding by introduction of air or something insubstantial and suggests a vulnerability to sudden collapse. Naturally, this is a comical trope and impossible to do in real life, unless you happen to be a pufferfish.

- **Surprise**
 - Excuse me???? 🤔
- **Inflated Ego**
 - Bossman laughing at his own jokes: 🤔
- **Scared**

- Oh no 🙄

3. Use in sequences

Combined with other emoji, “inflatable face” is capable of conveying a range of ideas beyond the examples cited in Section 2.

- Disposal
 - 🖐️ 🙄
- Sportsball
 - 🦶 🙄
- Inflating and popping
 - 🙄 🙄 🎉
- Deflating and disappearing
 - 🙄 🙄 😐 🗑️
- As a reaction
 - 🗨️ Person A
 - 🙄 Person B

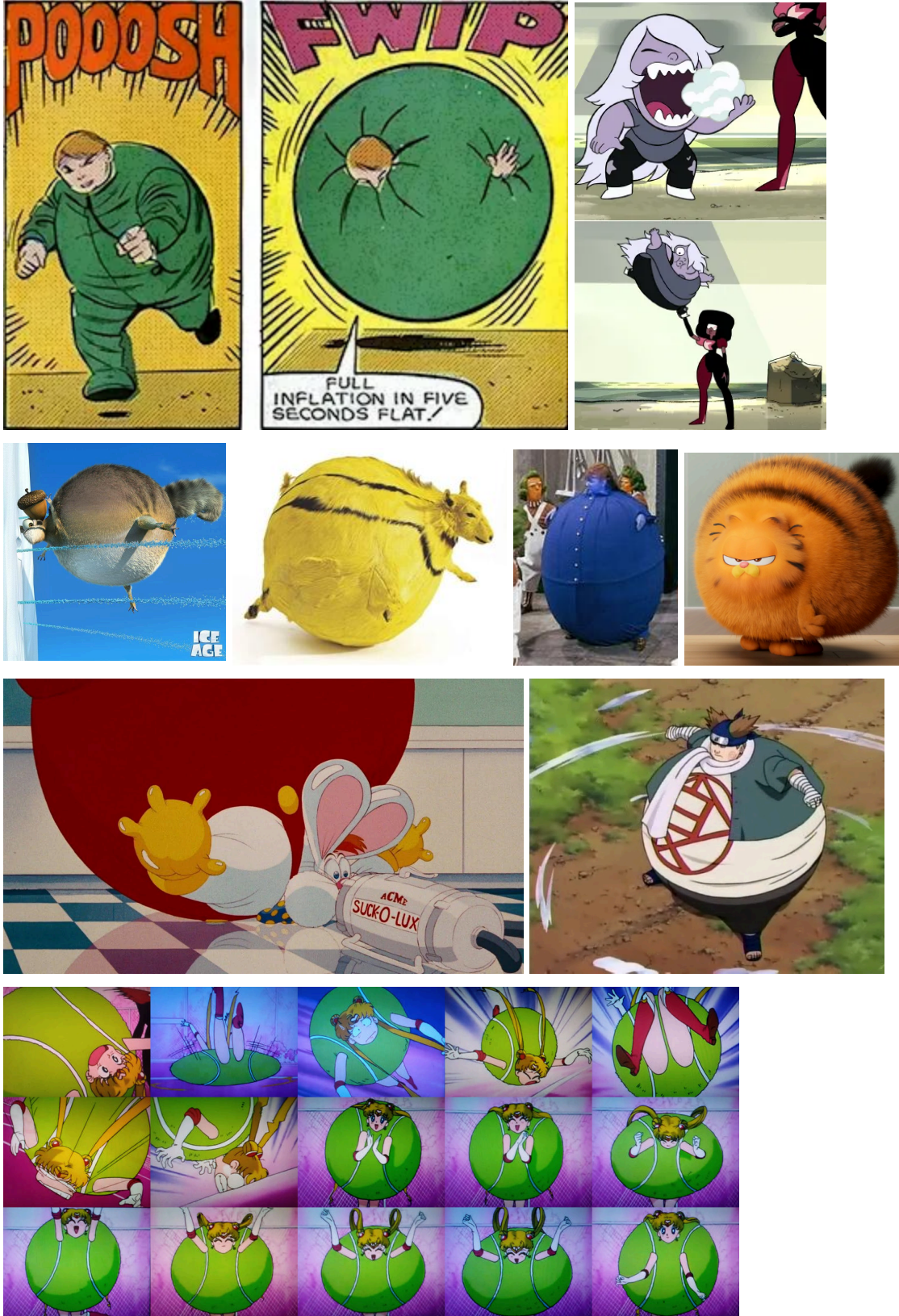
4. Breaking new ground

Illustration is a rich medium that affords us the ability to deviate and push beyond reality rather than be confined to the real world. A few smiley emoji embrace materiality as a means of expression, cartoonification, or include contextual elements that deviate from physical reality. A non-exhaustive list includes:

- Materiality 🤪 🗑️
- Cartoonification: 😬 😈 🦹 🦸 🤖 🐼 🐱 🐭 🐹 🐶 🐷 🐸 🐙 🐛 🐜 🐝 🐞 🐟 🐠 🐡 🐢 🐣 🐤 🐥 🐦 🐧 🐨 🐩 🐪 🐫 🐬 🐭 🐮 🐯 🐰 🐹 🐺 🐻 🐼 🐾 🐿 🐽 🐾 🐿 🐽 🐾 🐿 🐽
- Contextual Clues: 🤪 🙄 😐 🗑️ 🤪 🙄 😐 🗑️ 🤪 🙄 😐 🗑️

Inflatable face is both visually and conceptually different from these emoji in that it expresses vulnerability, tension, and flexibility. It is a common trope found in "cartoony", "superheroic", type comics which appear all around the world at this point. There is also evidence of its use in manga. (See *Naruto and Sailor Moon examples in Section C. Image Distinctiveness*).

C. Image distinctiveness



Examples from: Squadron Supreme, Steven Universe, Ice Age, Yang Maoyuan, Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory, Garfield, Who Framed Roger Rabbit, Naruto, Sailor Moon

D. Completeness

The proposed “inflatable face” provides a significant advance in coverage to depict simultaneous, complex feelings by filling a significant gap in existing emoji expression.

III. Selection factors — Exclusion

F. Overly specific

This design is iconic and used in advertising, art, anime, film, and in literature. It is a visual trope that is effective at communicating a remarkably broad range of things including surprise, turning into a ball, being filled with hot air (aka light) or filled with water (aka heavy and bloated), etc. It does so by not being overly specific.

G. Open-ended

“Inflatable face” is not part of a set of similar items which would result in more emoji proposals.

H. Already representable

There are no other emoji like an “Inflatable Face” emoji which is undeniably iconic of being filled with almost everything from air to any liquid.

It is different from other “material based” smileys such as melting face in that “inflating” involves volume expansion within the same state, while melting involves a transition between different states of matter.

It is different from other “surprised” emoji in that the “inflatable” quality adds tension and vulnerability (not to mention, good humor) that other facial expression emoji lack.

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

Not applicable. There are no logos, brands, signage or otherwise among the proposed characters.

J. Transient

Not applicable. See n-gram data. We’ve been fighting for millennia ;-)

K. Faulty comparison

Justification for encoding the proposed emoji does not depend on analogy with other emoji that were encoded only for compatibility reasons.

L. Exact Images

An exact image is not required.