

# Proposal for Japanese vowels with the voiced sound mark as named sequences

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We propose to add the following named sequences for Japanese vowels with the voiced sound mark

あゝ いゝ うゝ えゝ おゝ

## *Japanese vowels with the voiced sound mark*

あゝ HIRAGANA LETTER A WITH VOICED SOUND MARK; 3042 3099  
 いゝ HIRAGANA LETTER I WITH VOICED SOUND MARK; 3044 3099  
 うゝ (already available as U+3094 HIRAGANA LETTER VU)  
 えゝ HIRAGANA LETTER E WITH VOICED SOUND MARK; 3048 3099  
 おゝ HIRAGANA LETTER O WITH VOICED SOUND MARK; 304A 3099

あゝ HIRAGANA LETTER SMALL A WITH VOICED SOUND MARK; 3041 3099  
 いゝ HIRAGANA LETTER SMALL I WITH VOICED SOUND MARK; 3043 3099  
 うゝ HIRAGANA LETTER SMALL U WITH VOICED SOUND MARK; 3045 3099  
 えゝ HIRAGANA LETTER SMALL E WITH VOICED SOUND MARK; 3047 3099  
 おゝ HIRAGANA LETTER SMALL O WITH VOICED SOUND MARK; 3049 3099

アゝ KATAKANA LETTER A WITH VOICED SOUND MARK; 30A2 3099  
 イゝ KATAKANA LETTER I WITH VOICED SOUND MARK; 30A4 3099  
 ウゝ (already available as U+30F4 KATAKANA LETTER VU)  
 エゝ KATAKANA LETTER E WITH VOICED SOUND MARK; 30A8 3099  
 オゝ KATAKANA LETTER O WITH VOICED SOUND MARK; 30AA 3099

アゝ KATAKANA LETTER SMALL A WITH VOICED SOUND MARK; 30A1 3099  
 イゝ KATAKANA LETTER SMALL I WITH VOICED SOUND MARK; 30A3 3099  
 ウゝ KATAKANA LETTER SMALL U WITH VOICED SOUND MARK; 30A5 3099  
 エゝ KATAKANA LETTER SMALL E WITH VOICED SOUND MARK; 30A7 3099  
 オゝ KATAKANA LETTER SMALL O WITH VOICED SOUND MARK; 30A9 3099

U+3099 is COMBINING KATAKANA-HIRAGANA VOICED SOUND MARK

### Voicing marks

3099 ◌゛ COMBINING KATAKANA-HIRAGANA VOICED SOUND MARK

<http://www.unicode.org/charts/PDF/U3040.pdf>

Named sequences already has similar Japanese characters, *Bidakuon* (e.g. か ◌゛ き ◌゛ く ◌゛ け ◌゛ こ ◌゛ )

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HIRAGANA LETTER BIDAQUON NGA;304B 309A
HIRAGANA LETTER BIDAQUON NGI;304D 309A
HIRAGANA LETTER BIDAQUON NGU;304F 309A
HIRAGANA LETTER BIDAQUON NGE;3051 309A
HIRAGANA LETTER BIDAQUON NGO;3053 309A
KATAKANA LETTER BIDAQUON NGA;30AB 309A
KATAKANA LETTER BIDAQUON NGI;30AD 309A
KATAKANA LETTER BIDAQUON NGU;30AF 309A
KATAKANA LETTER BIDAQUON NGE;30B1 309A
KATAKANA LETTER BIDAQUON NGO;30B3 309A
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<http://www.unicode.org/Public/UCD/latest/ucd/NamedSequences.txt>

Reference for named sequences: <http://www.unicode.org/reports/tr34/>

## Rationale

Japanese vowels with the voiced sound mark are widely used by people especially for casual communications, and at least one character encoding already has code points for them.

These are examples how widely vowels with the voiced sound mark are used:

Tech media article about how to type vowels with the voiced sound mark (in Japanese)

<http://www.itmedia.co.jp/bizid/articles/0608/18/news050.html>

Q and A for comic book creator about how to type vowels with the voiced sound mark (in Japanese)

[http://www.clip-studio.com/clip\\_site/support/help/detail/svc/8/tid/18845](http://www.clip-studio.com/clip_site/support/help/detail/svc/8/tid/18845)

Font for vowels with the voiced sound mark

<http://twiren.sakura.ne.jp/font/>

Illustration of vowels with the voiced sound mark

<http://www.irasutoya.com/2013/02/50.html>



Ice cube maker for vowels with the voiced sound mark  
<http://www.amazon.co.jp/dp/B00CFBC7N0/>



A character encoding, TRON code contains Japanese vowels with the voiced sound mark and a font for them.

TRON code for vowels with the voiced sound mark  
<http://glyphwiki.org/wiki/Group:TRON%E3%82%B3%E3%83%BC%E3%83%89%E6%BF%81%E7%82%B9%E4%BB%98%E3%81%8D%E3%81%B2%E3%82%89%E3%81%8C%E3%81%AA%E3%83%BB%E3%82%AB%E3%82%BF%E3%82%AB%E3%83%8A>

Font of TRON code for vowels with the voiced sound mark  
<http://www.itmedia.co.jp/news/articles/0512/15/news084.html>

濁点かな文字

9面	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 a b c d e f
8 0 2 0	あ あ あ あ い い い い づ づ づ え え え え
8 0 3 0	お お お お が が げ げ さ じ す ぜ ぞ たち づ
8 0 4 0	づ づ で ど な な に に め め ね ね の の ま ま

# Discussions

## U+309B KATAKANA-HIRAGANA VOICED SOUND MARK

There are two code points for Japanese voiced sound mark:

- U+3099 COMBINING KATAKANA-HIRAGANA VOICED SOUND MARK
- U+309B KATAKANA-HIRAGANA VOICED SOUND MARK

### Voicing marks

3099	◌ <sup>◌</sup>	COMBINING KATAKANA-HIRAGANA VOICED SOUND MARK
309A	◌ <sup>◌</sup>	COMBINING KATAKANA-HIRAGANA SEMI-VOICED SOUND MARK
309B	◌ <sup>◌</sup>	KATAKANA-HIRAGANA VOICED SOUND MARK

≈ 0020 SP 3099 ◌<sup>◌</sup>

We propose to use 3099 for named sequences because:

- COMBINING characters are more suitable for this purpose.
- Existing named sequences also adopt COMBINING characters only.

## Unicode normalization

This proposal should not affect the existing normalization behaviors, because no new code points, which may affect normalization, are added.

The conversion of half-width / full-width katakana characters is also not affected. For example, half-width Katakana and voiced sound mark "ア<sup>◌</sup>" (FF71 FF9E)" is converted to "ア<sup>◌</sup>"

(30A2 3099)" vice versa. Our proposal does not affect this behavior.

## Pronunciation of vowels with the voiced sound marker

Though people do not always agree on what the sequence sounds like. Probably it is supposed to sound like a vowel with pharyngeal heavy breathing.

## Transliterations - how to type vowels with the voiced sound mark with keyboard

To type Japanese characters with keyboard, we need to transliterate latin characters to Japanese characters (e.g. ka → か). Although this is up to input method providers, we

suggest to use VWA, VWI, VWU, VWE and VWO for あゝ, いゝ, うゝ, えゝ and おゝ (うゝ is also already mapped to VU too. VA, VI, VE and VO are already used for うゝあ, うゝい, うゝえ and うゝお).