

# Proposal for Poison Emoji

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## 1.0 General Information

We are proposing the addition of a poison Emoji, representing toxic substances, venomous animals, poisonous plants and more abstract concepts such as “toxic relationships” or general warnings.

### 1.1 Image

We recommend representing poison as a stereotypical green liquid, contained by a bottle marked with a human skull, that’s widely associated with poisonous substances and is also used as the official warning sign for poisonous chemicals<sup>1</sup>.

### 1.2 Short Name

Poison

### 1.3 Keywords

Poison, Toxic, Venom, Poisonous, Venomous, Danger, Deadly, Hazard.

## 2.0 Sample Image



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<sup>1</sup> Unicode Glyph U+2620

## 3.0 Selection Factors – Inclusion

### 3.1 Compatibility

There already exists a Unicode representation of the Poison Hazard Symbol, and a Unicode Glyph, but we don't know of any representation as an Emoji. As Emojis are almost never replaced by Glyphs, there is no practical option for the wider public to represent poison-related topics.

### 3.2 Expected usage Level

#### 3.2.1 Frequency

Poison is a topic, that isn't bound to trends, culture or a person's background. As a hazard to the human body, the topic poison remains relevant and there may be situations where a quick communication of poison is needed.

A google search for poison offers 156 million results<sup>2</sup> and the search term poisoning triggers googles automatic response of displaying the local emergency call. In 2015 in the US alone, over 2 million people were affected by poisoning<sup>3</sup>.

#### 3.2.2 Multiple Usages

The Poison-Emoji may represent poison, toxic relationships, danger, disgust, bad food, illnesses, venomous animals, medication, a call for help, alcohol, drugs, death and various other topics related to harmful substances, organisms or situations.

#### 3.2.3 Image Distinctiveness

The human skull on the bottle and the green liquid are both widely accepted symbols for poison. As already mentioned, the human skull is the international sign for a poison hazard.

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<sup>2</sup> [https://www.google.ch/search?hl=en&dcr=0&source=hp&q=poison&oq=poison&gs\\_l=psy-ab.3..35i39k1j0i46i67k1j46i67k1l2j0i67k1l7j0.5795.6747.0.8098.9.7.0.0.0.126.597.0j5.5.0.dummy\\_maps\\_web\\_fallback...0...1.1.64.psy-ab..4.5.593.0..0i131k1.0.wgWAXlcan\\_o](https://www.google.ch/search?hl=en&dcr=0&source=hp&q=poison&oq=poison&gs_l=psy-ab.3..35i39k1j0i46i67k1j46i67k1l2j0i67k1l7j0.5795.6747.0.8098.9.7.0.0.0.126.597.0j5.5.0.dummy_maps_web_fallback...0...1.1.64.psy-ab..4.5.593.0..0i131k1.0.wgWAXlcan_o)

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.poison.org/poison-statistics-national>

### **3.2.4 Completeness**

The poison-Emoji would be an important addition to the sequence of harmful Emojis such as the CIGARETTE, the GUN or the KNIFE.

### **3.2.5 Frequently Requested**

A google-search for poison Emoji offers 458.000 results. The emoji-base article for the skull and crossed bones Emoji is one of the results. It looks, like people have been searching for a poison representation and had to use the skull Emoji, that isn't even supported on most devices<sup>4</sup>.

## **4.0 Selection Factors – Exclusion**

### **4.1. Overly Specific**

The poison-Emoji isn't more specific than existing ones such as the gun or the cigarette. It may be used for a variety of things and is applicable not only in dangerous situations but also in day-to-day conversations.

### **4.2 Open-Ended**

Poison is a universal global threat to the human biology, as such it deserves to be represented by an Emoji in the standard Emoji-library.

### **4.3 Already Representable**

As already stated, there is a Unicode representation for the poison hazard symbol, but not as an Emoji. Most people don't use Unicode Glyphens in day-to-day conversations.

### **4.4 Logos, Brands, UI Icons, Signage, specific people, deities**

While there exists a sign for poison hazard, there is no official sign for poison itself. Poison isn't copyrighted and doesn't refer to any people, deities or brands.

### **4.5 Transient**

Poison will never be outdated, as long as the human biology may be physically harmed by chemical substances from the inside.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.emoji-base.com/emoji/2620/skullandcrossbones>

# 5.0 Sample Image in Usage

