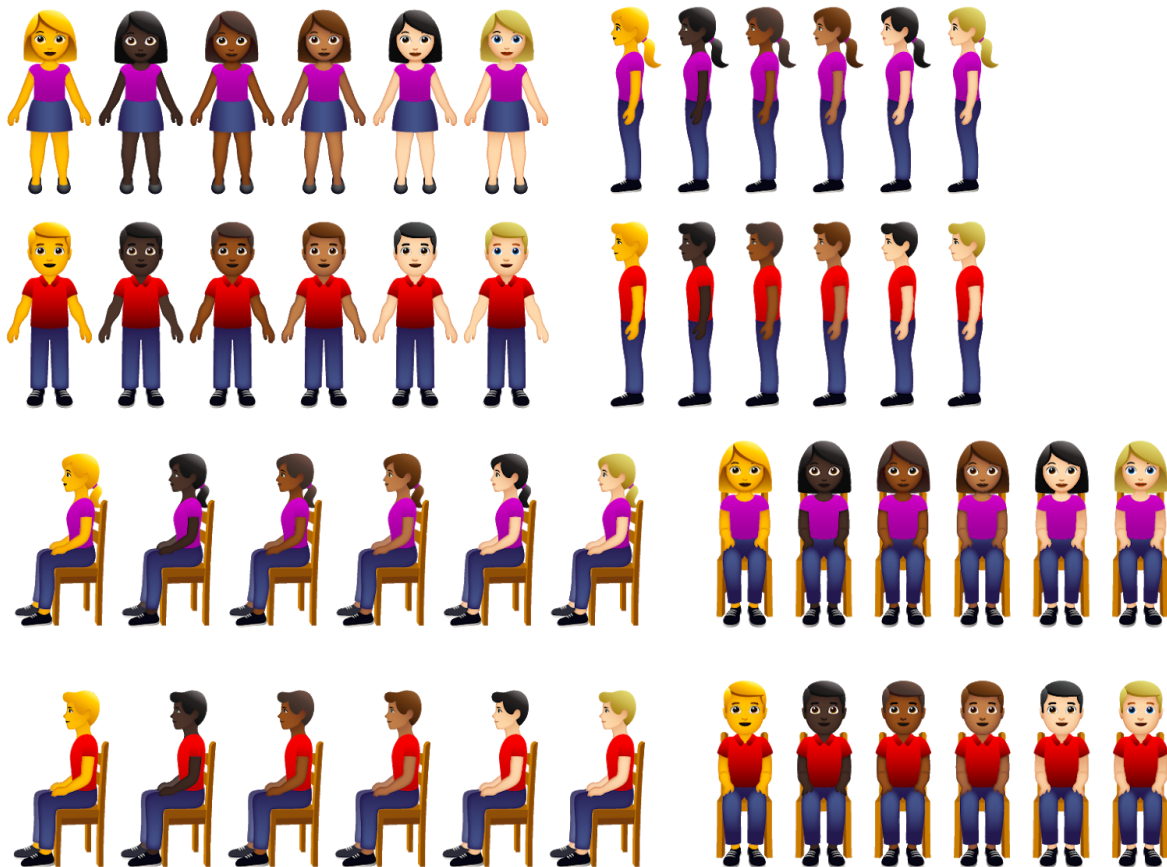


**Emoji Proposal for SITTING PERSON, STANDING PERSON and KNEELING PERSON**

*"When bored of sitting, move! When bored of moving, sit! Balance your life or there will remain neither moving nor sitting in your life but only falling!" - Mehmet Murat Ildan*

**Submitted by:** Jennifer 8. Lee and Alex Marx of Emojination fame.

**Date:** March 2018



**Credit:** Aphee Messer/Emojination

## Abstract

We are asking for the inclusion of three new emojis that represent basic humans behaviours: PERSON SITTING, PERSON STANDING and PERSON KNEELING. These will join, the currently lonely, PERSON WALKING and PERSON RUNNING to complete a full set of basic human behaviours associated with both stillness and motion.



*Credit: Ji Lee*

## 1. Introduction

“I would rather die standing, than die kneeling.”

Since humans were monkeys we have engaged in numerous activities without which it would be hard to recognise us as humans at all. As the “paragon of animals”, we are fairly unique in our behaviours and this is largely due to our status as bipeds. While most mammals move around on all fours, humans are fairly exceptional in their ability to stand on their own two feet, and almost unique in their evolution towards making this their major mode of transportation.

While this extraordinary ability is already partially represented by the PERSON WALKING emoji, it seems odd that there shouldn't also be a PERSON STANDING emoji, since we can't all be walking all the time and standing, waiting and resting are all things that we might do, for example, immediately before or after walking. Following this same logic, SITTING and KNEELING currently seem like obvious omissions from the emoji lexicon. There are multiple emojis for all sorts of human activities, sports, emotions etc. - and yet many people spend the majority of their waking lives sitting down, not playing water polo or riding horses. These billions of sedentary people are currently shockingly unrepresented and something must be done! Similarly, kneeling is a hugely popular way to manipulate our meat puppets. Often used as a resting position - it might also be used in religious or political contexts too.

These versatile emojis will be inclusive of billions of people around the world - and be commonly used in a variety of ways. One of the most important additions that these emoji will provide is to allow people from around the world to use them in various phrases:

*Sitting duck* - A helpless or easy target

*Sitting Pretty* - In a favorable position

*Stand strong* - To remain steadfast in one's resolutions.

*Stand down* - A temporary cessation of offensive actions

*Kneel down* - To show respect before someone or something

The ability of these emojis to be used to describe the physical behaviours themselves, as well as their ability to be used in the common phrases (above), make the SITTING PERSON, STANDING PERSON and KNEELING PERSON clearly worthy of inclusion as new emojis.

## 2. Names

PERSON SITTING, SITTING, SIT  
PERSON STANDING, STANDING, STAND  
PERSON KNEELING, KNEELING, KNEEL

### Selection Factors Inclusion

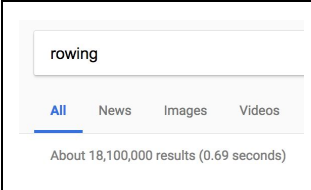
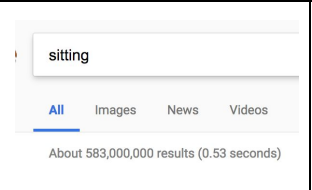
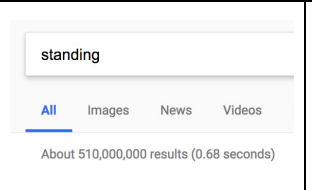
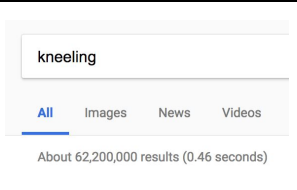
#### A. Compatibility

We are partially introducing PERSON STANDING emoji to allow for more atomic units to to allow ZWJ sequences to recreate 🧑🏿 MAN and WOMAN HOLDING HANDS EMOJI in mixed skin tones. PERSON SITTING and PERSON KNEELING do not have known precedents, but PERSON SITTING is being introduced in part to be compatible with WHEELCHAIR emoji.

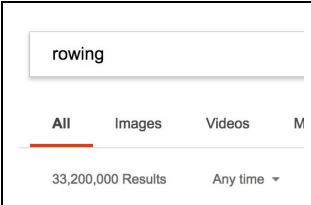
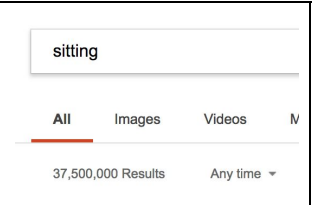
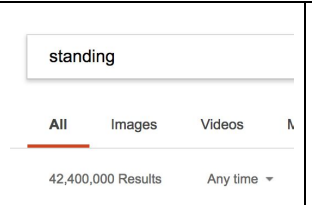
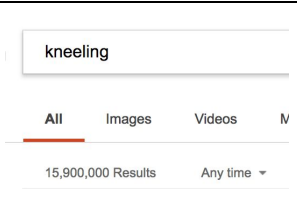
#### B. Expected Usage Level

It is expected that these emojis would have a very high level of usage since these are all activities that most humans engage in (with the exception of those with dodgy knees). When you compare the google trends, you can see that sitting and standing are far more frequently searched than, for example, rowing - which already exists as an emoji. While the search frequency of kneeling is relatively low, this is not expected to affect the emoji's popularity.

**Google Search:** rowing < kneeling < standing < sitting

			
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**Bing Search:** kneeling < rowing < sitting < standing

			
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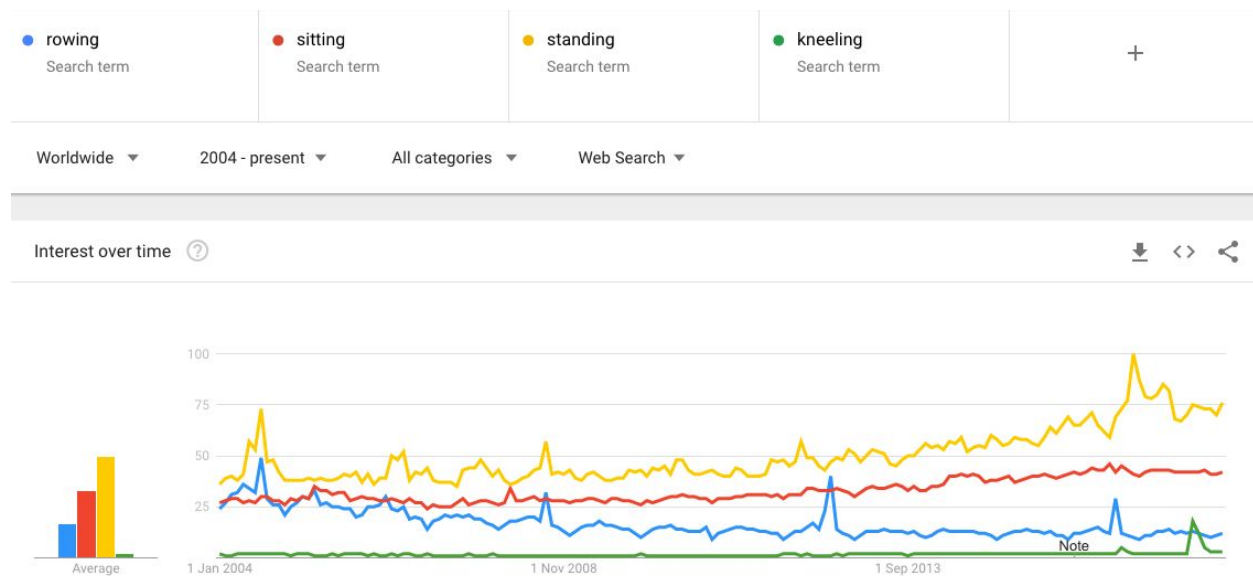
**YouTube search:** kneeling < rowing < sitting < standing

<input type="text" value="rowing"/>	<input type="text" value="sitting"/>	<input type="text" value="standing"/>	<input type="text" value="kneeling"/>
About 1,320,000 results	About 13,700,000 results	About 14,200,000 results	About 711,000 results

**Instagram tags:** kneeling < standing < sitting < rowing

<h2>#rowing</h2> <p>1,344,876 posts</p>	<h2>#sitting</h2> <p>895,694 posts</p>	<h2>#standing</h2> <p>505,592 posts</p>	<h2>#kneeling</h2> <p>20,690 posts</p>
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## Google trends



Also if we look to instagram for hashtaggerly we can see that pager, an example of a pre-existing emoji, has 32k hashtags, whereas sitting has 886k, standing has 498k - and “take a knee” has 172k.

### 4.B.2 Multiple usages

This brings me nicely onto the point that although clearly these are useful emoji on the basis of signifying what they quite clearly signify, it is also very likely that they would be used to represent certain ideas — and in combinations to make more complex thoughts. Standing

might, as previously mentioned, signify waiting, sitting might represent pooping and kneeling might represent praying or proposing — particularly in combination with other pre-existing emoji.

#### 4.B.3 Use in Sequences

These emojis can be used in sequences to represent all sorts of more complicated ideas:

SITTING + DUCK = SITTING DUCK  
SITTING + PRETTY GIRL = SITTING PRETTY  
STANDING + BUS = WAITING FOR THE BUS  
STANDING + BICEP = STAND STRONG  
STANDING + DOWN ARROW = STAND DOWN  
STANDING + APPLAUSE = STANDING OVATION  
KNEELING + ENGAGEMENT RING = PROPOSAL  
KNEELING + MOSQUE = PRAYING TO ALLAH

#### C. Image Distinctiveness

I don't see any way in which people would be confused as to the meaning and distinctiveness of these emoji proposals. In each instance, it is entirely clear what is going on — and there are no comparable or confusing designs currently in existence.

#### D. Completeness

Clearly the introduction of these three new emojis would be adding significantly to the complexity of human behaviour expressible in emoji form. Not only that, but they would go some way to completing the set that was first established by the legendary WALKING PERSON emoji.

#### E. Frequently requested

Though admittedly there is not a hugely high number of requests for these emojis I think this is a clear example of Unicode telling people what they want before they want it. Once these emoji are available I have no doubt that they will fall into wide usage. However, obviously, there has been a lot of talk about “taking a knee” of late, which has certainly led to an increase in requests for a kneeling emoji, though we acknowledge that may be a transient phenomenon.



**Cliff Van Dyke** @BrothaVanDyke · Jan 3

I need a **kneeling emoji**





**TLGodsey** @tl\_godsey · Feb 4

Consider it done! \*takes a knee\* Why do we have a breast feeding emoji and not a take a knee emoji? We need a "take a knee" emoji whoever does those things maybe you could put one in for tweets like this. It's more resounding than just \*takes a knee\*,



**Vets Against Trump** @commondefense

As veterans, we've served to defend America's most essential freedoms. Ahead of today's #SuperBowl, we are in solidarity with all who #TakeAKnee in peaceful protest for liberty and justice for ALL

Show this thread

## Selection Factors Exclusion

### F. Overly Specific

None of these emojis are over specific. While it is clear that they do represent specific behaviours I think that I have clearly demonstrated how they might be used in many different ways and in many different contexts.

### G. Open Ended

*These emojis will round off a set and do not represent an open ended collection of future emoji requests. Once people are able to sit, kneel, stand and walk in the emoji language I can't see that there is much else that they would want to do.*

## **H. Already Representable**

It is currently impossible to convey the idea of SITTING, STANDING or KNEELING in emoji form. For this reason, being able to represent these ideas will open up whole new methods of communication with the emoji language.

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

These emojis are not directly associated with any specific logos, brands, UI icons, signage, people, or deities. They are simple and versatile emojis, free from any single stigma or brand identity. They are common place behaviours and will be instantly universally recognisable.

## **J. Transient**

As mentioned in my introduction, all of these behaviours have been around since as long as we have as a species. It is my expectation that they will remain relevant for at least the next few hundred years, until such a time as we live in VR pods and are fed by drips.

## **K. Faulty Comparison**

This submission for the inclusion of SITTING, STANDING and KNEELING emojis is one made on its own merits — in line with the Unicode selection factors for inclusion — and specifically avoids any all factors for exclusion. No case is made that these emojis should be included due to other emojis, emoji patterns - or due to comparison.

## **L. Sort location**

It is my proposal that these emojis be placed in the order SITTING, KNEELING and STANDING just before the already existent WALKING emoji.



## 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

Alex Marx ([alex@emojicon.co](mailto:alex@emojicon.co)) is a big fan of sitting about, standing to attention and kneeling before the altar of Emoji...

Jennifer 8. Lee ([jenny@emojicon.co](mailto:jenny@emojicon.co)) is also an emoji enthusiast.