

Cross-Platform Unspecified-Gender Images

L2/18-225

A Working Draft via Jennifer Daniel & Seb Grubb - Google

Background

The following emoji list is for base characters which do not specify a gender. This does not imply that the characters will display with a gender neutral, gender inclusive, genderqueer or non-binary appearance on all (or any) platforms, but instead ensures that a specific gender is not chosen.

However, currently, “neutral”gendered emoji may create confusion regarding which gender each emoji displays on various platforms. Most vendors default to a man or woman representation instead of a truly gender neutral character. Google has begun rendering gender inclusive glyphs to support the original intent with “person” emojis.

For example, the 🧑 Merperson emoji does not specify a gender, but is mostly shown as a woman on most platforms. This same emoji displays as a man on iOS, but a woman on Android and all other vendors. Additionally, many of the genders vendors are defaulting to reinforces stereotypes (Women are frequently the gestures for emotional glyphs, men for endurance activities, etc.)

Recommendation

This proposal is an effort to align vendors to [Unicode guidelines](#) and create gender neutral forms of the designated "person" glyphs". This would mean adding 330 new emojis (55 gender neutral glyphs) x 6 (skintones).

What follows is an audit of the **55 gender neutral emojis**, highlighted in red are the **15 that have cross vendor inconsistencies in gender**.

Inventory of Gender Neturals x Platforms

[illegible]

168	U+1F46E		 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	police officer
171	U+1F575		 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	detective
174	U+1F482		 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	guard
177	U+1F477		 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	construction worker
182	U+1F473		 M	 N	 M	 M	 M	 M	person wearing turban
194	U+1F9B8		—	 F	 F	 F	—	—	⊕ superhero
197	U+1F9B9		—	 F	 F	 F	—	—	⊗ supervillain
200	U+1F9D9		 F	 F	 M	 M	 F	 M	mage
203	U+1F9DA		 F	 F	 F	 F	 F	 F	fairy
206	U+1F9DB		 F	 F	 M	 M	 F	 M	vampire
209	U+1F9DC		 M	 F	 F	 F	 F	 F	merperson

212	U+1F9DD		 M	 F	 M	 M	 F	 N	elf
215	U+1F9DE		 M	 F	 M	 M	 F	 M	genie
218	U+1F9DF		 M	 F	 M	 F	 F	 M	zombie
221	U+1F64D		 F	 F	 F	 F	 F	 F	person frowning
224	U+1F64E		 F	 F	 F	 F	 F	 F	person pouting
227	U+1F645		 F	 F	 F	 F	 F	 F	person gesturing NO
230	U+1F646		 F	 F	 F	 F	 F	 F	person gesturing OK
233	U+1F481		 F	 F	 F	 F	 F	 F	person tipping hand
236	U+1F64B		 F	 F	 F	 F	 F	 F	person raising hand
239	U+1F647		 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	person bowing
242	U+1F926		 M	 F	 F	 F	 F	 F	person facepalming

245	U+1F937								person shrugging
248	U+1F486								person getting massage
251	U+1F487								person getting haircut
254	U+1F6B6								person walking
257	U+1F3C3								person running
262	U+1F46F								people with bunny ears
265	U+1F9D6								person in steamy room
268	U+1F9D7								person climbing
271	U+1F9D8								person in lotus position
274	U+1F6C0								person taking bath
275	U+1F6CC								person in bed

280	U+1F93A		 N	 N	 N	 N	 N	 N	person fencing
281	U+1F3C7		 N?	 M	 N?	 N?	 N?	 N?	horse racing
282	U+26F7		 N?	 M	 N?	 N?	 N?	 N?	skier
283	U+1F3C2		 N?	 M	 N?	 N?	 N?	 N?	snowboarder
284	U+1F3CC		 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	person golfing
287	U+1F3C4		 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	person surfing
290	U+1F6A3		 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	person rowing boat
293	U+1F3CA		 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	person swimming
296	U+26F9		 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	person bouncing ball
299	U+1F3CB		 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	person lifting weights
302	U+1F6B4		 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	person biking

305	U+1F6B5		 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	person mountain biking
308	U+1F3CE		 N?	 N?	 N?	 N?	 N?	 N?	racing car
309	U+1F3CD		 N?	 N?	 N?	 N?	 N?	 N?	motorcycle
310	U+1F938		 F	 M	 F	 F	 M	 F	person cartwheeling
313	U+1F93C		 F + F	 M + M	 M + M	 M + M	 M + M	 M + M	people wrestling
316	U+1F93D		 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	 M	person playing water polo
319	U+1F93E		 F	 M	 F	 M	 M	 M	person playing handball
322	U+1F939		 M	 M	 M	 N?	 M	 M	person juggling
332	U+1F491		 F + M	 N + N	 F + M	 F + M	 M + F	 F + M	couple with heart
336	U+1F46A		 M + F	 N + N	 M + F	 F + M	 M + F	 M + F	family

328	U+1F48F		 M + F	 N + N	 F + M	 F + M	 F + M	 F + M	kiss
-----	-------------------------	---	--	--	--	--	---	--	------