

Emoji Proposal: POTTED PLANT

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Abstract



This proposal requests the addition of the POTTED PLANT EMOJI to the Unicode emoji library. Human beings in every culture around the world domesticate plants, grow crops and cultivate gardens for food and pleasure. Potted plants are any variety of plant or flower grown in a container and cared for; typically, they are kept inside a residence or office. While there are a large number of emojis indicating plants that grow outdoors, such as Christmas trees (🌲), leaves (🍁) and flowers (🌸), currently there are none to indicate those that are cared for indoors. Adding a POTTED PLANT EMOJI to the emoji collection would add a crucial and much needed distinction for plant lovers around the world.

Introduction

Featured in the Garden of Eden, the hanging gardens of Babylon, carefully cultivated bonsai trees and lovingly tended tomato plants, domesticated plants are part of the human psyche, condition and lifestyle.

According to Matthew Wilson in an article entitled "The Potted History of Houseplants," evidence of potted plants dates back over 3,000 years, but they truly rose to wide popularity during the Victorian era.¹

The potted plant has tremendous cultural significance in modern society around the world. Historically a symbol of wealth, fortune and good luck for many households, the inclusion of potted plants is a key factor in turning a house into a home. Indoor plant life is an important facet in home decorating and interior design, as indoor plants help imbue a house with warmth and domesticity by using gorgeous blooming flowers and lush green plant life to brighten every room.

Plants are a powerhouse of wellness for your home. They'll provide you with a host of benefits, and they'll make your house look great while doing it. I'll admit, I've been kind of obsessed with this idea lately, and I think you'll find the concept intriguing as well after learning about the myriad benefits they offer.²

An article in *MindBodyGreen* details three important reasons to keep potted plants in your home:³

1. They purify your air.

You probably know that plants convert carbon dioxide into oxygen; plants in your home are no exception. Oxygen affects every part of your body and mind, and making sure you get quality air is essential to your well-being.

Did you know NASA uses plants on the International Space Station to help with air quality? Certain species purify the air of toxins like benzene, formaldehyde, and more. In order to do this efficiently, the researchers at NASA recommend at least one plant per 100 square feet of home or office space.

2. They're truly local produce.

¹ <https://www.ft.com/content/4aab8f08-31ba-11e4-a19b-00144feabdc0>

² <https://wiki.nurserylive.com/t/these-plants-bring-luck-wealth-prosperity-and-health-to-home/413>

³ <https://www.mindbodygreen.com/0-12011/3-reasons-you-should-have-more-plants-in-your-home.html>

A lot of people don't live in a climate where it's possible to plant something like a lemon tree or a lime tree outside, but did you know there are dwarf versions of these? They thrive while potted indoors virtually everywhere in the US. They even have dwarf banana trees, pineapple trees, avocado trees, fig trees, and more. All that fruit right in your sun room or living room window!

3. They make your house a home.

This is probably the best catchall for all those intangible qualities that having more plants will bring to your home. Plants are living things, and when you're surrounded by living things you will feel better; you're literally bringing more life into your house! There's something about bringing live pieces of nature inside that just radiates a healthy energy throughout the room.

Fragrant plants like dwarf Kaffir lime trees will also fill the room with the most wonderful scents. It's an all-natural alternative to those wall plug-ins filled with artificial fragrance chemicals. Other aromatics like mint, lemongrass, bay leaves, and basil (as well other others) have the added bonus of naturally repelling bugs as well!

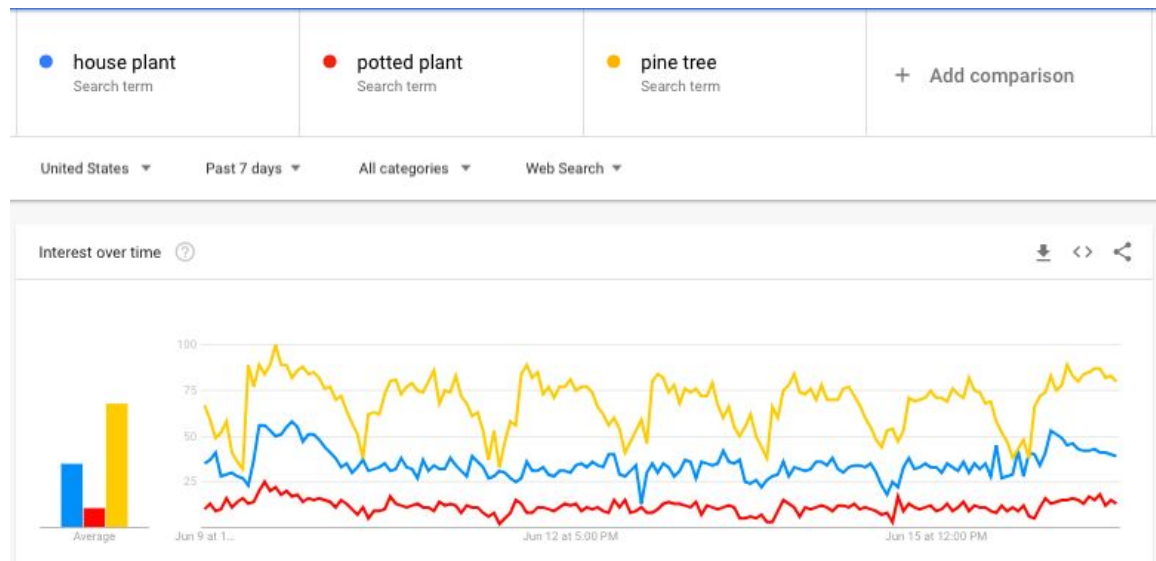
Additionally, according to Britannica.com, "there are thousands of plants that can adapt to growing indoors."⁴

Expected Usage Level

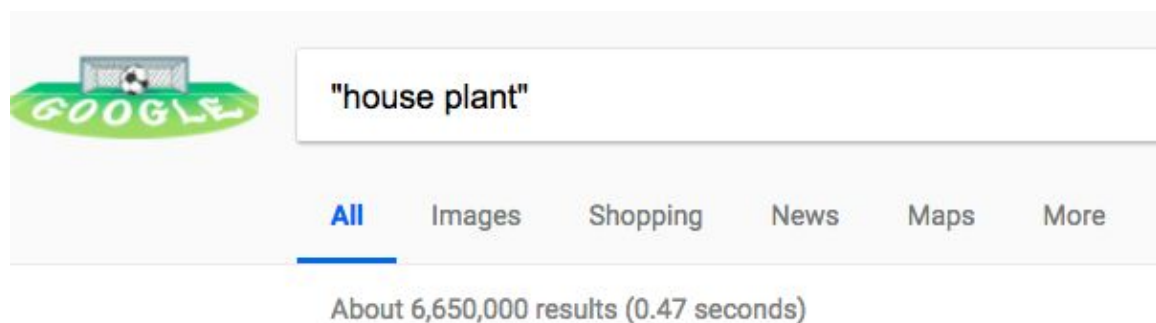
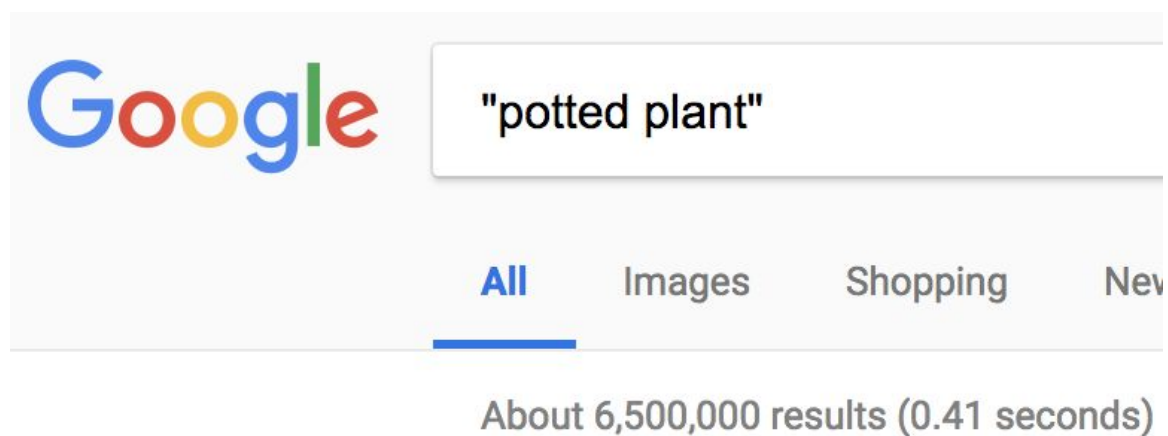
Frequency

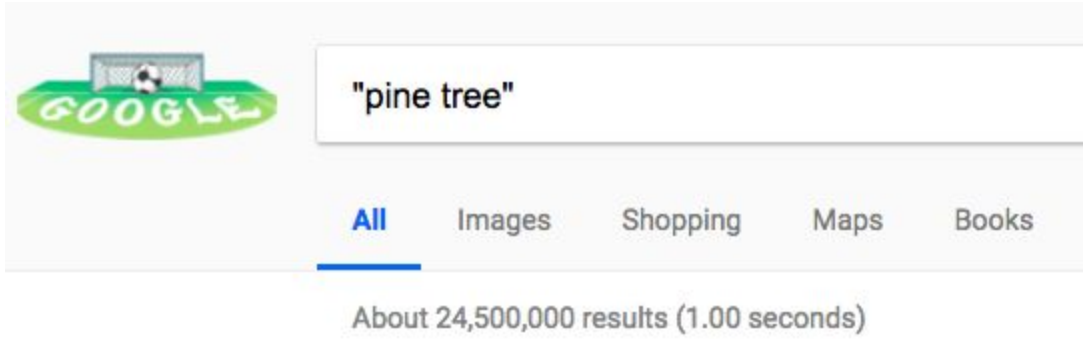
Google Trends shows the combination of "house plant" and "potted plant" is roughly comparable to "pine tree" (which is already an emoji).

⁴ <https://www.britannica.com/science/houseplant>

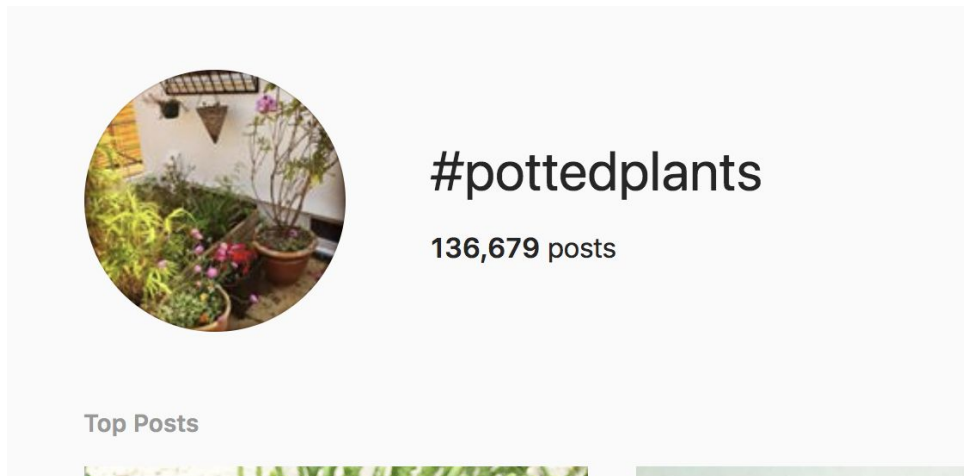


#pottedplants and #houseplants are very popular hashtags on Instagram, more popular than #pinetree/#pinetrees.

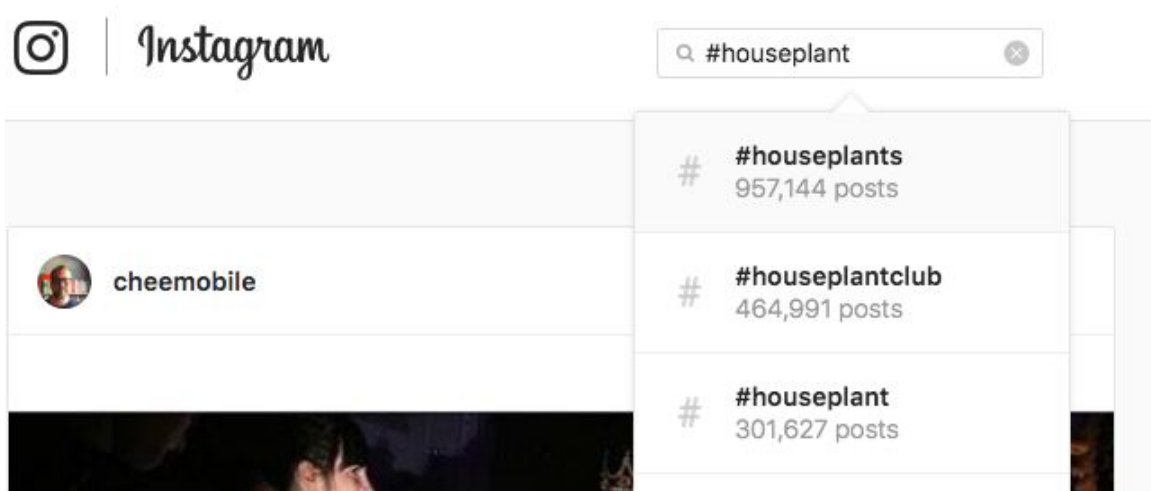


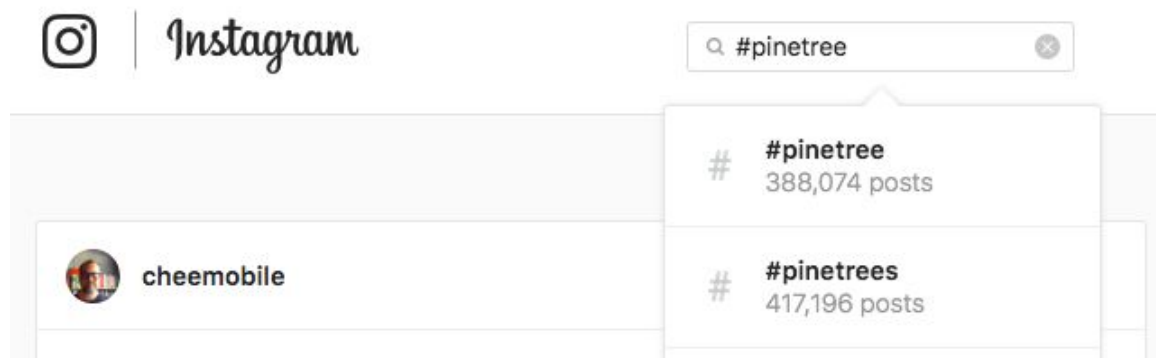


Instagram

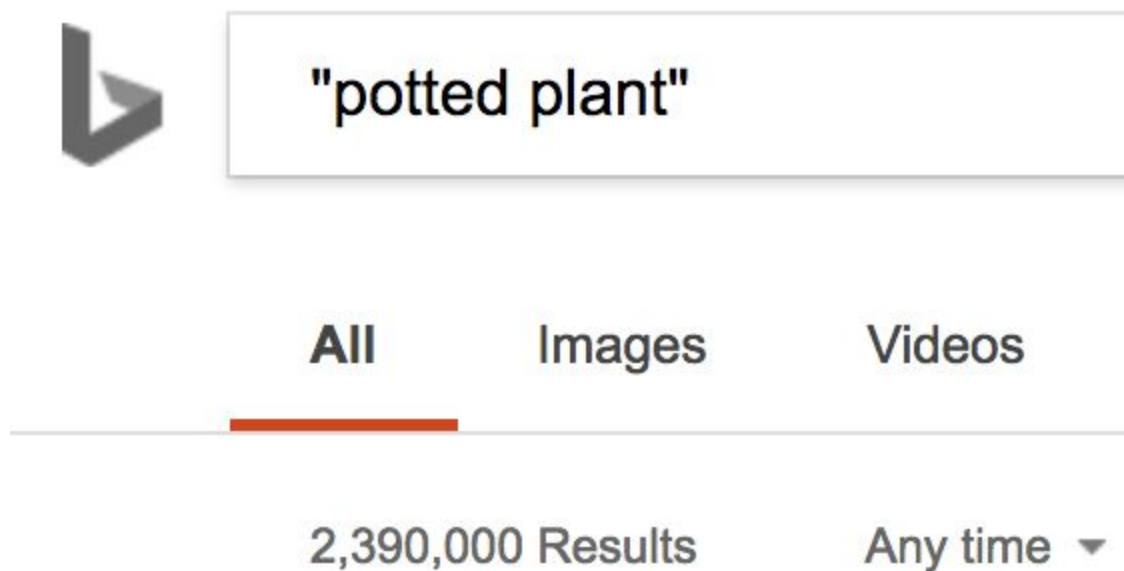


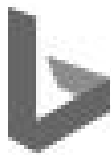
Instagram #pottedplants





Other required evidence relative to reference emoji POTTED PLANT:





"house plant"

All

Images

Videos

6 310 000 Results

Date ▼



pine trees



All

Images

Videos

Maps

News

| My saves

44 700 000 Results

Date ▼

Language ▼

Region ▼

YouTube



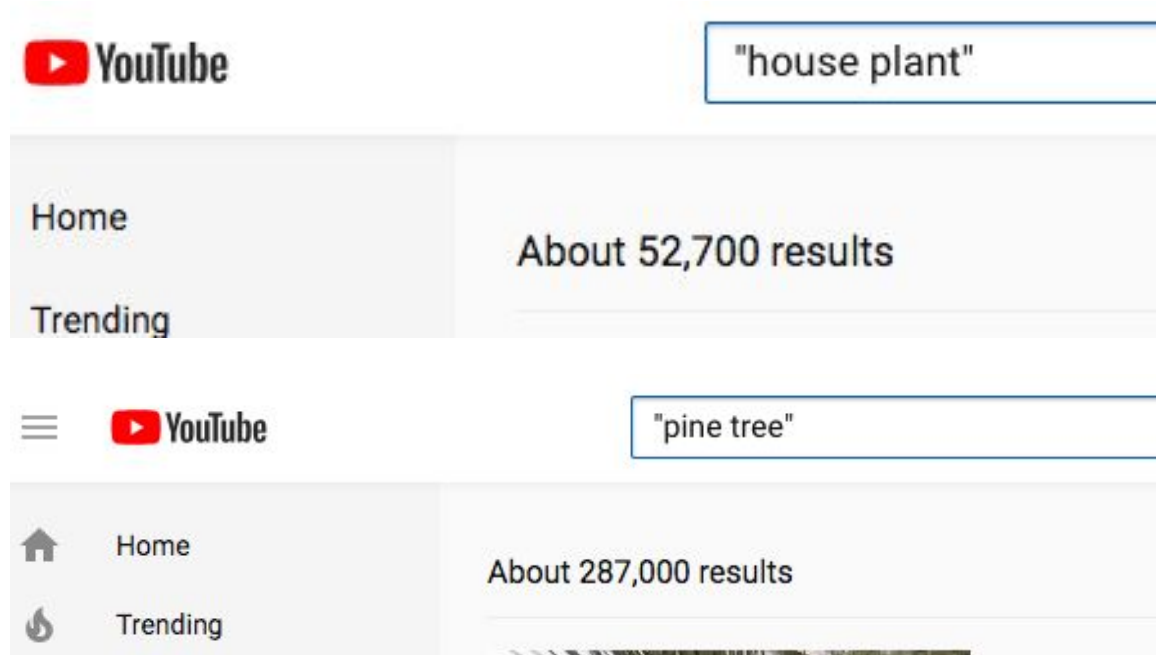
 YouTube

"potted plant"



Home

About 29,600 results



Names

- CLDR short name: potted plant, house plant
- CLDR keywords: House Plant, Plant, Garden, Crop, Farm, Herb, Green Thumb, Grow

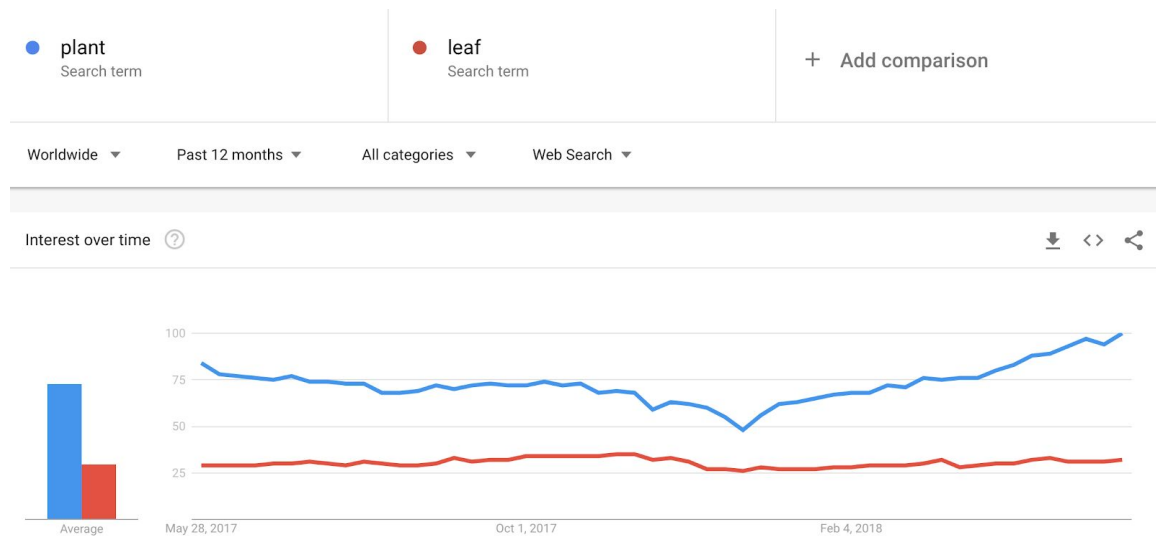
Selection Factors Inclusion

Compatibility

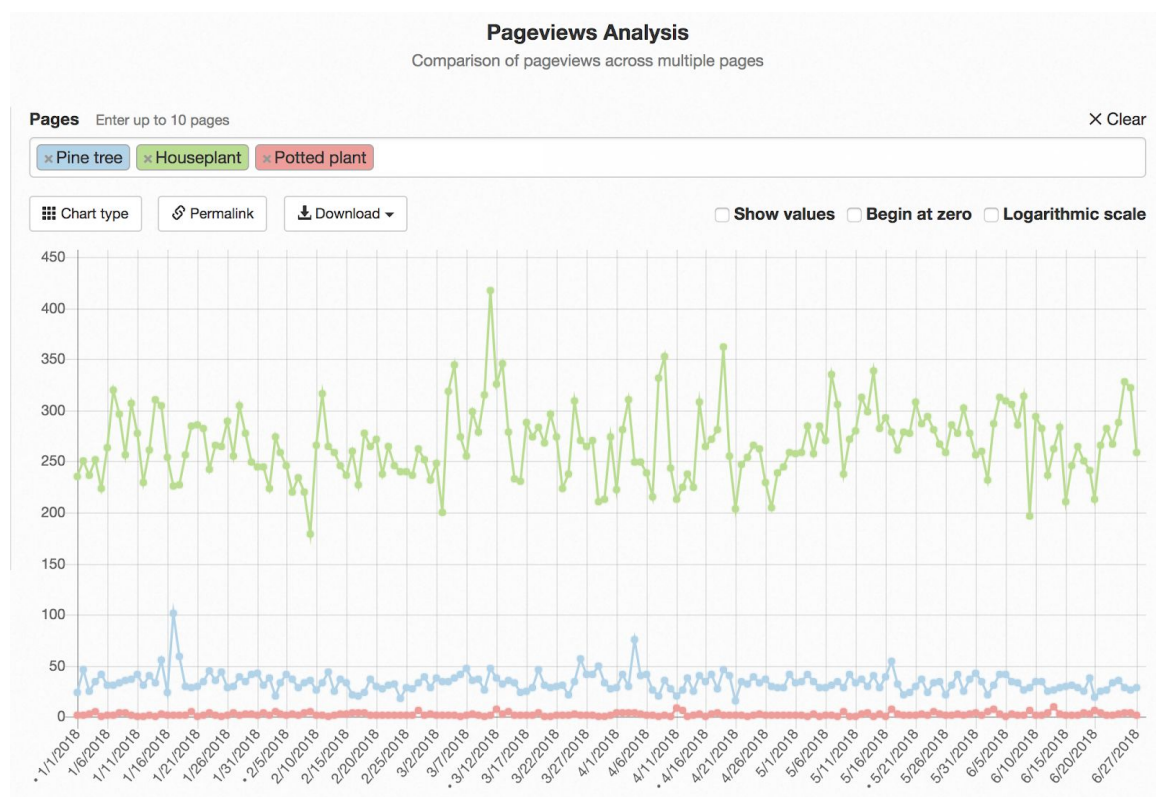
The major platforms do not currently have a potted plant emoji.

Expected Usage Level: HIGH

According to Google Trends, the use of “plant” as a search term is nearly double that of the term “leaf.” While there are currently three “leaf” emojis, plant lovers are left behind.






Optional Wikipedia Pageviews Analysis



Multiple Usages

In addition to the long human history of cultivating houseplants, there are many ways to use the houseplant image creatively.

Here are just a few examples:

1. Don't beat around the 
2. He's dull as a 
3. I don't trust that person. I think he's a company 

Additionally, there are common slang uses found in URBAN DICTIONARY:

<https://www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=Potted%20Plant>

Used primarily in a sales environment

An individual (usually in a position of power) who is unable or unwilling to move forward with new ideas, methods to improve their business or get key decision makers involved because they are stuck in their old ways of thinking; becoming as worthless as a potted plant that just takes up desk space.

"I had a great conversation with Ann today but she's as worthless as a potted plant. She can't even get our proposal in front of her SVP, let alone their CFO."

[#potted plant#big red ball \(in front of target\)#worthless contact#weak link#useless employee](#)



TOP DEFINITION

Houseplant

A **antisocial** guy. He doesn't show interest in **people** especially his **girlfriend**. He is very introvert and doesn't talk that much. He seems a bit boring.

*"That guy doesn't really **talk** and seems a bit **boring**."*

*"**I know** he is such a houseplant."*

4

plant

Used in the entertainment business, when someone accomplish **something** with a "**help**" or a "connection" with someone from the **inside**.

*"**The reason** he **won** that contest, was because he was **a plant**."*

by **Gillima** April 16, 2008

Money tree

Pachira money tree is a plant commonly used in Feng Shui and also believed to bring the grower good luck.

Interestingly, money trees are often braided together, but in order for the “luck” to work, you’ll need to have three to five braided plants, steering clear of the unlucky number four.

Image Distinctiveness

The POTTED PLANT EMOJI is distinctive in that it will be the first domesticated plant life represented in the emoji library. While there are three leaf emojis, and multiple outdoor tree, cactus, and plant-life emojis, the POTTED PLANT will be the first and only indoor houseplant!

Completeness

Adding the POTTED PLANT EMOJI to the emoji keyboard will add a higher level of completeness to the worldwide emoji lexicon. The emoji library offers a variety of plant life, but there is zero representation of a houseplant. The addition of the POTTED POTTED PLANT EMOJI will complete the plant life section of the emoji keyboard.

Selection Factors Exclusion

OVERLY SPECIFIC: The POTTED PLANT EMOJI is inclusive. The design is ubiquitous enough to represent many different types of plants, both flowering and not, around the globe.

OPEN ENDED: The POTTED PLANT EMOJI is in high demand from gardeners, homeowners and millennials using contemporary slang or looking to hop on the booming ‘apartment jungle’ trend. Furthermore, the potted plant is notably used as a symbol for political conversation regarding ‘Brexit,’ as an insult, as commentary on personality, a description for dating, and as a symbol of ‘putting down roots.’ The POTTED PLANT EMOJI has a wide range of uses.

ALREADY REPRESENTABLE: There is no POTTED PLANT EMOJI currently represented on the keyboard. There is a Twitter hashtag in use (#pottedplant) in lieu of a POTTED PLANT EMOJI.

TRANSIENT: Humans have been domesticating plants and growing them indoors for thousands of year. While there is a boom and bust trendiness to indoor potted plants, there is a baseline of interest that suggests potted plants are here to stay.

Logos, brands, UI icons, signage, specific people, deities:

The potted plant cannot be trademarked because it is a representation of plant life that grows in pots in homes around the world. No company or brand has claim on the image of a generic potted plant and the POTTED PLANT EMOJI is designed to be universal.

Sort location

- Category [Plant Other](#)
- Emoji after leaf fluttering

BIOS

Bonnie Kathleen Discepolo (bonniekathleen@gmail.com) is a filmmaker living in Los Angeles, CA. She aspires to create her own millennial 'urban jungle' one succulent at a time.

Trevor O. Munson is a screenwriter. He imagines that if he were to keep POTTED PLANTS, that he would definitely have a green thumb!

Dwight Knell (dwight.knell@gmail.com) has 10 years of policy and communications experience with deep expertise at the intersection of politics, media, technology and journalism. Though a world traveler, he is based in New York and spends as much time outdoors as he possibly can.

Jennifer 8. Lee (jenny@emojicon.co) is absolutely terrible with plants. She even manages to kill cactii and other succulents. She once recoiled in horror when someone gave her an Ikea plant as a present, until he revealed it was actually plastic.