

Proposal for Emoji: ACCORDION

Submitter: Bruce Triggs

Date: Feb. 18, 2019

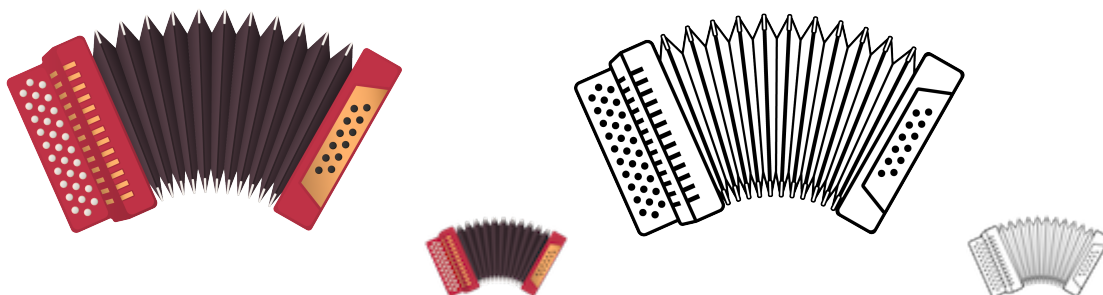
1. Identification

- A. Short Name: ACCORDION
- B. Keywords: ACCORDION | SQUEEZE BOX | CONCERTINA

2. Images

Credit: Aphee Messer / Emojination.

License: Free to use in the context of this proposal.



3. Sort location

- A. Category: Musical-Instrument
- B. ACCORDION should come after: [🥁](#) DRUM-WITH-DRUMSTICKS.

4. Reference Emoji

Reference emoji for evidence of frequency is: [👔](#) NECKTIE.

Abstract

This proposal requests the addition of the “ACCORDION” to the Unicode emoji library. Accordions¹ are musical instruments in the free-reed aerophone² family. They are popular in many countries and cultures around the world. “Accordion” is also often used metaphorically to describe things that expand or contract, ie. “accordion effect,”³ “accordion menu,”⁴ “accordion fold.” Like the existing Drum emoji 🥁, an accordion emoji would be useful in multicultural musical and other discussions where no other emoji now serves.

¹ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accordion>

² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Free_reed_aerophone

³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accordion_effect

⁴ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accordion_\(GUI\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accordion_(GUI))

Introduction

The first instrument called an “accordion” was patented in Austria in 1829. Different kinds of accordions spread to all parts of the world during and after the Industrial revolution. They joined the music of every continent,⁵ and became an important cultural symbol in many countries. Today, there are dozens of different instruments united in the accordion family. All these international traditions would be represented by the addition of an Accordion emoji. (For additional metaphorical uses for this emoji, see the Multiple Usages and Uses in Sequence sections under “Selection Factors” in this proposal.)

International Accordion Styles and Cultural Traditions Represented by an ACCORDION Emoji



6



7

Piano accordion⁸

Common in many traditions including Brazilian forró,⁹ North American zydeco,¹⁰ Jewish klezmer,¹¹ Egyptian Baladi¹² and Korean trot music.¹³

⁵ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_music_styles_that_incorporate_the_accordion

⁶ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piano_accordion

⁷ Saint Patrick's Day in Dublin https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irish_traditional_music#Accordion_and_concertina

⁸ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piano_accordion

⁹ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forró>

¹⁰ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zydeco>

¹¹ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Klezmer>

¹² <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baladi>

¹³ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trot_\(music\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trot_(music))



14



15

Diatonic button accordions¹⁶

Dozens of different types of these button accordions have unique names in different traditions. “Trikitixa” in Basque Music;¹⁷ “Melodeon” in Irish¹⁸ and English folk music;¹⁹ “Acordeón” in Colombian cumbia,²⁰ vallenato, and ²¹Mexican norteño.²² They play Cajun music in Louisiana,²³ Jùjú in Nigeria,²⁴ Inuit music in the Arctic,²⁵ merengue típica in the Dominican Republic,²⁶ rake ‘n’ scrape in the Bahamas,²⁷ and many other styles globally.

¹⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diatonic_button_accordion

¹⁵ Nigerian jùjú accordionist I.K. Dairo https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I._K._Dairo

¹⁶ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diatonic_button_accordion

¹⁷ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trikiti>

¹⁸ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irish_traditional_music#Accordion_and_concertina

¹⁹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morris_Dancing

²⁰ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cumbia>

²¹ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vallenato>

²² [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norteño_\(music\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norteño_(music))

²³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cajun_music

²⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I._K._Dairo

²⁵ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inuit_music

²⁶ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Merengue_t%C3%ADpico

²⁷ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rake-and-scrape>



28



29

Smaller Concertinas

Several types of hand-held concertinas^{30 31 32} are played in various folk styles including Irish traditional music,³³ and traditional Sotho and Afrikaans music in South Africa.³⁴



35



36

Bandoneons and Chemnitzer concertinas

The larger concertina-like bandoneon is used in tango³⁷ and chamamé³⁸ in Argentina and Uruguay. The related Chemnitzer concertina³⁹ is played in European folk styles and in polka bands⁴⁰ in the United States.

²⁸ Anglo-German concertina <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Concertina>

²⁹ English concertina <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Concertina>

³⁰ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anglo_concertina

³¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English_concertina

³² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Duet_concertina

³³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irish_traditional_music#Accordion_and_concertina

³⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Music_of_South_Africa

³⁵ Tango musician Matias Rubino <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandoneon>

³⁶ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chemnitzer_concertina

³⁷ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tango_music

³⁸ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chamamé>

³⁹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chemnitzer_concertina



41

Chromatic Button Accordions⁴²

These larger button keyboard instruments are used for folk, popular and concert (classical) music. Notable designs include the Russian Bayan,⁴³ the French musette accordéon,⁴⁴ and the Finnish harmonikka.⁴⁵

⁴⁰ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polka#Styles>

⁴¹ Finnish heavy metal accordionist Netta Skog https://fi.wikipedia.org/wiki/Netta_Skog

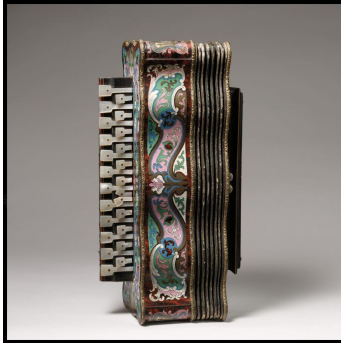
⁴² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chromatic_button_accordion

⁴³ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bayan_\(accordion\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bayan_(accordion))

⁴⁴ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bal-musette>

⁴⁵ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Finnish_accordionists

Many other squeezebox-style instruments and traditions would be represented by an ACCORDION Emoji, including:



⁴⁶

Historical instruments⁴⁷ from as early as the 1830s.



Unique regional designs like the smaller Garmon accordions played in Russia,⁴⁸ the Caucasus,⁴⁹ Iran and Azerbaijan.⁵⁰



Portable Harmonium⁵¹ pump-organs common in Indian and Pakistani music.^{52 53}

⁴⁶ <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/503502>

⁴⁷ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flutina>

⁴⁸ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Garmon>

⁴⁹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Garmon#Asian_and_Caucasian_garmons

⁵⁰ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Music_of_Azerbaijan

⁵¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pump_organ#Harmoniums

⁵² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pump_organ#In_the_Indian_subcontinent

⁵³ “The harmonium was born in Europe – so how did it become synonymous with Indian music?”
<http://scroll.in/article/811849/>

5. Selection Factors — Inclusion

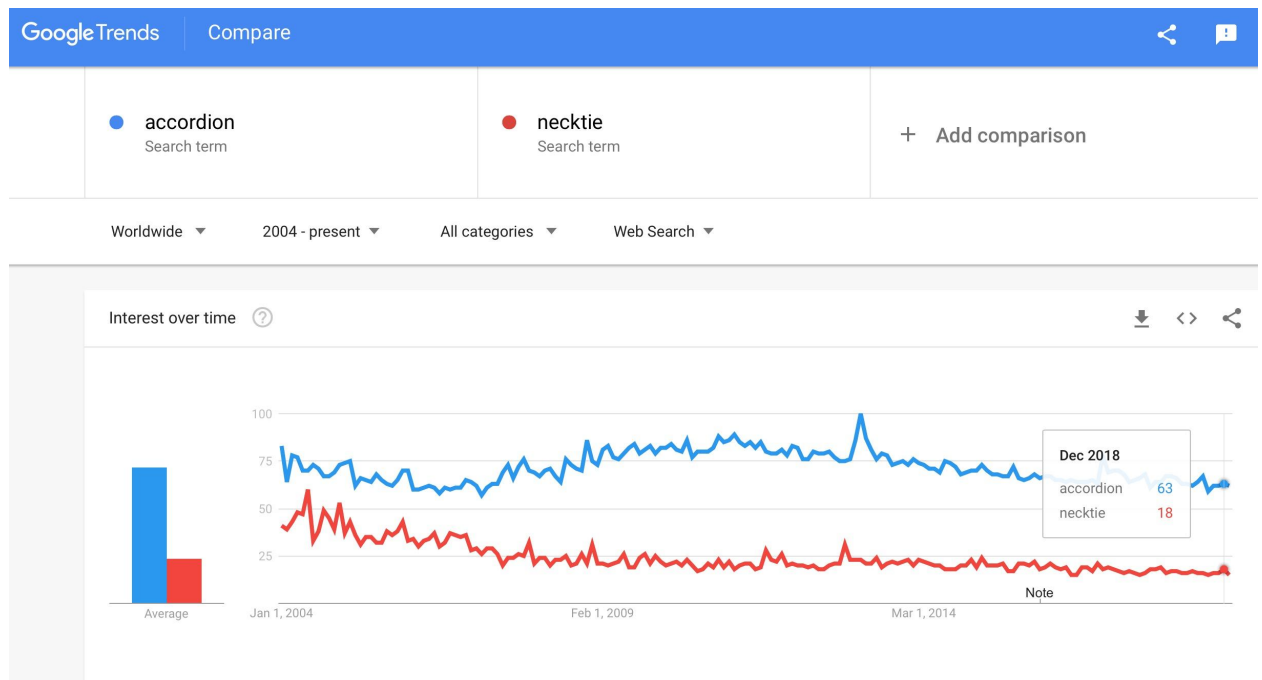
A. Compatibility N/A

B. Expected Usage Level

1. Frequency

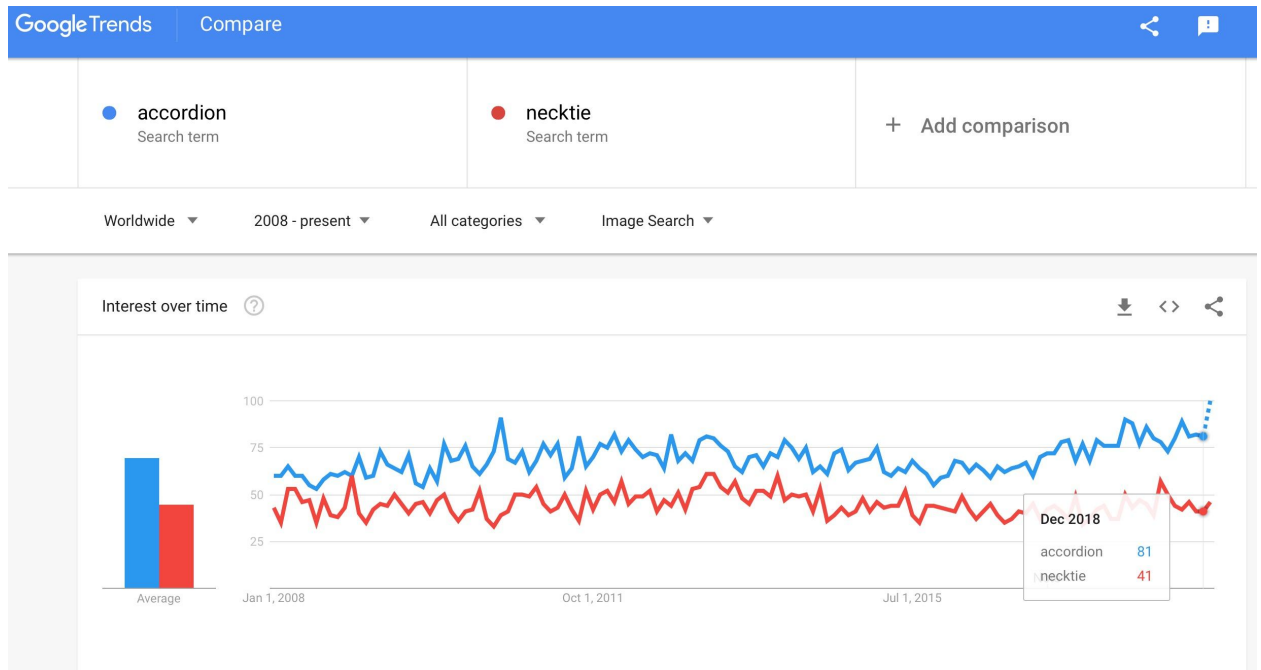
Google Trends: Web Search

<https://trends.google.com/trends/explore?date=all&q=accordion,necktie>



Google Trends: Image Search

https://trends.google.com/trends/explore?date=all_2008&gprop=images&q=accordion,necktie



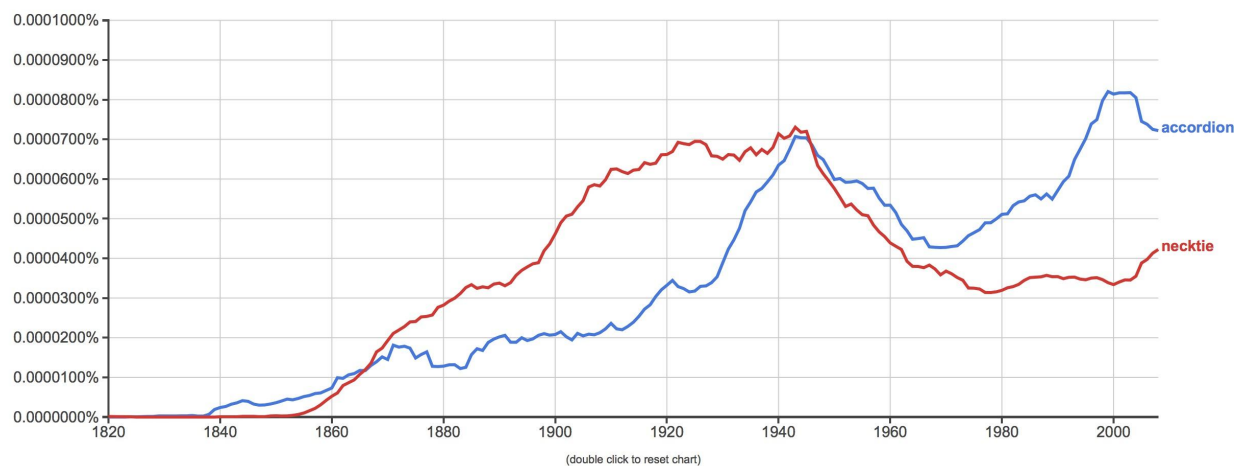
Google Books NGram Viewer

https://trends.google.com/trends/explore?date=all_2008&gprop=images&q=accordion,necktie

Google Books Ngram Viewer

Graph these comma-separated phrases: accordion,necktie ☐ case-insensitive

between 1820 and 2008 from the corpus English with smoothing of 3 Search lots of books



Google Search

<https://www.google.com>



accordion

All

Images

Videos

Shopping

News

More

About 97,100,000 results (0.48 seconds)



necktie



All

Images

Shopping

News

Videos

More

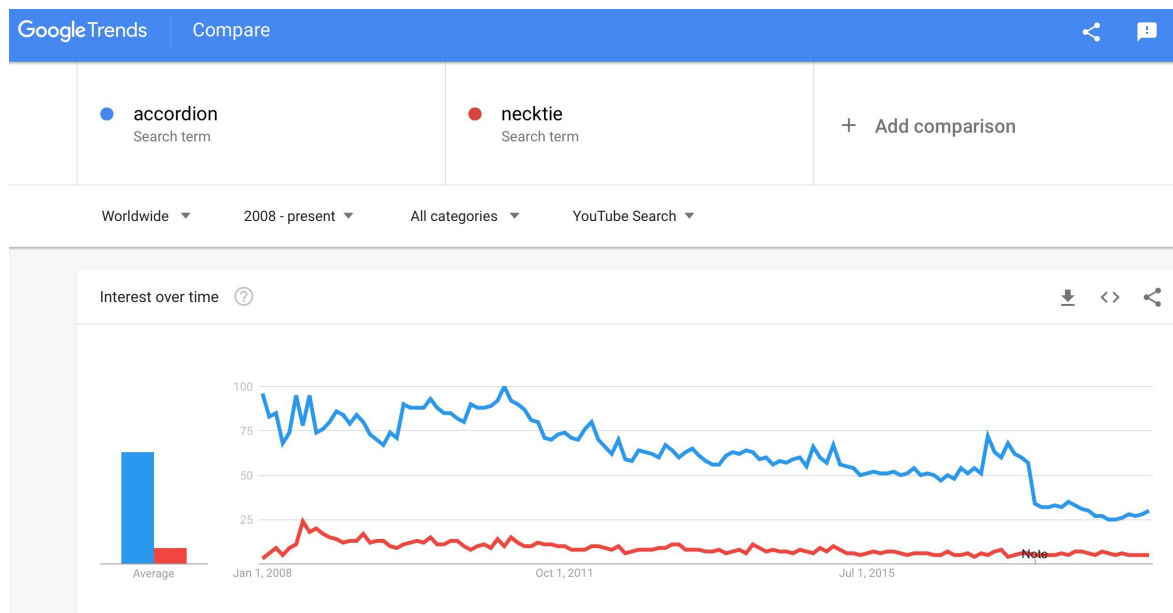
Settings

Tools

About 41,200,000 results (0.81 seconds)


YouTube Search (within Google Trends)

https://trends.google.com/trends/explore?date=all_2008&gprop=youtube&q=accordion,necktie



Bing Search


<https://www.bing.com>



Accordion

AllImagesVideosMapsNewsMy saves

10,500,000 ResultsDate▼Language▼Region▼




necktie

AllNewsImagesVideosMapsMy saves


3,070,000 ResultsDate▼Language▼Region▼

Instagram Search

<https://www.instagram.com>

 | Instagram

#accordion
294,908 posts

 | Instagram

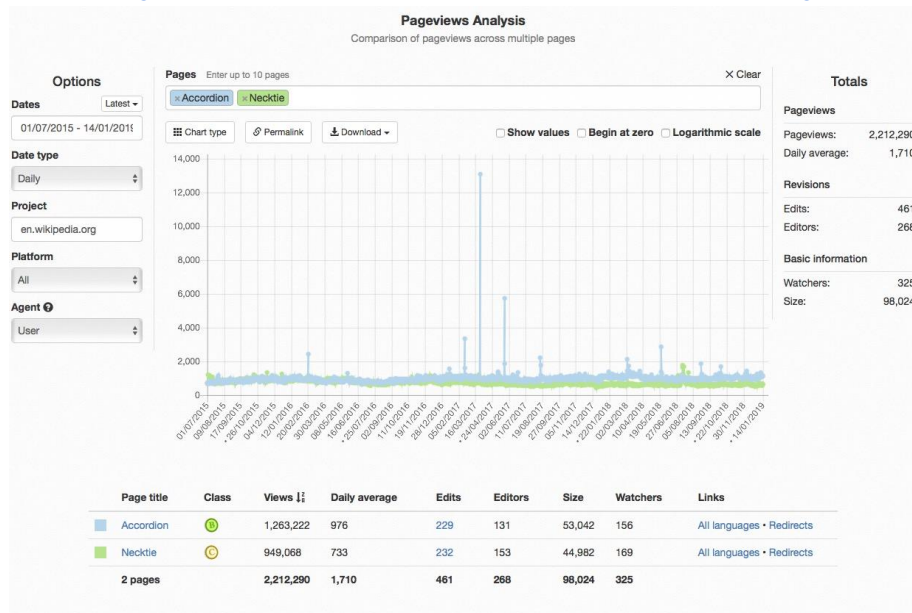
#necktie
359,935 posts

Wikipedia Search

Wikipedia Pageviews Analysis: 2015-2019

Accessed from:

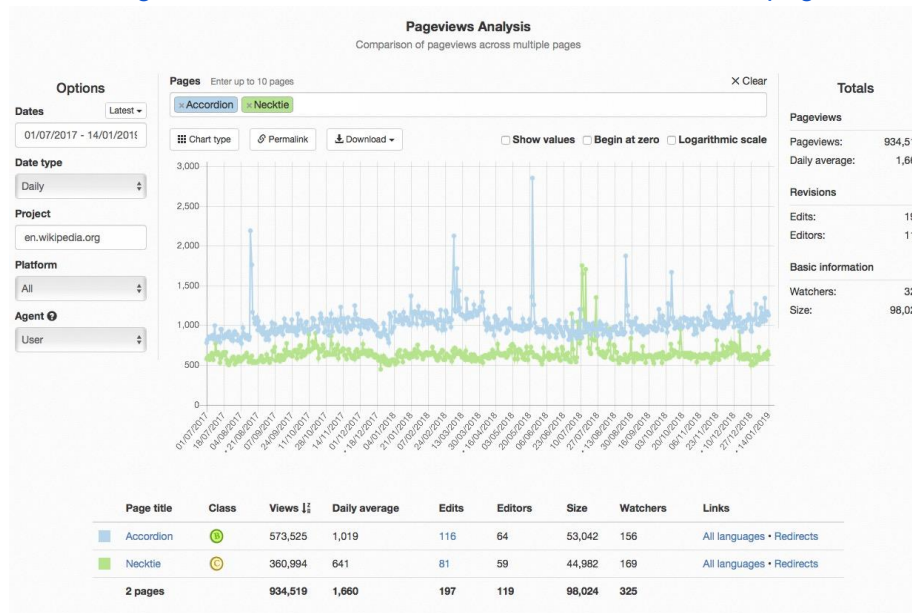
<https://tools.wmflabs.org/pageviews/?project=en.wikipedia.org&platform=all-access&agent=user&start=2015-07-01&end=2019-01-14&pages=Accordion|Necktie>



Wikipedia Pageviews Analysis: 2017-2019

Accessed from:

<https://tools.wmflabs.org/pageviews/?project=en.wikipedia.org&platform=all-access&agent=user&start=2017-07-01&end=2019-01-14&pages=Accordion|Necktie>



2. Multiple Usages

The “accordion” concept is often used metaphorically. It describes “accordion folders” and wallets, “accordion pleats” in clothing, “accordion menus” in digital

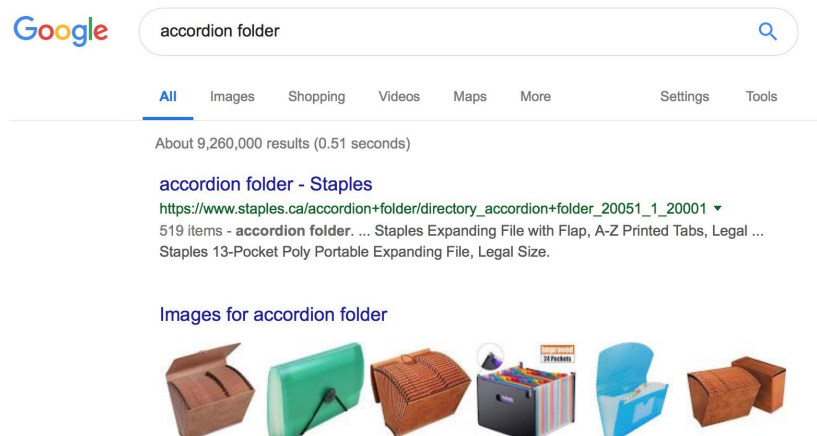
GUIs,⁵⁴ “accordion window-shades” and doors,⁵⁵ “leporello” or “accordion-fold” books⁵⁶ (Japanese, 折本; Korean, 折帖裝; Chinese, 摺子裝, 經摺裝),⁵⁷ and the “accordion effect”⁵⁸ in physics, traffic jams and collisions.

Other uses include the effect of expanding and contracting continental mountain-ranges, solar-panels on the International Space Station,⁵⁹ and anything that gets squashed like a cartoon character.

The related “Concertina” is also used informally in English as the verb “concertinaed,” for compressing something, and in descriptions like “concertina wire.”⁶⁰

Google Searches for Accordion and Concertina Metaphors.⁶¹

(Accordion Folder: 9 million results)



(Accordion Menu: 48 million results)

⁵⁴ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accordion_\(GUI\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accordion_(GUI))

⁵⁵ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Folding_door

⁵⁶ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Folded_leaflet

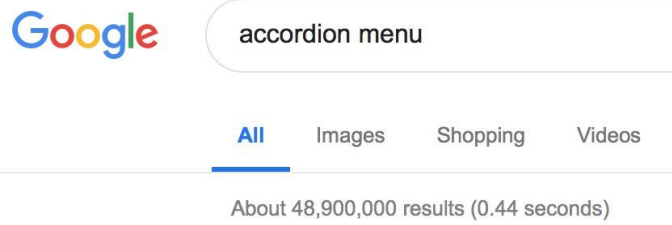
⁵⁷ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orihon>

⁵⁸ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accordion_effect

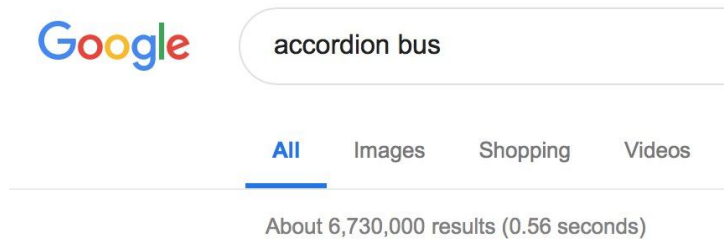
⁵⁹ https://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/station/structure/elements/solar_arrays-about.html

⁶⁰ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Concertina_wire

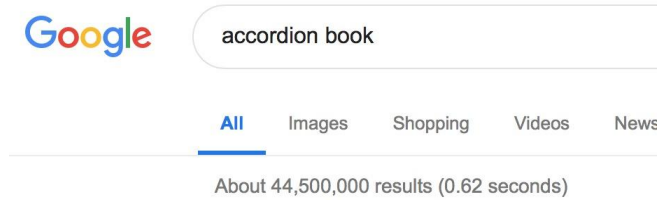
⁶¹ Accordion Metaphor google searches, Feb 6, 2019.



(Accordion bus: 6 million results)



(Accordion book: 44 million results)



[Images for accordion book](#)



(Accordion dress: 25 million results)



accordion dress

All

Images

Shopping

Videos

News

M

About 25,500,000 results (0.38 seconds)

Images for accordion dress



(Accordion doors: 10 million results)



accordion doors

All

Images

Shopping

Videos

News

About 10,900,000 results (0.54 seconds)

(The “concertina effect”: 6 million results)



concertina effect



All

Images

Shopping

Videos

News

More

Settings

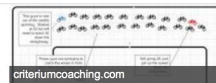
Tools

About 6,290,000 results (0.45 seconds)

The **accordion effect** generally decreases the throughput of the system in which it occurs. The **accordion effect** in road traffic refers to the typical decelerations and accelerations of a vehicle when the vehicle in front decelerates and accelerates.

[Accordion effect - Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accordion_effect)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accordion_effect



About this result Feedback

[Accordion effect - Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accordion_effect)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accordion_effect

The accordion effect generally decreases the throughput of the system in which it occurs. The accordion effect in road traffic refers to the typical decelerations and accelerations of a vehicle when the vehicle in front decelerates and accelerates.

[Concertina effect: A memorable phenomenon during coronary ...](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1110260813000926)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1110260813000926>

by M Saillam - 2014 - Cited by 1 - [Related articles](#)

Concertina effect is mainly induced by a stiff interventional guidewire in a tortuous coronary artery. In most instances is a benign effect that does not require special intervention.

The verb to be “concertinaed” returns 45,000 results, and has entries in online dictionaries:

The screenshot shows a Google search for the word "concertinaed". The search bar at the top contains the word, and the results page shows "About 45,600 results (0.41 seconds)". Below the search bar, there are tabs for "All", "Images", "News", "Shopping", "Maps", "More", "Settings", and "Tools". The "All" tab is selected. The main content area displays a dictionary entry for "concertinaed". The entry includes the word "con·cer·ti·na", its phonetic transcription "/ˌkɑːnsərˈtiːnə/", and its part of speech "verb". It also provides the past tense and past participle forms: "concertinaed". The definition states: "extend, compress, or collapse in folds like those of a concertina. 'big rolls of concertinaed wire'". Below the definition, there is a link to "Translations, word origin and more definitions". At the bottom of the dictionary entry, there is a "Feedback" link. Below the dictionary entry, there are two links to external dictionaries: "concertinaed (adjective) definition and synonyms | Macmillan Dictionary" and "CONCERTINAED | meaning in the Cambridge English Dictionary".

3. Use in sequences

The accordion idea is often used as an adjective and could be combined with BOOK, DRESS, BUS, FILE FOLDER, among others.

The musical ACCORDION could also be used with Person and face emoji, such as WOMAN SINGER (playing) + ACCORDION, or SMILING FACE (happy) + ACCORDION, etc.

Regional and national traditions might add flags: Irish , Colombian , Azerbaijani + ACCORDION. Various instrument types could be indicated using: Piano Keyboard + Accordion, or Button + Accordion.

4. Breaking new ground

There is no emoji for the adjective/verb used to indicate something pleated, crushed or expanding and contracting. This dual use for both a specific musical instrument and its many metaphorical uses is unique.

C. Image Distinctiveness

The pleated bellows and buttons or keyboard make the accordion one of the most recognizable musical instruments. This visual character has made it a common reference for many things of similar folding shape.

D. Completeness

N/A

E. Frequently Requested

There are calls for ACCORDION emoji on social media:

Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/search/str/accordion+emoji/keywords_search

[May 31, 2018](#)

"There is nothing in this world, besides my family, that I care more about than ALL of the accordionists I know and have known, and hope to meet yet. (insert accordion emoji here)"

[March 16, 2018](#)

"they need to make an accordion emoji ☐☐☐"

[August 29, 2017](#)

"why is there no accordion emoji!? :[||||]."

[January 24, 2016](#)

"Sometimes I wish there was an accordion emoji ☐☐"

[September 20, 2015](#)

"LOL! ☐☐☐Where's the accordion emoji?"

[July 17, 2015](#)

Did you know that today is #WorldEmojiDay? Wish we could celebrate it with an accordion emoji...

Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/search?l=&q=accordion%20emoji&src=typd>

[14 Jan 2019](#)

"We vacationed in Newfoundland this fall, including a few days at a local music festival. The energy and heart in the music is just... ☐☐☐☐ (Hey, there's no accordion emoji?!)"

[6 May 2018](#)

*(From the children's singer Raffi Cavoukian)*⁶²

"my kinda day! ☐☐☐

wait, no accordion emoji?!"

#WorldAccordionDay"

[30 May 2017](#)

"Today we all weep for the lack of accordion emoji"

[14 Jan 2015](#)

"Why is there no cowboy boots and hat emoji? Or an accordion emoji??"

[30 Jun 2014](#)

"Just went looking for an accordion emoji as if there was actually a chance of there being an accordion emoji"

[22 Mar 2013](#)

"WHY IS THERE NO ACCORDION EMOJI?!"

Text-based "Accordion" smileys have also been promoted:

"Accordion" [:|||||||:]

2,380 views (60 views on Jan 14, 2019)

<https://www.fastemoji.com/>

"Fisarmonica" [:||||:]

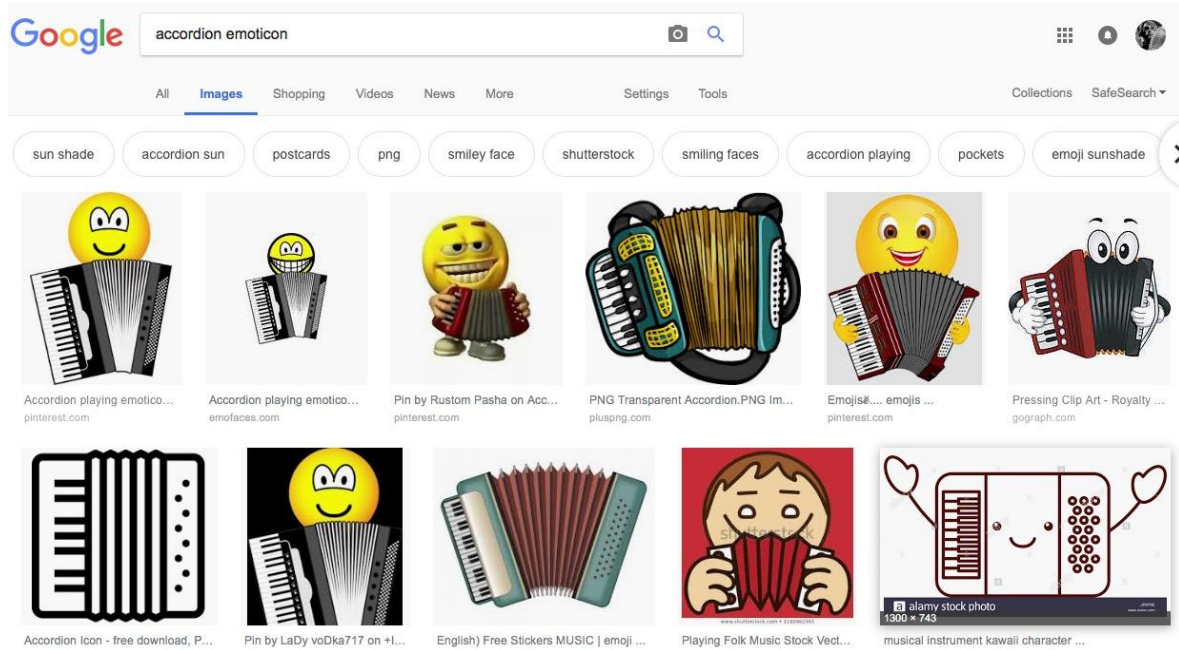
"Lista delle emoticon" [Italian]

<http://www.unascuolaperlavita.it/attachments/article/69/Lista%20delle%20emoticon.pdf>

Graphical Accordion icons and emoticon have been independently designed:

<https://www.google.com/search?q=accordion+emoticon>

⁶² https://twitter.com/Raffi_RC/status/993170902001958913



There has also been at least one earlier, unrelated, proposal for an ACCORDION emoji (listed on the Unicode Emoji Requests page as "needs modification"):
<http://unicode.org/emoji/emoji-requests.html>

Emoji Proposal Status : Public Requests			
No	Suggested Emoji	Status	Category
1	#Ad (text in box)	Declined: Other	Other
2	1st Place Medal	Emoji v3.0	Award-Medal
3	20-30 Club Logo	Declined: Other	Other
4	2nd Place Medal	Emoji v3.0	Award-Medal
5	3D Glasses Face	Declined: Other	Faces
6	3rd Place Medal	Emoji v3.0	Award-Medal
7	Aardvark	No proposal form	Animal
8	Abacus	Emoji v11.0	Tool
9	Accessibility	Added as candidate	mixed
10	Accordion	Needs modification	Musical-Instrument

6. Selection Factors — Exclusion

F. Overly Specific

Accordions are central to traditional and popular music styles around the world, so an emoji would serve many regions and people. Similarly, an ACCORDION Emoji would represent all the related instrument types played internationally. These would include instruments called:

Accordion	Bayan / баян	Lootspill
Accordeon	Buzika	Melodeon
Acordeón	Concertina	Organetto
Acordeao	Dragspel	Sanfona
Aeolidicon	Fisarmonica	Schwyzerorgeli
Akkordeon	Garmon / гармоника	手風琴
アコーディオン	Handharmonika	手□琴
аккордеон	Handklaver	Squeeze-Box
□□□□	Hanuri	Trekzak
Armonika	Konzertina	Trikitixa
Bandoneón	コンサーティーナ	Ziehharmonika

There is also no other emoji that represents the instrument's compressing / expanding action. Thus the ACCORDION emoji would be useful for both musical and non-musical users.

G. Open Ended

The ACCORDION emoji would represent a large and unique family of many instruments. Thus it fills a specific gap in the existing Musical-Instrument category without creating an expectation that other individual instruments have their own emoji.

H. Already Representable

No other emoji represents this family of musical instruments. And no other emoji is used for the metaphorical Accordion folding concept.

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

“Accordion” has been a generic term since the 1800s. There have been products and businesses that used the name or image, but it is not copyrightable and does not promote any product or brands in general.

Most of the uses of “Accordion” in branding are related to the musical instrument:



There are also uses of “Accordion” in the names of various non-musical products and businesses:



J. Transient

Accordions have existed since the 1800s, and their popularity grew steadily for more than a century. The instrument lost popularity in some English speaking cultures as amplification boosted new electric instruments, but the squeezebox remained part of the common culture and language for descriptive purposes. Since the 1980s the instrument has risen in popularity again and remains widely recognised with no sign of fading.

K. Faulty Comparison

The submission for ACCORDION is made on its own merits – in line with the Unicode selection factors for inclusion – and avoids the factors for exclusion.

L. Exact Image

The ACCORDION emoji is not limited to an exact image, and can be varied to remain consistent with other emoji designs.

M. Region Flags Without Code (N/A)

Other 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:

Bio:

Bruce Triggs (accordion.noir@gmail.com) is an accordion historian and community radio programmer in Canada who appreciates creative uses of the universal visual emoji. After years of putting it off he is learning to play a Giullietti chromatic button accordion built in the 1960s.