

Proposal for Biting Lip emoji for Unicode 13.0

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Identification

CLDR short name

Biting Lip

CLDR keywords

Fear, anxiety, uncomfortable, insecure, worried, flirting, desire

Closest unicode emoji



Possible ZWJ



Images



72px:



18px:

License

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Sort location

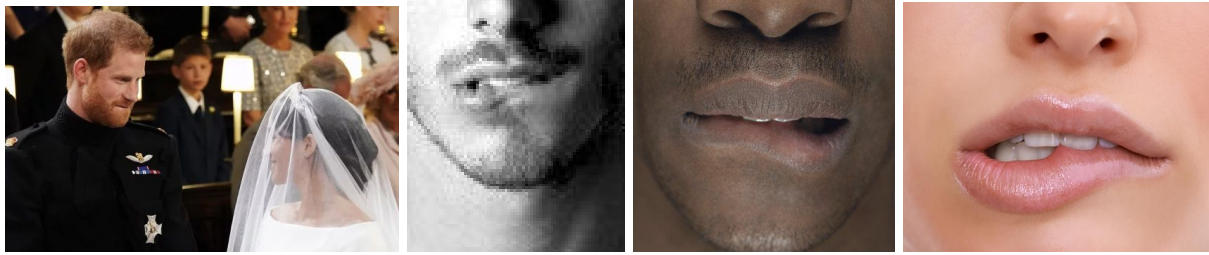
A. Category body - parts

B. Ordering

Reference Emoji

We're using the smiley emoji, **DROOLING FACE** 🤤 for evidence of frequency.

Introduction



Humans have a long experience with nonverbal communication, before we had words we needed to rely on groaning and gesturing. These old habits stuck and it's hardwired in our brain that we even gesticulate while speaking on the phone, when obviously the other person can't see us.

Whether words are being spoken or not your lips send signals meant to be read and biting them has a range of meanings. [According to body language expert Blake Eastman](#), biting and chewing on the lip can indicate range of emotions including fear, anxiety, discomfort in a situation, or perhaps the person is worried or insecure about something. Lip biting can be a trademark of insecure, shy types. But also, lip biting can be iconic of flirtation and exercising restraint¹.

Aside from the data provided here and considering the fact that Emoji Faces are the most popular Emojis in general (see emojitracker.com / emojistats.org) we expect this emoji to be very popular and have a large range of utility to unicode .

¹ <https://www.refinery29.com/en-us/prince-harry-lip-bite-meaning-meghan-markle-body-language>

Selection factors inclusion

A. Compatibility

This character is not being proposed for compatibility with non-Unicode emoji on an existing system, therefore compatibility is not applicable.

B. Expected use

1. Frequency

Google Search Terms

BITING LIP 🗨️ is expected to have high usage. When it comes to Google search terms, BITING LIP greatly out performs the median smiley emoji DROOLING FACE 😄.

Search term	Google all	Bing All	Youtube all	Is it an emoji already?
"Biting Lip"	383,000	n/a	168	no
"Drooling face"	198,000	221,000	70	yes

GOOGLE

"biting lip"

All Images Shopping Vid

About 383,000 results (0.36 seconds)

"drooling face"

All Images Videos Shopp

About 148,000 results (0.30 seconds)

BING

"drooling face"

All Images

432,000 Results

N/A

YOUTUBE

"biting lip" site:youtube.com

All Images Shopping Video

About 168 results (0.24 seconds)

"drooling face" site:youtube.com

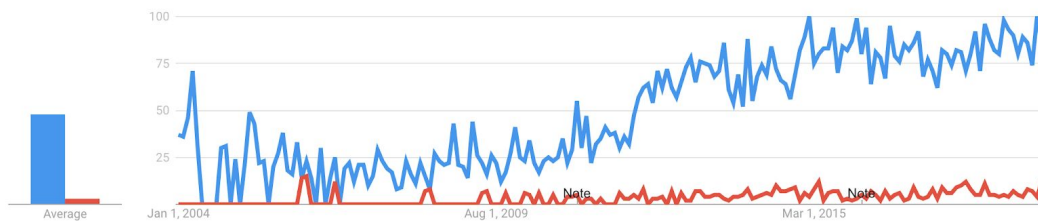
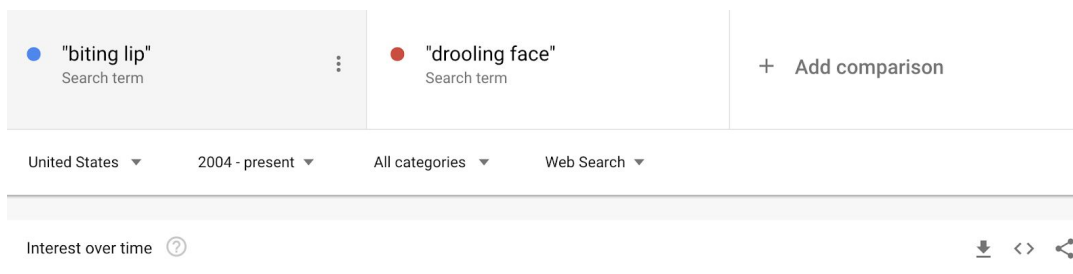
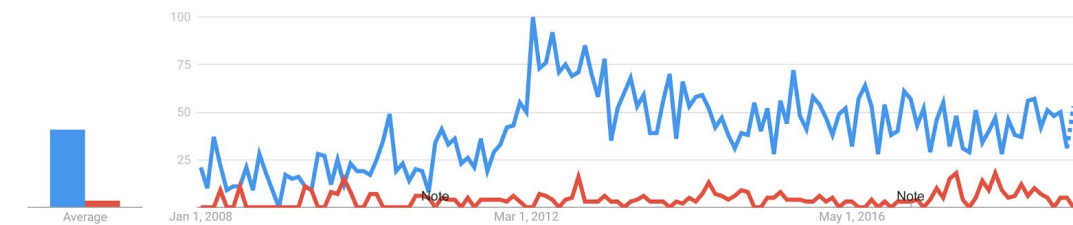
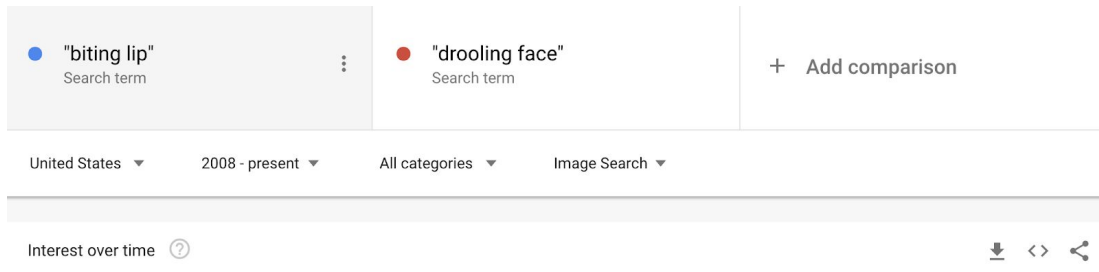
All Images Videos Shoppin

About 74 results (0.32 seconds)


Google Trends

The BITING LIP 🗨️ is expected to have high usage. When it comes to Google Trends web-search data worldwide,BITING LIP greatly out performs the median smiley emoji DROOLING FACE 😊.

“BITING LIP” vs “DROOLING FACE”



2. Multiple useages

- BITING LIP  is a universally understood form of nonverbal communication that has many variations depending on who is involved. There are:
 - Expression of tension
 - Indication of arousal
 - Flirtation
 - Fear and anxiety
 - It can mean that the person is uncomfortable in the situation
 - A sign of being worried or insecure


3. Use in sequences

JUST STUBBED MY TOE!  PAIN








Can't wait to see u  ANTICIPATION/EXCITEMENT

I'm not sure if I should do anything  ANXIETY, NERVOUS


You're so hot!!!  AROUSAL

I never know if I'm saying the right thing  WORRIED, INSECURE


4. Breaking new ground

Other than the SMIRKING FACE  aka “Sexual Face” “Smug Face” and “Suggestive Smile”², there aren't any other emojis effective at communicating the tension that comes with flirtation. (Worth noting there are lots of emojis used sexually: , , , , , , but none that convey the emotional complexity that comes with relationships)

C. Image distinctiveness

BITING LIP  is iconic distinct from existing images particularly within the smileys and body part groupings. Additionally, at both large and small sizes this image is clearly a mouth nibbling on itself.

D. Completeness

The proposed BITING LIP  provides a significant advance in coverage to depict various forms of tension, flirtation, or insecurities fills a gap in expression and among existing emoji. An important part of communication is knowing when to talk vs when to listen – this emoji helps convey the tension between the two.

² Emojipedia, <https://emojipedia.org/smirking-face/>


E. Frequently requested

There are strong signals from **EmojiXpress Data**, a website that provides a worldwide platform for requesting Emojis (EmojiRequest.com). Users are required to log in through Facebook to request Emojis and can request each Emoji only once. Over 1 million user requests were ranked based on daily average requests. Biting lip face is the 10th top emoji requested by EmojiXpress (Worth noting six of the top ten already exist!)


 62,845	 60,807	 52,564	 50,865	 49,264	 48,148
 48,040	 45,165	 43,502	 42,616	 42,198	 41,763

Counter arguments to factors for exclusion

F. Overly specific

BITING LIP  is no more specific than it needs to be in order to represent the intended range of expression. Rather than make this a smiley where the eyes and eyebrows greatly reduce it's range of expression by being overly specific, this design focuses on the lips exclusively to give this emoji a large range of utility.

G. Open-ended

BITING LIP  is iconic and an experience in which people around the globe associations with. See *Mutliple Useages*.

H. Already representable

The concept of holding back from saying something or tension that comes with flirtation depicted in this design is not representable with existing emoji.

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

Not applicable. There are no logos, brands, signage or otherwise among the proposed characters.

J. Transient

Not applicable. As evident in the introduction, concepts and practices represented here are enduring.

K. Faulty comparison

Justification for encoding the proposed emoji does not depend on analogy with other emoji that were encoded only for compatibility reasons.