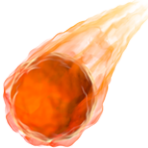


# Meteor Emoji Proposal for Unicode 18.0

L2/25-257

Author: Jennifer Daniel on behalf of the Emoji Research and Standard Working Group  
To: Unicode Technical Committee  
Date: May 17, 2025

## I. Identification

| Sample Image                                                                      | Proposed Unicode and CLDR name | Possible CLDR English keywords      | Closest Unicode Emoji                                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | Meteor Emoji                   | Space, rock, star, falling, gravity |  |

Note: The primary need for this emoji is compatibility, see below, IV A.

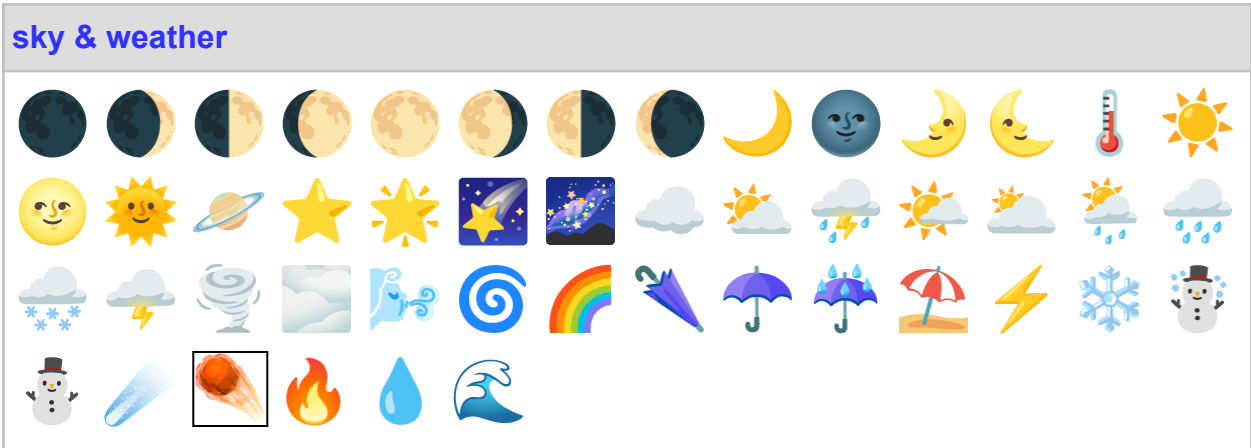
## II. Images



### License

We certify that the images have appropriate licenses for use by the UTC.

## III. Sort location



## IV. Selection factors — Inclusion

### A. Compatibility

Yes, this character is being proposed to resolve vendor interoperability.



The emoji subcommittee recommends vendors with meteor-designs designs move that design to this new code point and redesign the existing comet emoji.

### B. Expected use

#### 1. Frequency

Usage is expected to be reasonably high given the popularity of comet emoji today ([ranked 534 and above median](#)). We suspect with better interoperability the current emoji will also improve in frequency and utility.

| Search term | Google Search | Google Video Search | Google Trends: Image | NGram     |
|-------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| meteor      | 411,000,000   | n/a                 | See below            | See below |
| comet       | 344,000,000   | n/a                 | See below            | See below |

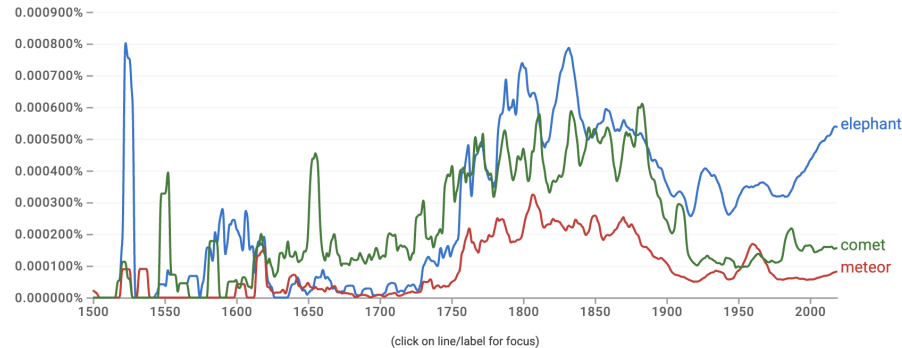
elephant,meteor,comet

1500 - 2019

English (2019)

Case-Insensitive

Smoothing



● elephant  
Search term

● comet  
Search term

+ Add comparison

Worldwide

2008 - present

All categories

Image Search

Interest over time ?

● elephant  
Search term

● meteor  
Search term

+ Add comparison

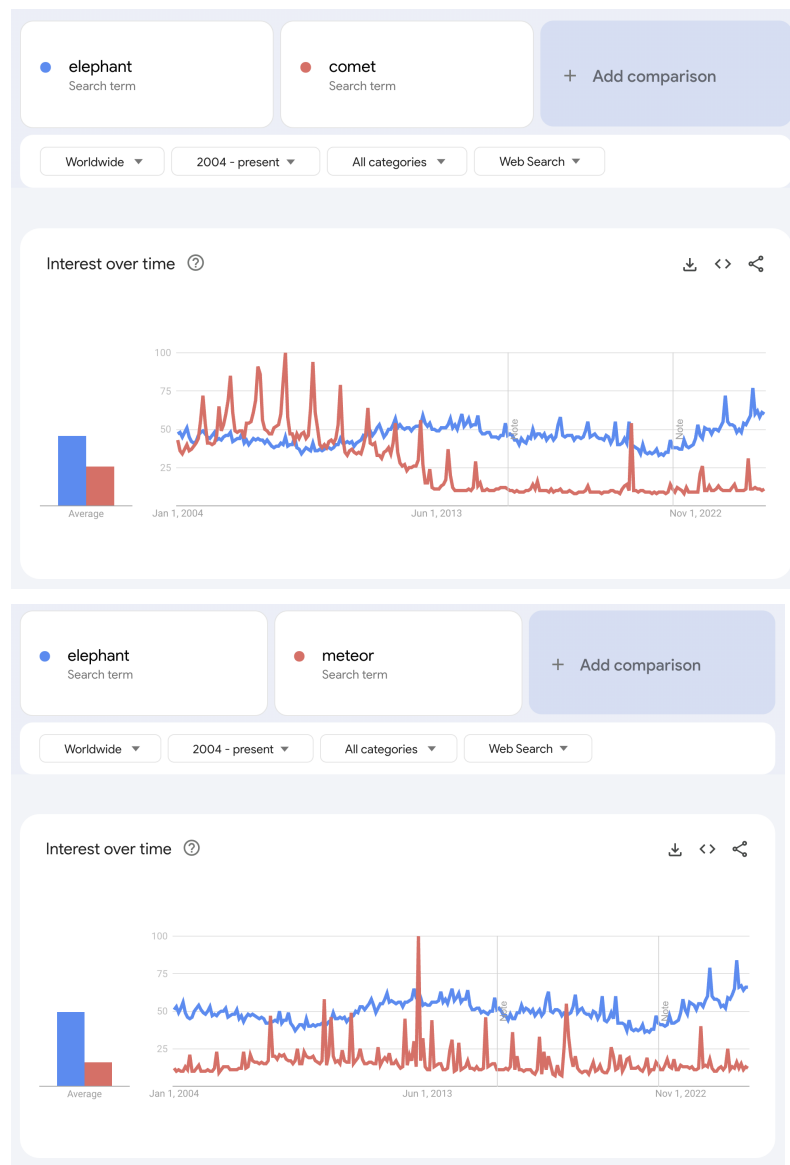
Worldwide

2008 - present

All categories

Image Search

Interest over time ?



## 2. Multiple usages .

- **Sudden Impact / Cataclysm / Collapse**

Meteors are often associated with

- Extinction-level events (e.g., dinosaurs),
- Apocalypse, and
- Uncontrollable fate.

- **Transformation & Renewal**

In some Indigenous and spiritual traditions, a meteor strike represents a moment of cosmic intervention — a rupture in time or space from which something new can emerge.

- **Speed and Fame**

“Meteoric rise” = sudden success or attention, often followed by a crash.

- **Burning Out**

They capture the idea of **something brilliant but short-lived**, akin to a firework or falling star.

Examples in messaging contexts:

**Sudden drama:** “She made a *en entrance* 🔥

**Crisis incoming:** “I forgot my presentation and the client’s here. 🔥

**Crash & burn:** “Well that date went well until it didn’t. 🔥

**Big impact:** “That speech 🔥

**Short-lived intensity:** “Their romance? Meteoric 🔥

### 3. Use in sequences

**Destruction / Change:** Paired with 💣💥🔥 or 🌍 for to emphasize metaphorical effect.

### 4. Breaking new ground

- 🔥 Meteors have darker, more **dramatic emotional weight** than 🌠 comets.

#### Scientific Distinction

The two represent vastly different astronomical phenomena.

A **meteor** 🔥 is atmospheric and momentary;

A **comet** 🌠 is celestial and long-term

#### Cultural Symbolism

🌠 **Comets** have been seen as omens or messengers throughout history.

🔥 **Meteors** are tied to wishes

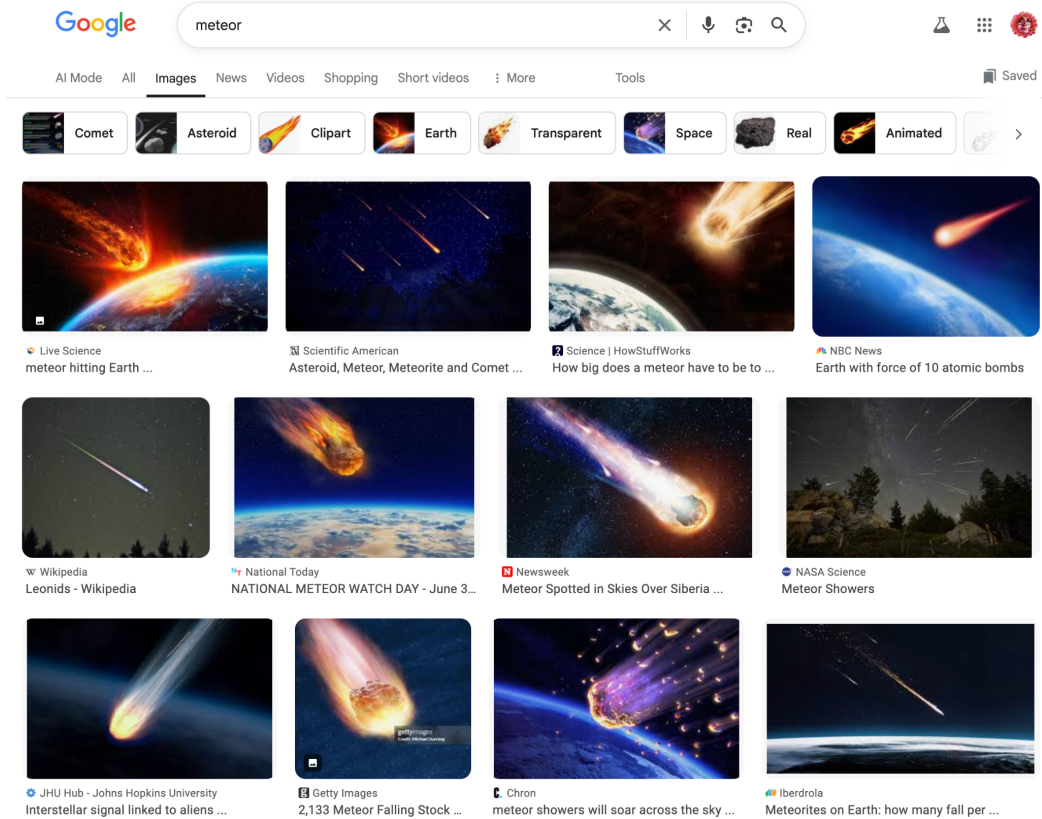
#### Visual and Emotional Impact

🌠 A **comet** expresses fleeting beauty, wishes, or dramatic change

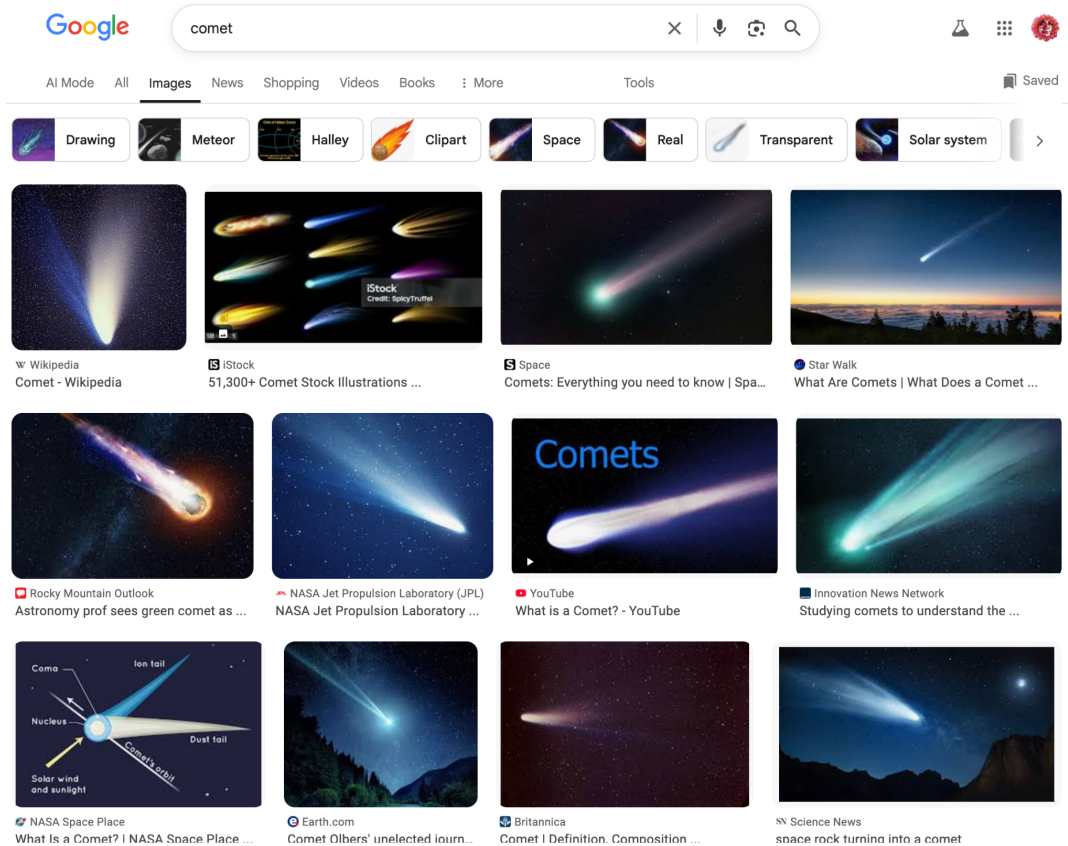
🔥 A **meteor’s** tone is impending doom

### C. Image distinctiveness

Meteors and comets are visually distinct from each other. A google search shows how they are commonly depicted online:



Above: Google Image results for meteor



Above: Google Image results for comet

### D. Completeness

As previously mentioned, this emoji resolves inconsistent implementations and provides emoji fonts with two very distinct expressions emoji: one for the beautiful joy one sees when a comet flies across the sky and another for the sheer terror one is filled with when a fire ball is hurling right at them.

## VI. Selection factors — Exclusion

### F. Overly specific

No, this is a fairly generic and iconic of how meteors are used in literature film, and comics:

#### In Literature:

“Meteoric rise” is a popular idiom in biographies or critiques of fame and power. Often used to signal foreshadowing, especially of destruction or major change.

In science fiction, meteors are often **carriers of alien life**, disease, or mysterious elements (e.g., *The Andromeda Strain*).

#### In Film:

*Deep Impact*, *Armageddon*, *Don't Look Up* — meteors symbolize impending doom, government denial, human arrogance, or cosmic scale conflict.

Meteors are a **time bomb** — you can see it coming, but stopping it is nearly impossible.

#### In Comics:

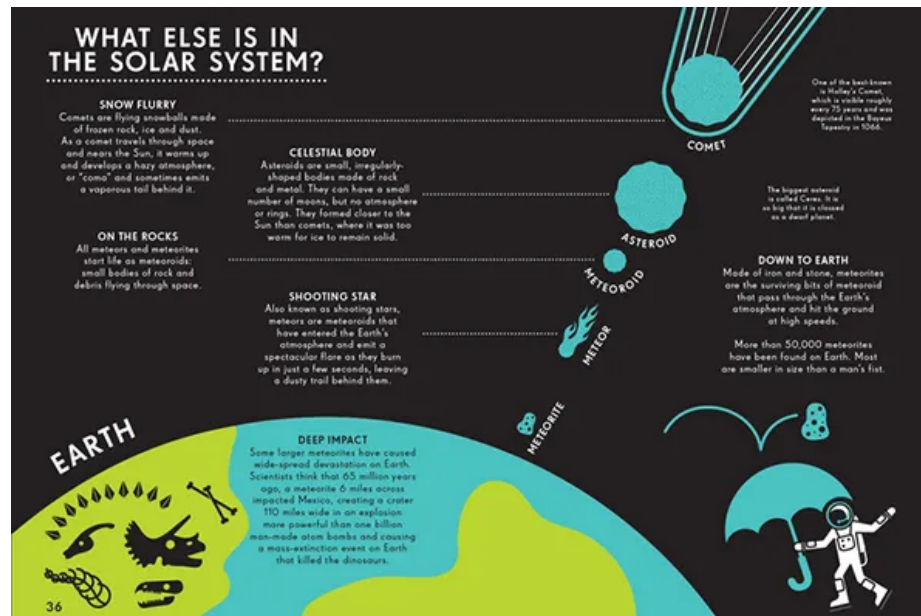
Superman arrived on Earth via a crash landing from the stars — essentially a meteor.

In superhero or horror genres, meteors are common origin devices for powers, transformations, or threats (e.g., Hulk, Venom).

Sometimes they represent cosmic randomness—a twist of fate that sets the plot in motion.

### G. Open-ended

What about meteorites, meteoroids, and asteroids? At emoji sizes, these are sufficiently covered by existing space emoji such as 🪨, 🌑, 🌠, ⭐, 🚀, etc.



## H. Already representable

No. In fact, the lack of design consistency between these two concepts (comet vs meteor) has been cited in court cases<sup>1</sup>.

## 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.

## K. Faulty comparison

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

## L. Exact Images

An exact image is not required.

<sup>1</sup>