

Face Holding Back Tears Proposal for Unicode 14.0

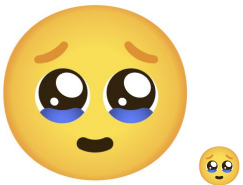
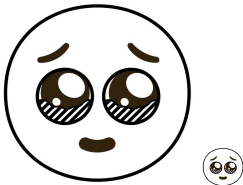

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To: The Unicode Technical Committee

Date: November 16 2019

Revise: February 4, 2020

I. Identification and II. Images

Color Sample Image	Black and white Sample Image	Proposed Unicode and CLDR name	Possible CLDR English keywords	Closest Unicode Emoji
		face holding back tears	Proud, tears, angry, sad, resist, hold back,	

License

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

III. Sort location

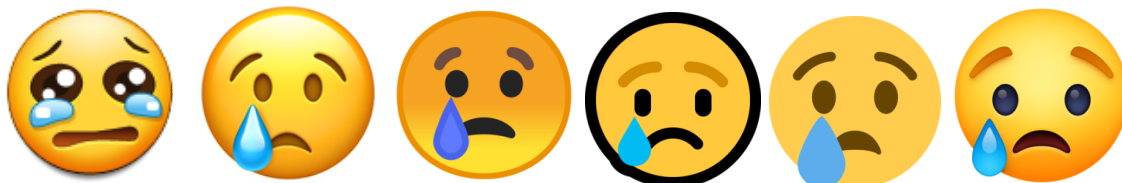
[face-smiling](#)



II. Selection factors — Inclusion

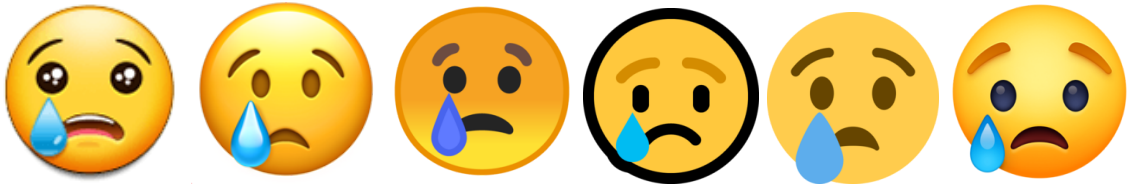
A. Compatibility

This emoji was on Samsung devices from TouchWiz Nature UX 2 to TouchWiz 7.1 but was later redesigned to conform for cross platform consistency.



Above: Samsung, Apple, Google, Microsoft, Twitter Facebook before redesign

Below: Samsung, Apple, Google, Microsoft, Twitter Facebook after redesign



B. Expected use

1. Frequency

Usage is expected to be extremely high given that the smiley face emoji are the most-used category of emoji overall and the following search results indicate this expression could perform well over-median.

Search term	Google Search	Bing Search	Google Video Search	Google Trends: Web	Google Trends: Image
stop-cry	518,000,000	59,500	170,000,000	See below	See below
No-cry -marley	669,000,000	n/a	266,000,000	See below	See below
hold-back	3,080,000,000	11,600,000	513,000,000	See below	See below

	no-cry	stop-cry	hold-back
Google search	<div> <div>No-cry -marley</div> <div> All Videos Images </div> <div>About 669,000,000 results (0.35 sec)</div> </div>	<div> <div>stop-cry</div> <div> All Images Videos </div> <div>About 518,000,000 results (0.66 sec)</div> </div>	<div> <div>hold-back</div> <div> All Images News Videos </div> <div>About 3,080,000,000 results (0.38 seconds)</div> </div>
Bing Search	n/a	<div> <div>stop-cry</div> <div> All Images Videos </div> <div>59,500 Results Any time ▾</div> </div>	<div> <div>hold-back</div> <div> All News Images </div> <div>11,600,000 Results Any time ▾</div> </div>

Google VideoSearch

No-cry -marley

Q All

Videos

Images

Maps

About 266,000,000 results (0.31 seconds)

stop-cry

Q All

Images

Videos

News

About 170,000,000 results (0.28 seconds)

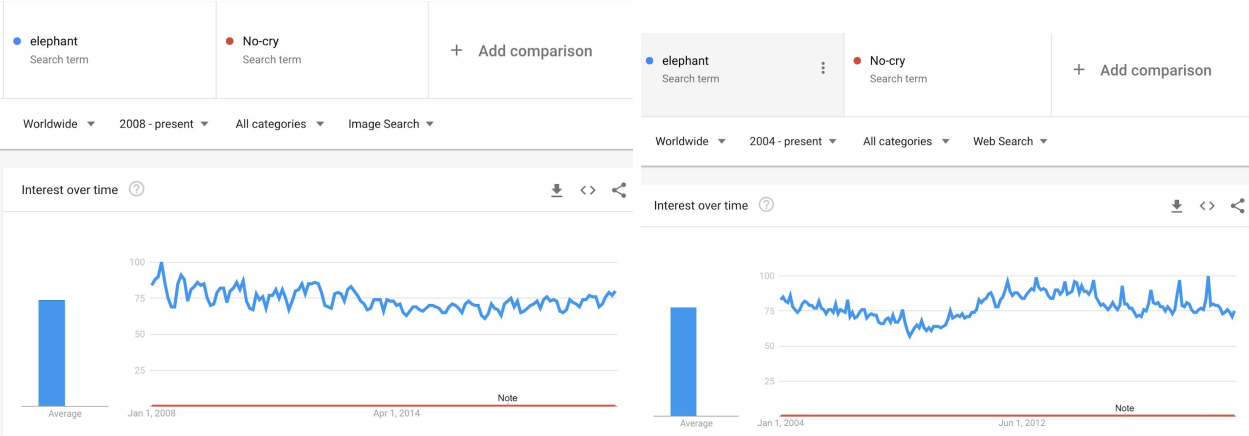
hold-back

Q All

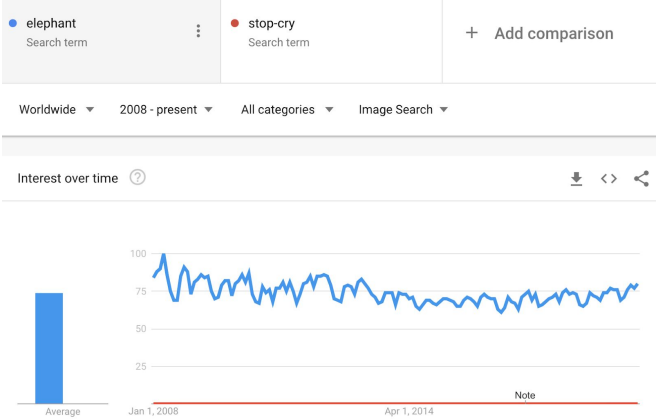
Images

News

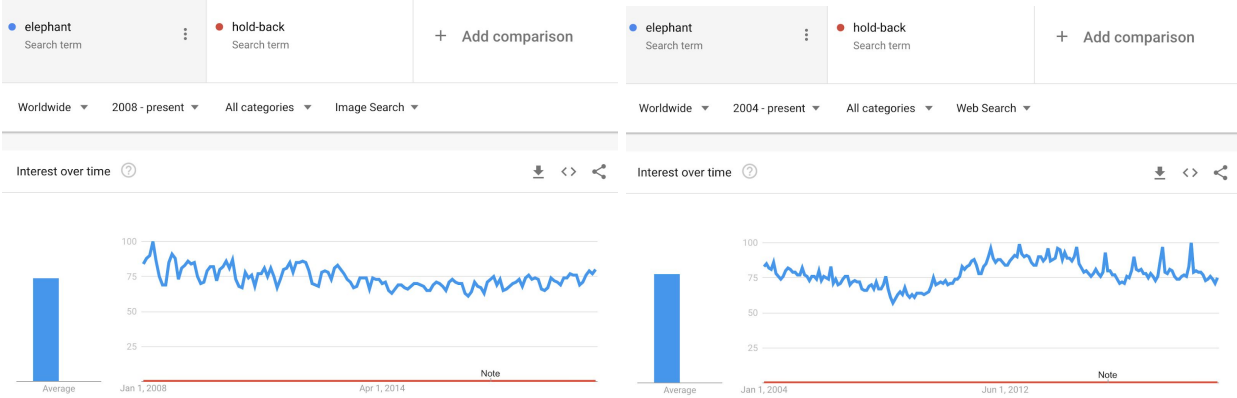
About 513,000,000 results (0.29 seconds)



No-cry -marley for Google Trends Web Search and Google Trends Image Search



stop-cry for Google Trends Web Search and Google Trends Image Search



hold-back for Google Trends Web Search and Google Trends Image Search

2. Multiple usages

When humans feel the compulsion to cry there exists a great deal of tension before the tears fall (and sometimes never fall).

- People nearly cry ...
 - ... During heated conversations
 - ... Confronting someone they're angry with
 - ... In discussions about something important
 - ... At Funerals
 - ... At Sad movies
 - ... Listening to sad songs
 - ... When they are proud of someone

3. Use in sequences

This emoji can be used in combination with other facial expressions to indicate pride, sadness, anger, and fear.. A 2014 study published in the journal *Frontiers in Psychology* found that people who cry were more likely to experience a positive change in their mood if they were comforted by others around them.

- They were all so mean 🗨️😞
- I did not want to cry in front of her 😞
- I just couldn't stop the tears from pouring down! 😞😞😞
- Me: Before cute dog videos: 😡 Me: after cute dog videos: 😞

Can be used with non-face emoji, to indicate a range of emotions

- I'm so proud of you! 😞😞🍀
- That is the most beautiful piece of cheese I have ever tasted 😞🧀
- I tried to keep a straight face 🙌😞
- They were all so nice 😞😞😞😞✨✨
- Don't hold back 😞🌊

4. Breaking new ground

This emoji fills an important gap in existing face options. It allows the user to exhibit that space before full on presenting their true feelings. Holding back tears – *before you cry*. Holding back tears – *out of fear*. Holding back tears - *because you are so proud of someone*. Because this emoji is a representation of a common physical action, is more likely to convey meaning to the broadest possible range of emoji users.

C. Image distinctiveness



A holding back tears emoji is distinctive compared to the existing 🥲 emoji. Rather than depicting a face whose emotions have fully erupted, it conveys the struggle to not cry in the face of strong emotional upheaval. Thus, it betrays a desire for emotion mixed with the resistance to fully showing it. This provides an emotional nuance that is as yet unrepresented by emoji that use tears. Tears of joy is well covered but there are also [tears of fear](#).

D. Completeness

n/a

III. Selection factors — Exclusion

F. Overly specific

No. This design is iconic of how you feel when you sigh. It is commonly depicted in pop culture, manga and in media as described in document L2/XXXX.

G. Open-ended

No, this is not part of a set of similar items.

H. Already representable

No.

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.