

# Proposal to add one column to the Egyptian Hieroglyph Format Controls block

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Unicode 12 added a block for Egyptian Hieroglyph Format Controls consisting of a single column in the range U+13430–U+1343F. Currently, there are nine format control characters defined for Egyptian in this block. This leaves seven reserved code points.

Discussions surrounding additional controls for formatting Egyptian Hieroglyphs are currently in progress and the final number of controls that will be proposed is as yet undetermined but is likely to exceed seven code points. The additional code points being discussed include:

- Controls for the extension of enclosing signs (Cartouche, HWT, Serekh, Walls) [4 characters]
- Control(s) to insert sign groups in the centre of another sign on the model of the existing sign insertion controls [1–3 characters]
- Controls to mark a missing sign [1–4 characters]
- Controls to mark damage to a sign block [5 characters]
- Controls to mark rotation [0–7 characters]

In total we expect to request between 11 and 23 characters. In either case, an additional column would be needed to accommodate all of the controls being sought.

Separately, work on encoding an extended set of Egyptian Hieroglyphs ([L2/20-068](#)) is reaching the point of assigning code points. Based on [the roadmap for the SMP](#), the Egyptian Hieroglyphs Extended-A block is scheduled to start immediately after the Egyptian Hieroglyphic Format Controls. It would be optimal to allot an additional column to the format controls now so that this group can be contiguous. That require extending the Egyptian Hieroglyph Format Controls block up from U+13430 to U+1344F, and starting the Egyptian Hieroglyphs Extended-A block at U+13450. The end of the Egyptian Hieroglyphs Extended-A block need not move since it is interrupted already by Anatolian Hieroglyphs.