

# Hair Pick Emoji Proposal for Unicode 15.0

Emoji Submitters: Rhianna Jones and Jennifer Daniel

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## I. Identification

Sample Image	Proposed Unicode and CLDR name	Possible CLDR English keywords	Closest Unicode Emoji
	HAIR PICK	Afro, hair, afro pick, comb	

## 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

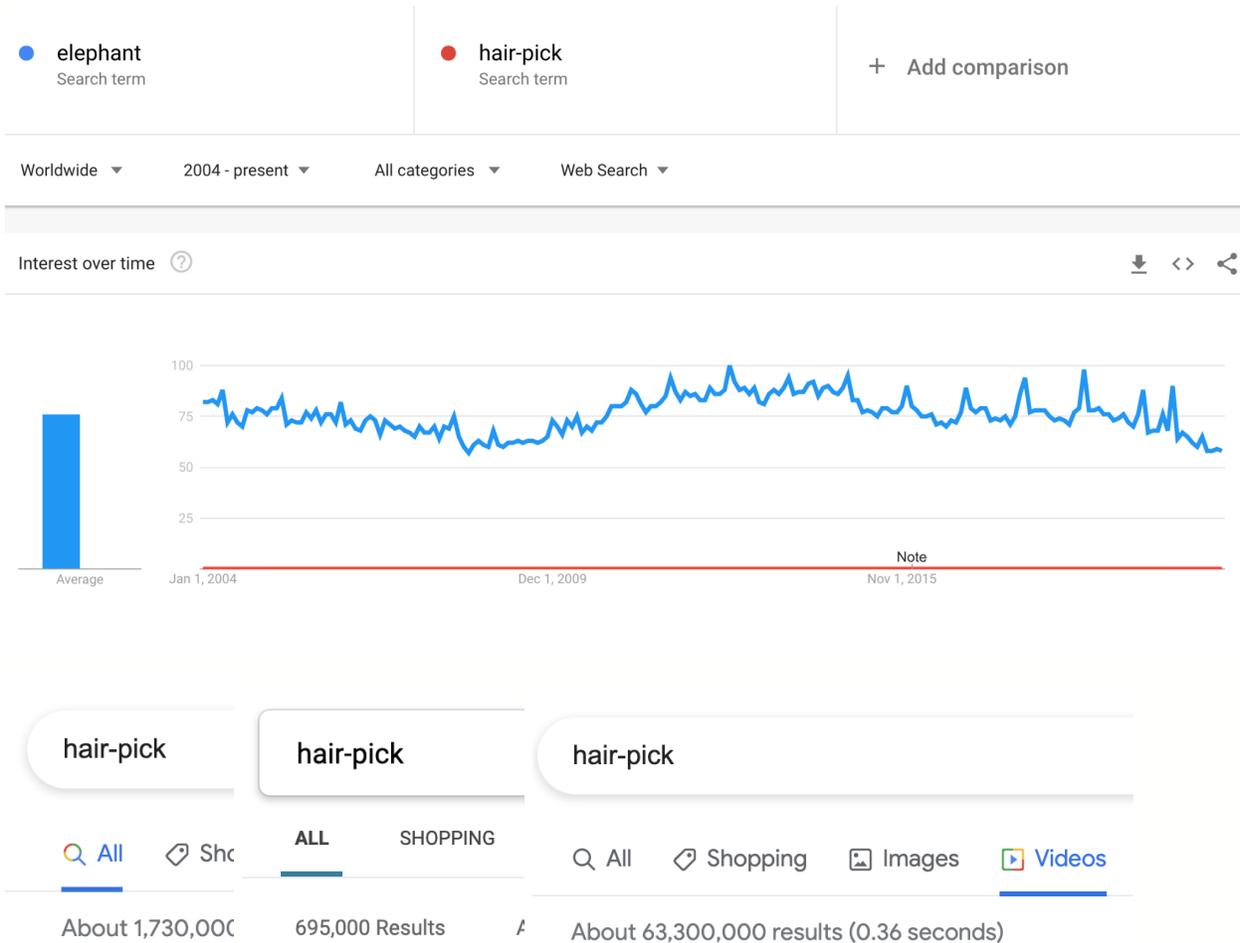
n/a

### B. Expected use

#### 1. Frequency

HAIR-PICK is expected to have high usage given it's literal and abstract applications. Frequency data indicates it is well over the median search threshold.

Search term	Google Search	Bing Search	Google Video Search	Google Trends: Web	Google Trends: Image
hair-pick	1,730,000,000	695,000	63,300,000	See below	See below



## 2. Multiple usages

Hair-picks are not just emblematic of grooming; they are also a sign of solidarity for equality, and a cultural statement. In English, “combing” can also mean “looking” for something.

 Afro Culture

 Grooming

 Search carefully and systematically

## 3. Use in sequences

 +    = Black Solidarity

       = Pride

 +    = Combing/Picking my hair

  +  = Going natural

 +  = Hair Love

 +  = Grooming a new look

 +  = pet groomer

 +  = beachcombing

    = good morning

## 4. Breaking new ground

Currently there are a number of emoji to indicate grooming like Barber Pole  and Person Getting Haircut . Both of these emoji are useful to indicate a make-over but not low-key grooming that doesn't require the help of a professional.

**C. Image distinctiveness**

Beyond its use as a styling tool for all hair types, it is an artifact of art and history. The hair-pick dates to about 6000 years in Egypt before they made appearances in Britain, the Americas, and the Caribbean.<sup>1</sup> Hair picks emerged during the 70s as a symbol of Black pride,<sup>2</sup> as the “Black is Beautiful” natural hair movement grew in popularity to counteract Eurocentric norms and reconnect to Afro-centric roots. Now, with the global surge of Black solidarity, the Hair pick has become a visual icon for allies and Black people alike as an unapologetic indicator of the culture.

**D. Completeness**

With no existing brush emoji the addition of a hair pick affords us the addition of an object emoji that is not singular in use as indicated in Section IV 2: Multiple Uses and completes the set of “self-care” emoji.

## VI. Selection factors — Exclusion

**F. Overly specific**

No, a hair pick is representative of all types of hair brushing as well as being emblematic of things beyond its literal representation.

**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.

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<sup>1</sup><https://face2faceafrica.com/article/why-the-afro-comb-is-not-just-a-styling-tool-but-a-symbol-of-black-pride-and-identity>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2013/10/03/fashion/the-afro-as-a-natural-expression-of-self.html>