

Proposal for Emoji: HARP

Submitter: Mary Lattimore; Theo Schear of Emojination

Date: 5/8/19

1. Identification:

- CLDR short name: HARP
- CLDR keywords: lyre, cithara, clarsach, psaltery, zither

2. Images:



Credit: Aphelandra Messer. Free for use in context of discussion this proposal

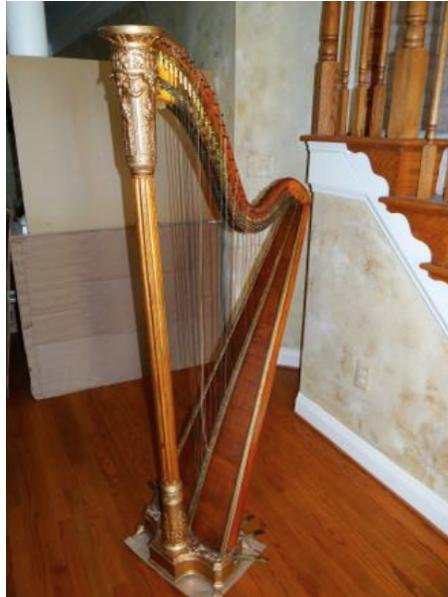
3. Sort Order: In the ACTIVITY category, after VIOLIN

4. Reference Emoji: SCISSORS

Abstract

This proposal requests the addition of the HARP emoji, representing a family of instruments which has existed since antiquity in Asia, Africa and Europe, dating back at least as early as 3500 BC.

Introduction



[A harp found on Craigslist in Monterey, CA](#)

Allow me to provide some essential background information from Wikipedia: “The harp is a stringed musical instrument that has a number of individual strings running at an angle to its soundboard; the strings are plucked with the fingers.... The instrument had great popularity in Europe during the Middle Ages and Renaissance, where it evolved into a wide range of variants with new technologies, and was disseminated to Europe's colonies, finding particular popularity in Latin America.... Descendants of early harps are still played in Myanmar and parts of Africa, and other defunct variants in Europe and Asia have been utilized by musicians in the modern era....In terms of size, many smaller harps can be played on the lap, whereas larger harps are quite heavy and rest on the floor. Different harps may use strings of catgut, nylon, metal, or some combination.”

Furthermore, angels are often depicted with harps, and we should all aspire to be angels.



[Source](#)



[Source](#)

Selection Factors Inclusion

Compatibility:

None of the most popular messaging platforms have included a HARP emoji to date. This proposal aims to rectify that.

Expected Usage Level:



Frequency:

We expect the HARP emoji to be used worldwide because of the historically widespread harp diaspora that continues to pervade many global cultures. Below you can find metrics for the term “harp” compared to “scissors”:

Google Search

Google

harp



All

Shopping

Images

Videos

News

More



Settings

Tools

About 86,600,000 results (0.51 seconds)

Google

scissors



All

Images

Shopping

Videos

News


More



Settings

Tools

About 244,000,000 results (0.45 seconds)

Bing Search





AllShoppingImagesVideosMapsNews|My saves

26,900,000 Results

Any time ▾






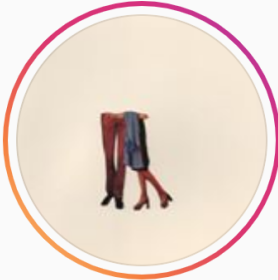
AllShoppingImagesVideosMapsNews|My saves

11-24 Of 26,700,000 Results

Any time ▾

Instagram


 | Instagram




#scissors

832,195 posts

Follow

 | Instagram



#harp



434,717 posts

Follow

YouTube

Google

harp site:youtube.com



All

Shopping

Images

Videos

News

More



Settings

Tools

About 7,460,000 results (0.49 seconds)

Google

scissors site:youtube.com



All

Images

Shopping

Videos

News

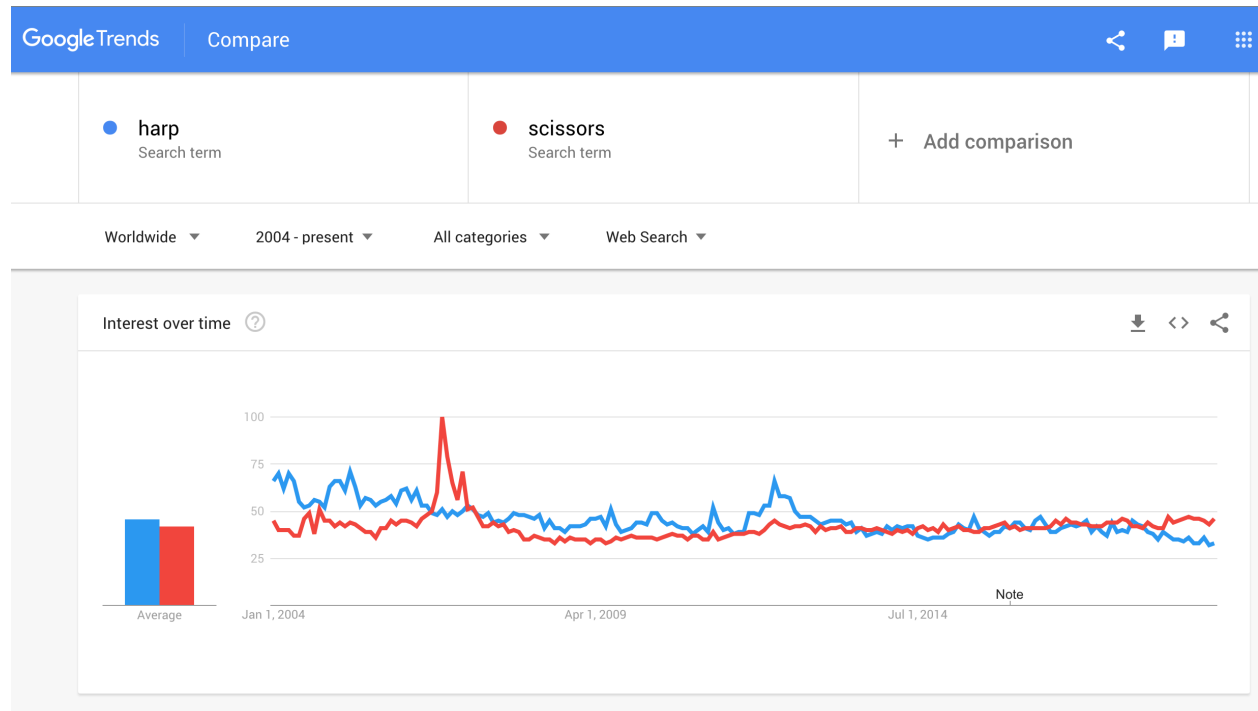
More

Settings

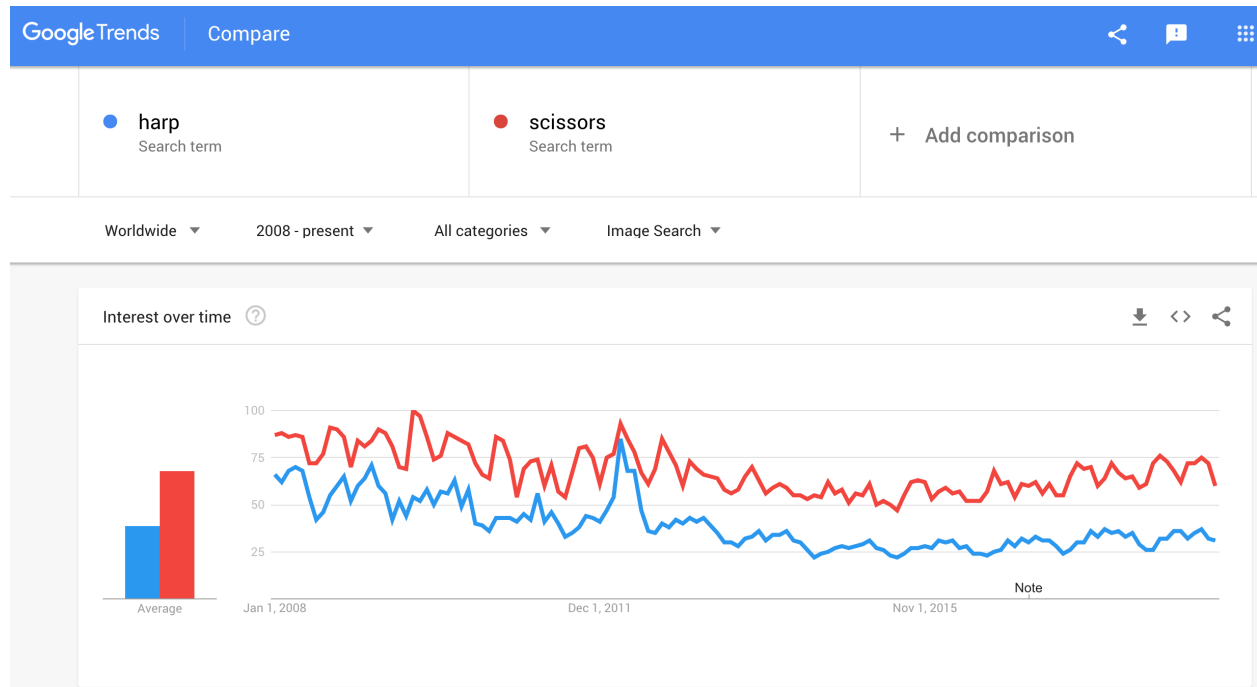
Tools

About 8,760,000 results (0.50 seconds)

Google Trends: Web Search



Google Trends: Image Search



Multiple Usages

HARP emoji would be used primarily to represent the instrument, but also to represent anything angelic or Irish, which uses an image of a harp for an national emblem. According to [Harp Wiki](#), mythical figures such as Apollo and Orpheus are closely aligned with the harp.



Green harp flag of Ireland ([Source](#))

Use in Sequences

☞ 🎵 = Funeral

👼 🎵 = Cherub

Breaking New Ground

This proposal does not substantially break new ground though ancient instruments are not well represented by the current emoji options.


Image Distinctiveness

Instruments such as the guitar and violin are somewhat related in their use of strings and soundboards, but they're certainly not in the same family of instruments as the HARP and LYRE, which are visually distincts.

Completeness

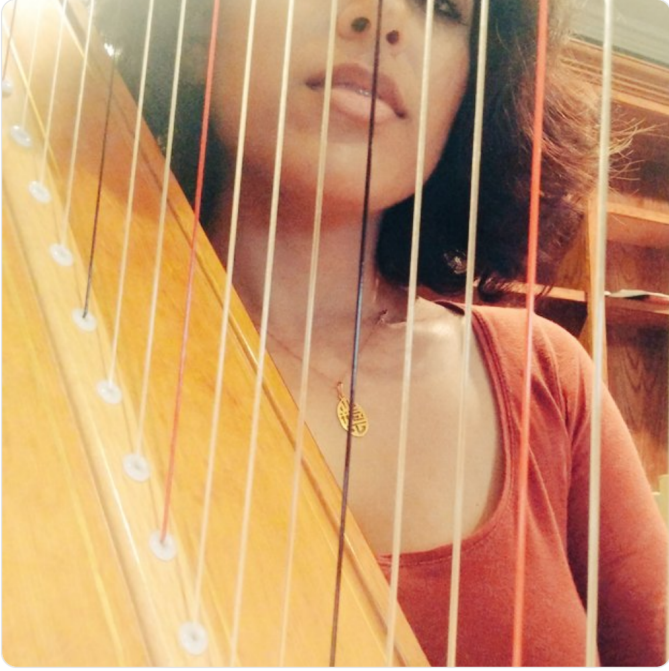
The harp is an egregious omission to the musical instruments represented. The harp is one of the most recognizable instruments worldwide.

Frequently Requested




DR. YASMIN @DoctorYasmin · 22 Nov 2016

Why isn't there a **harp emoji**?




2 40



Jennifer Bowman @jenn_bowman · 14 Nov 2016

I would like a **harp emoji** to refer to my child, please and thank you

2




MGH @MichelleGHunder · 19 Apr 2014

Replying to @sethsentry

@sethsentry I wish I had a **harp emoji** 🎵

2



Likeminds @likeminds_camp · 2 Jul 2018

So excited @marylattimore is playing Likeminds 3.0!!!

harp emoji

(tix in the bio)

2 3 8



william tyler  @williamtylertn · 24 May 2018

Replying to @xeni @marylattimore

We need a **harp emoji**



1



11



Ben Nye @bennynye · 14 Aug 2018

This is incredibly pretty (Also: how is there no **harp emoji**?!)



This harp cover of *The Greatest Showman* is **even more** beautiful th...

We didn't think it was possible to make 'Rewrite the Stars' more heart-breaking. And yet, here we are

classicfm.com



1



5



Lindsey Schwomeyer @lschwomeyer · 21 Aug 2015

 ORCHESTRA CAR WASH  TOMORROW FROM 10-2!! **Harp emoji**



3



Harp Music By Ann @iharp4u2 · 27 Nov 2017

And, for crying out loud, when are we getting a **harp emoji**???



1



4



Harp Music By Ann @iharp4u2 · 18 Jul 2017

How many retweets to get a **harp emoji**??



Paul The Trombonist  @JazzTrombonist

If this gets 1000 retweets, @Google and @Apple will consider making a trombone emoji



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5



7





Xeni Jardin  @xeni · 23 May 2018

Mashing down the 'like' button over this  new Mary Lattimore record y'all 
  also why is there no **harp emoji** @marylattimore



 3  3  11 



dasha @nobody_stop_me · 7h
Harp emoji



When Harpo Played His Harp

Provided to YouTube by Universal Music Group When Harpo Played His Harp · Jonathan Richman Modern Lovers '88 © 1987 Rounder Records Manufactured ...
[youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

 1  1  17 



Selection Factors Exclusion

Overly Specific

The harp is a broad, fundamental family of instruments. A single glyph can represent a lyre, cithara, clarsach, psaltery, zither or a traditional harp.

Open Ended

The harp emoji would aptly represent all of the harp variants.

Already Representable

As stated in the requests cited from Twitter, people are generally not satisfied using a guitar or violin emoji for a harp, they are simply *too* different.

Transient

The harp will live on with humanity for as long as humanity exists! From thousands of years BCE until today, the form and function of the harp has essentially remained the same.

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

The harp cannot be individual intellectual property. Countless businesses including pharmaceutical companies, brands with Irish roots (real or feigned), and classical music establishments incorporate a harp into their design mark, but the image is not specific to any one brand or business. The harp alone does not represent any specific person, deity, logo or brand.

Other Character Properties

The other character properties are suggested to be defined as follows.

General Category: So

Canonical Combining Class: 0

Bidirectional Class: ON

Decomposition Type:

Decomposition Mapping:

Numeric Type:

Numeric Value:

Bidirectional Mirrored:

N Unicode 1 Name:

ISO Comment:

Simple Uppercase Mapping:

Simple Lowercase Mapping:

Simple Titlecase Mapping:

Author Biographies

Mary Lattimore is a harpist living in Los Angeles. She experiments with her Lyon and Healy Concert Grand harp and effects. Her solo debut, *The Withdrawing Room*, was released in 2013 on Desire Path Recordings. She has performed and recorded with such great artists as Meg Baird, Thurston Moore, Sharon Van Etten, Jarvis Cocker, Kurt Vile, Steve Gunn, Ed Askeu and Fursaxa. Mary has been a part of soundtrack projects including the Valerie Project, *Lopapeysa*, a film by David Kessler set in Iceland, and the film score for *Marina Abramovic: the Artist is Present*, a documentary about the artist.

Theo Schear (theosemail.com@gmail.com) is a master-harpist-in-training who intends to score his own films with a beautiful, ancient harp before transcending to the firmament to fulfill his dream of becoming a real life angel.