


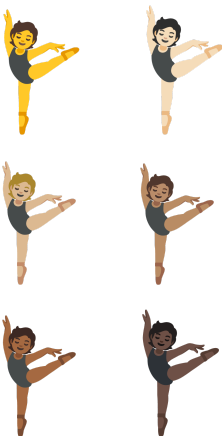


Re: ESR Report for UTC #184 (2025Q3)
From: Jennifer Daniel on the behalf of the ESR
Date: 2025-07-15

1. Emoji 17.0 🌌

The next version of the Unicode Standard, Version 17.0 is now final with 8 new characters and additional sequences as recommended in [L2/24-226R](#).

A few chart images have been updated since our last report with notes to help vendors reduce risk of future design variance.

Original	New	Notes
		<p>Update to distorted face drops eyebrows to make the design more legible at emoji sizes and different from existing emoji such as flushed face. 🙄 🙄</p> <p>Like the other facial features, eyes should be distorted and inflated rather than looking in different directions, implying a medical condition.</p>
		<p>Chart image did not make it clear how to adjust color across tone variations, slippers in particular.</p> <p>Please note: Presentation should be gender ambiguous to prevent the need to add additional emoji in the future.</p>

2. Public Feedback

ReportID: [ID20250614130509](#)







Name: Sebastian Norr

The reporter raises the issue that some emoji do not face in the desired direction and suggests a mechanism allowing basic graphic transformations to be applied to arbitrary emoji, going on to sketch out an enhancement to that mechanism that might allow for more elaborate transformations. ESR has already investigated the issue of emoji directionality, with [L2/22-275](#) and eventually [L2/23-030R](#) developing a categorization scheme that resulted in 108 RGI directional ZWJ sequences in Emoji 15.1, whose impact has yet to be measured.

As noted by the reporter, there is no technical limitation to applying various graphic transformations to emoji images as encoded using ZWJ sequences. If a ZWJ sequence is to be recommended for general interchange (RGI), however, the Unicode Standard requires that each sequence be not just valid but also *enumerated*, the combinatorics of which demand careful consideration as to the value of such sequences.

Rather than focusing on the mechanism by which the requested sequences might be implemented, ESR would rather concentrate on low-cost, high-value efforts such as the interoperability audit described in the next section.

3. Update on Interoperability Audit

Truck Emoji					
Apple Color	Noto Color	Samsung One UI	WhatsApp	Microsoft	Facebook
					

As noted in [L2/25-008](#) and [L2/25-089](#), our multi-quarter effort to improve interoperability is moving forward. This quarter's focus was measuring the variance of interpretation of over ~60 emoji with over 1600 participants in the U.S. and U.K. Early insights from this study include:

- 78% of participants have noticed differences in vendor designs as part of their normal online activities
- We will be making 25 recommendations that include changing the appearance of emoji as well as adding new ones
 - Some changes are due to vendor designs being so semantically different that they create genuine cross-platform confusion (e.g. CUCUMBER 🥒, BRICK 🧱) or a mismatch between CLDR label and sub-labels (e.g. the emoji for LEG 🦵 is not great at representing KICK)
- Very strong data in support of animal emoji showing full body, not just face.
- Color and direction differences are not always meaningful to users (e.g. TEAPOT 🍵) but where they are (e.g. CITYSCAPE AT DUSK 🌃, PICKUP TRUCK 🚚) we have made recommendations for change

4. Update on Intake 🗺️

Reviewing emoji proposals continues to move forward. A visualization of what has been submitted thus far is shown below. Note that over a third of proposals are “animal and nature” and “object” emoji (Frequency data suggests to encode fewer specific concepts in these categories). The ESR WG will continue to review proposals submitted through July 31, 2025.

