Emojis in Domain Names:

A Security Risk for Everyone

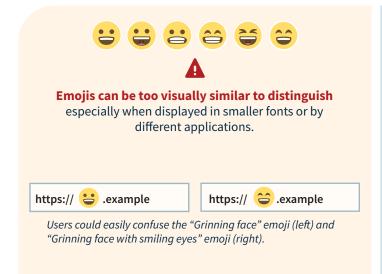


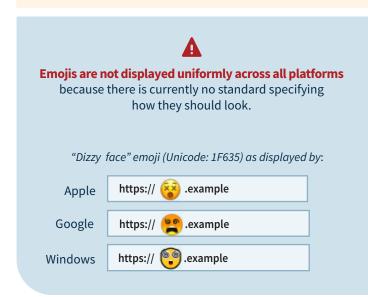
Emojis have taken over every form of digital conversation, but they create a serious security risk when used in domain names. The ambiguity and confusion they cause in domains can lead to a denial of service or misconnections, and expose users to phishing and other social engineering attacks.

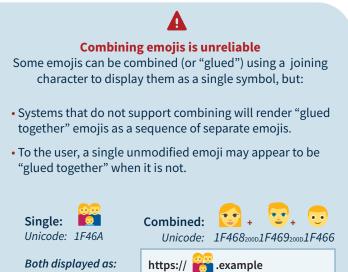
Why Do Emojis in Domain Names Create a Security Risk?

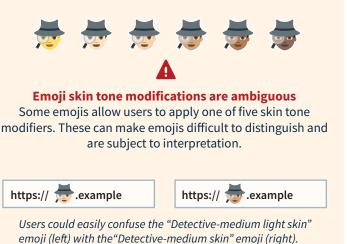
IDNA 2008, the current standard for internationalized domain names, prohibits emojis in domain names (see RFC 5892). Therefore, applications that follow the standard strictly do not support emojis at all; others process them inconsistently.

As discussed by the Security and Stability Advisory Committee of ICANN (see SAC095) and approved by the ICANN Board, the use of emojis in domain names also creates a number of problems from an end user standpoint:









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SAC095: https://go.icann.org/2EG96iN RFC 5892: https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc5892