Bugs & Wish list
Replace Emoticons with Emoji | Tiki Wiki CMS Groupware :: Development
Replace Emoticons with Emoji

Status
- Open

Subject
Replace Emoticons with Emoji

Version
21.x

Category
- Feature request

Feature
Wiki Syntax (text area, parser, external wiki, etc)

Resolution status
Accepted

Submitted by
drsassafras

Lastmod by
drsassafras

Rating
★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★ (0)

Related-to
- Changing (modernizing) Tiki smileys (we should support Emoji)
- Emojis crash Tiki (error 500)
- 4-bytestring (most Emoji) Causes Wiki Cutoffs
- change the table definitions to support the new utf8mb4 character

Description
I suggest replacing current emoticons in tiki with the natively supported emoji. The emoticons currently displayed in tiki currently look dated. The menu may be best replaced by a basic emoji menu, and have the unicode inserted directly into tiki pages.

The feature that replaces text emoticon representations with the picture based emoticons could also be changed to output the unicode emoji.

Replacing with emoji not only brings a facelift to tiki, but also has the potential of reducing tiki parser reliance-time, allows people to use emoji they are use to, and will help to optimize page load time.

Emoji is now supported in every browser we support with the exception of IE 9. ( currently holding 0.3% of popular use) http://caniuse.com/usage-table

All modern browsers/ OS's support color emoji. Legacy browsers (like IE 10 @ 0.27% usage) support non-colour emoji.

Presuming we are talking about Emoji support as outlined in Unicode 6, excluding the flag implementation, support is very good.
There are libraries available that use js or php to replace the unicode emoji with a standard svg library, such as http://emojione.com/developers/, but with such good support already it may not be worth implementing this, as long as we stick to Unicode 6 emoji.

I furthermore suggest that the emoji button on the edit page be removed altogether on mobile devices in favor of the built in emoji support. Desktop emoji still requires a tiki emoji menu IMHO.

This all of course hinges on the emoji bug: https://dev.tiki.org/tiki-view_tracker_item.php?itemId=6189 being fixed.

Importance
7

Easy to solve?
7

Priority
49

Demonstrate Bug (Tiki 19+)
This bug has been demonstrated on show2.tikiwiki.org

Ticket ID
6191

Created
Thursday 01 December, 2016 06:40:31 GMT-0000
by drsassafras

LastModif
Wednesday 26 February, 2020 13:21:51 GMT-0000

Comments

Marc Laporte 24 Apr 17 03:22 GMT-0000
Reducing Tiki parser reliance is a good thing, so we can more easily support other syntaxes

Marc Laporte 28 Oct 18 05:53 GMT-0000
Converse moved to
https://github.com/twitter/twemoji
https://github.com/conversejs/converse.js/commit/1d38d8af03ae9033a882a7dcaadef53c9825db3a

drsassafras 29 Oct 18 20:19 GMT-0000
I would be in favour of no external image library for this. Simply having an interface to insert emoji would be great. Mobile devices generally already have a good interface for emoji, but on a desktop, it can still be almost imposable in some browsers to insert it.
IMHO the disadvantages of using an external emoji image library for displaying emoji outweigh the advantages of using one. Particularly for Tiki's lifecycle.

So in my mind, this task would include creating or using an existing emoji selector and replacing our current emoticon selector with it. Then migrating our current emoticons into similar Unicode emoji.

Jonny Bradley 03 Jan 22 12:05 GMT-0000

Not sure i follow that drsassafras, i'm going to have a go at finally doing this and don't have much time, so leveraging a library like the Twitter one makes sense to me - they're not going to go away and surely that offloads a load of code and debugging elsewhere, no?

Bernard Sfez / Tiki Specialist 26 Feb 20 08:55 GMT-0000

Please, please, please someone, do something about this.
Being 80s is nice about music, but not about smileys !!
:-) 😁😊❤

hman 26 Feb 20 11:07 GMT-0000

Unicode emoticons do have a drawback: You can never be sure that the recipient client is able to render them. E.g. in companies you almost never have the "latest" Unicode on the clients. Also, some companies do block or filter unicode emoticons.

drsassafras 26 Feb 20 12:51 GMT-0000

The way the emoji scripts mentioned above generally work is that Unicode is sent to the browser and then JS is used to replace that with an image. So if emoji is being blocked, they will also be blocked while using one of the above-mentioned emoji packages.

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My proposal suggests using Unicode 6 for the emoji bar. Although 6.1 would probably be safe as Windows 8.1 supports it.

https://gs.statcounter.com/windows-version-market-share/desktop/worldwide/#202001--bar

What Windows version do you think is reasonable to support, considering usage? I cut out Windows XP and 8 and Vista, combined they are 2.86% of windows users. Or 1.01% of total global users (windows is not the only OS

https://gs.statcounter.com/os-market-share#desktop+mobile+tablet+console_os_combined-ww-20200
1--bar

Keep in mind that these are global stats, they decrease in first world nations, for example in the US,
they drop to .76%.

Also, keep in mind that people using these systems are used to most emoji not working. Since we are picking relatively low specs, to begin with, some emoji will work on those systems. Just not all of it. And those users are just used to most emoji not working anyhow.

http://caniemoji.com/microsoft-windows/

We can also see from the above that supporting windows 8.1 would be at nearly the bottom of what is supported at all anyhow.

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Jonny Bradley 26 Feb 20 12:59 GMT-0000

Would this really be for 21.1 and not 21.0? (too late for 21.0) - seems a big jump for a minor update, but if we don't do it now, when will we?

Plus i would add it's not as easy as a 7, as we'd need to make it optional, and even when enabled it would need to handle updates using the old ones... i reckon more like a 5 (a few hours)

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hman 26 Feb 20 14:46 GMT-0000

Windows supporting something in principal does not mean all companies install it on clients... Flash is also supported by Windows 8.1, but I know no company that would allow and/or install it on clients...

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lucia d' being 27 Feb 20 09:40 GMT-0000

Replying with the same logic hman, you knowing no company that would do it does not mean there is none 😁

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hman 27 Feb 20 09:46 GMT-0000

Disabling Flash is the first lesson when teaching someone IT security...

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lucia d' being ->hman 27 Feb 20 10:05 GMT-0000

Replied to Disabling... Yes, sure thing. I'm not talking about Flash or Security. No offense, I was referring to the logic behind your argument. 😊
luciahs d' being 26 Feb 20 13:22 GMT-0000

Surely not for 20.x

Jonny Bradley 03 Jan 22 16:12 GMT-0000

So i spent a few hours (!) today investigating, none of them seem like an easy drop-in solution.

- https://twemoji.twitter.com is mostly designed to work from a CDN unless you use their gh-pages branch which doesn't seem to be versioned, so someone would have to update the zip file each time it gets updated (bad) - could we use the CDN one? Not really i guess...
- There's a Vue component wrapper for the Twitter ones vue-twemoji-picker but i couldn't get that to install due to composer version issues
- There's a plain JavaScript one by woody180 but it doesn't have a license (but it shows that writing your own one is not trivial)

So, any other ideas anyone? Moving on for now... []

Marc Laporte 04 Jan 22 15:15 GMT-0000

I think it's fine to wait and revisit with WYSIWYG and Markdown

Some emoticon markup collide with other wiki syntax, so I think we could just do this in Markdown.

Jonny Bradley 04 Jan 22 15:30 GMT-0000

Thanks Marc, seems a shame though not to have this for 24.x - i then had an idea [] that CKEditor does emoji, and i managed to get that partially working in trunk and 23.x, but only via autocomplete... for some reason the toolbar button won't appear yet - so that might be a cheap way to get them working! (but dependent on CKE, which i think we're stuck with for a while anyway)

Attachments

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The original document is available at https://dev.tiki.org/item6191-Replace-Emoticons-with-Emoji