

## Emoji Website

For communication to happen over the internet, there are multiple sacrifices we have to make. Through digital communication, we no longer have the face-to-face connection we once had. We immediately miss out on much of the nonverbal communication in our daily lives we take for granted. The tone that we speak with, the way our body and face move with our words, even the way we decide to physically present ourselves hold no merit in the world of digital communication. When compared to the thousands of years we have spent normally communicating, it starts to raise the question of how we survive in this new environment of connection. One of the earliest examples of us finding new tools to assist us was Scott Fahlman, known for the first recorded use of emoticons. ☺ At this point, emoticons we're just simple representations of faces using ASCII characters, but the purpose of these emoticons would become the backbone of the emojis we know today. Fahlman wrote through email

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I propose that the following character sequence for joke markers:

: - )

Read it sideways. Actually, it is probably more economical to mark things that are NOT jokes, given current trends. For this, use:

: -(

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By making use of these symbols, Fahlman proposed a new way to bridge that missing gap of communication online. These emoticons served as a way of providing tone and context in a medium that severely lacked the capability. It shows us the importance and innate desire for additional modes of communication when interacting with others.