

Unicode Character Code

A **character** is the **smallest possible component of a text** (e.g., 'A', 'B', 'È' and 'Í') that has semantic value.

Even the extended (8 bit) version of **ASCII** is not enough for international use.

The Unicode standard (<http://www.unicode.org/>) describes **how characters are represented** by unique **code points**. A code point is an **integer value**, usually denoted in base 16. Values range from **0** through **0x10FFFF** (1,114,111 decimal).

The notation **U+12CA** is used to **denote** the character with **value** 0x12ca (4,810 decimal).

The Unicode standard contains tables listing **characters** and their corresponding **code points**:

0061	'a'; LATIN SMALL LETTER A
0062	'b'; LATIN SMALL LETTER B
0063	'c'; LATIN SMALL LETTER C
...	
007B	'{'; LEFT CURLY BRACKET

Unicode was designed to be an **ASCII-super set**: the first 256 characters in the *Unicode character set* are identical to those in the extended **ASCII** code.



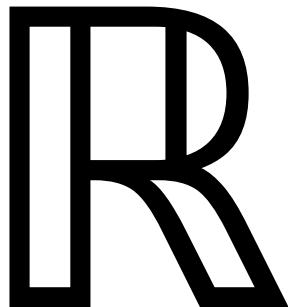
Unicode 7.0 Character Code Charts

<http://www.unicode.org/charts/>

Find chart by hex code: Go Related links: Name index Help & links

Scripts

European Scripts	African Scripts	South Asian Scripts
Armenian	Bamum	Bengali and Assamese
Armenian Ligatures	Bamum Supplement	Brahmi
Caucasian Albanian	Bassa Vah	Chakma
Cypriot Syllaby	Coptic	Devanagari
Cyrillic	Coptic in Greek block	Devanagari Extended
Cyrillic Supplement	Coptic Epact Numbers	Grantha
Cyrillic Extended-A	Egyptian Hieroglyphs (1MB)	Gujarati
Cyrillic Extended-B	Ethiopic	Gurmukhi
Elbasan	Ethiopic Supplement	Kaithi
Georgian	Ethiopic Extended	Kannada
Georgian Supplement	Ethiopic Extended-A	Kharoshthi
Glagolitic	Mende Kikakui	Khogki
Gothic	Meroitic	Khudawadi
Greek	Meroitic Cursive	Lepcha
Greek Extended	Meroitic Hieroglyphs	Limbu
Latin	Nko	Mahajani
Basic Latin (ASCII)	Osmanya	Malayalam
Latin-1 Supplement	Tifinagh	Meetei Mayek
Latin Extended-A	Vai	Meetei Mayek Extensions
Latin Extended-B		Modi
Latin Extended-C		Mro
Latin Extended-D		Ol Chiki
Latin Extended-E		Oriya
Latin Extended Additional		Saurashtra
Latin Ligatures		Sharada
Fullwidth Latin Letters		Siddham
Linear A		Sinhala
Linear B		Sinhala Archaic Numbers
Linear B Syllaby		Sora Sompeng
Linear B Ideograms		Syloti Nagri
Ogham	Cuneiform Numbers and Punctuation	Takri
Old Italic	Old Persian	Tamil
Old Permic	Ugaritic	Telugu
Phaistos Disc	Hebrew	Thaana
Runic	Hebrew Presentation Forms	Tirhuta
Shavian	Lycian	Vedic Extensions
Phonetic & Shorthand Symbols	Lydian	Warang Citi
Duployan	Mandaic	Southeast Asian Scripts
Shorthand Format Controls	Nabataean	Cham
	Old North Arabian	Kavah I i
	Old South Arabian	



U+211D

```
in Python(3):
```

```
>>> print("\N{DOUBLE-STRUCK CAPITAL R}")
```

```
R
```

```
>>> print("\u211D")
```

```
R
```

```
>>> ord("\u211D")
```

```
8477
```

```
>>> chr(8477)
```

```
'R'
```

Unicode Data	
Name	DOUBLE-STRUCK CAPITAL R
Block	Letterlike Symbols
Category	Letter, Uppercase [Lu]
Combine	0
BIDI	Left-to-Right [L]
Decomposition	 LATIN CAPITAL LETTER R (U+0052)
Mirror	N
Old name	DOUBLE-STRUCK R
Index entries	numbers, real R, DOUBLE-STRUCK CAPITAL real numbers set of real numbers, the
Comments	the set of real numbers
Version	Unicode 1.1.0 (June, 1993)

Unicode code points

```
>>> ord('€')
8364

>>> hex(ord('€'))
'0x20ac'

>>> chr(8364)
'€'

>>> import unicodedata
>>> unicodedata.name('€')
'EURO SIGN'

>>> unicodedata.lookup('EURO SIGN')
'€'

>>> unicodedata.category('€')      # http://www.fileformat.info/info/unicode/category/index.htm
'Sc'                                # [S]ymbol [c]urrency
```

0	037	038	039	03A	03B	03C	03D	03E	03F
1	F	í	Π	ú	π	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ
2	ϐ	A	P	α	ρ	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ
3	T	B	ϐ	β	ς	Υ	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ
4	T	Γ	Σ	γ	σ	Υ	ϐ	j	ϐ
5	'	Δ	Τ	δ	τ	Ŷ	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ
6	,	E	Y	ε	υ	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ
7	И	Α	Z	Φ	ζ	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ
8	и	·	H	X	η	χ	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ
9	Е	Θ	Ψ	θ	ψ	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ
A	;	H	I	Ω	ι	ω	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ
B	;	;	K	;	κ	;	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ
C	;	Λ	;	λ	;	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ
D	;	;	;	N	;	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ
E	;	;	;	Ξ	;	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ	ϐ
F	J	;	;	;	;	;	;	;	;

Archaic letters

- 0370 Ι GREEK CAPITAL LETTER HETA
 → 2C75 Ι latin capital letter half I
 0371 Η GREEK SMALL LETTER HETA
 → 2C76 Η latin small letter half η
 0372 Τ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER ARCHAIC SAMPI
 0373 Τ GREEK SMALL LETTER ARCHAIC SAMPI

Numerical signs

- 0374 ' GREEK NUMERAL SIGN
 = dexia keraia
 • indicates numeric use of letters
 → 02CA ' modifier letter acute accent
 ≡ 0289 ' modifier letter prime
 0375 , GREEK LOWER NUMERAL SIGN
 = aristeri keraia
 • indicates numeric use of letters
 → 02CF , modifier letter low acute accent

Archaic letters

- 0376 ΠΙ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER PAMPHYLIAN DIGAMMA
 0377 ι GREEK SMALL LETTER PAMPHYLIAN DIGAMMA

Iota subscript

- 037A · GREEK YPOGEGRAMMENI
 = iota subscript
 → 0345 · combining greek ypogrammeni
 ≈ 0020 ⠄ 0345 ·

Lowercase of editorial symbols

- 037B ɔ GREEK SMALL REVERSED LUNATE SIGMA SYMBOL
 037C ɔ GREEK SMALL DOTTED LUNATE SIGMA SYMBOL
 037D ɔ GREEK SMALL REVERSED DOTTED LUNATE SIGMA SYMBOL

Punctuation

- 037E ; GREEK QUESTION MARK
 = erotimatiko
 • sentence-final punctuation
 • 003B ; is the preferred character
 → 003F ; question mark
 ≡ 003B ; semicolon

Additional letter

- 037F Ι GREEK CAPITAL LETTER YOT
 • lowercase is 03F3 j

Spacing accent marks

- 0384 ' GREEK TONOS
 → 00B4 ' acute accent
 → 030D ¨ combining vertical line above
 ≈ 0020 ⠄ 0301 ¨
 0385 GREEK DIALYTIKA TONOS
 ≡ 00A8 ¨ 0301 ¨

Letter

- 0386 Α GREEK CAPITAL LETTER ALPHA WITH TONOS
 ≡ 0391 A 0301 ¨

Punctuation

- 0387 · GREEK ANO TELEIA
 • functions in Greek like a semicolon
 • 00B7 · is the preferred character
 ≡ 00B7 · middle dot

Letters

- 0388 Ε GREEK CAPITAL LETTER EPSILON WITH TONOS
 ≡ 0395 E 0301 ¨
 0389 Η GREEK CAPITAL LETTER ETA WITH TONOS
 ≡ 0397 H 0301 ¨
 038A Ι GREEK CAPITAL LETTER IOTA WITH TONOS
 ≡ 0399 I 0301 ¨
 038B ⠄ <reserved>
 038C ⠄ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER OMICRON WITH TONOS
 ≡ 039F O 0301 ¨
 038D ⠄ <reserved>
 038E Υ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER UPSILON WITH TONOS
 ≡ 03A5 Y 0301 ¨
 038F Ω GREEK CAPITAL LETTER OMEGA WITH TONOS
 ≡ 03A9 Ω 0301 ¨
 0390 ī GREEK SMALL LETTER IOTA WITH DIALYTIKA AND TONOS
 ≡ 03CA ī 0301 ¨
 0391 Α GREEK CAPITAL LETTER ALPHA
 0392 Β GREEK CAPITAL LETTER BETA
 0393 Γ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER GAMMA
 = gamma function
 → 213E Γ double-struck capital gamma
 0394 Δ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER DELTA
 → 2206 Δ increment
 0395 Ε GREEK CAPITAL LETTER EPSILON
 0396 Ζ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER ZETA
 0397 Η GREEK CAPITAL LETTER ETA
 0398 Θ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER THETA
 0399 Ι GREEK CAPITAL LETTER IOTA
 = iota adscript
 039A Κ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER KAPPA
 039B Λ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER LAMDA
 039C Μ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER MU
 039D Ν GREEK CAPITAL LETTER NU
 039E Ξ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER XI
 039F Ο GREEK CAPITAL LETTER OMICRON
 03A0 Π GREEK CAPITAL LETTER PI
 → 213F Π double-struck capital pi
 → 220F Π n-ary product
 03A1 Ρ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER RHO
 03A2 ⠄ <reserved>
 03A3 ⠄ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER SIGMA
 → 01A9 Σ latin capital letter esh
 → 2211 Σ n-ary summation
 03A4 Τ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER TAU
 03A5 Υ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER UPSILON
 03A6 Φ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER PHI
 03A7 Χ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER CHI
 03A8 Ψ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER PSI
 03A9 Ω GREEK CAPITAL LETTER OMEGA
 → 2126 Ω ohm sign
 → 2127 Ω inverted ohm sign
 03AA ī GREEK CAPITAL LETTER IOTA WITH DIALYTIKA
 ≡ 0399 ī 0308 ¨
 03AB Ÿ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER UPSILON WITH DIALYTIKA
 ≡ 03A5 Ÿ 0308 ¨
 03AC ā GREEK SMALL LETTER ALPHA WITH TONOS
 ≡ 03B1 ā 0301 ¨

280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	28A	28B	28C	28D	28E	28F
2800	2810	2820	2830	2840	2850	2860	2870	2880	2890	28A0	28B0	28C0	28D0	28E0	28F0
2801	2811	2821	2831	2841	2851	2861	2871	2881	2891	28A1	28B1	28C1	28D1	28E1	28F1
2802	2812	2822	2832	2842	2852	2862	2872	2882	2892	28A2	28B2	28C2	28D2	28E2	28F2
2803	2813	2823	2833	2843	2853	2863	2873	2883	2893	28A3	28B3	28C3	28D3	28E3	28F3
2804	2814	2824	2834	2844	2854	2864	2874	2884	2894	28A4	28B4	28C4	28D4	28E4	28F4
2805	2815	2825	2835	2845	2855	2865	2875	2885	2895	28A5	28B5	28C5	28D5	28E5	28F5
2806	2816	2826	2836	2846	2856	2866	2876	2886	2896	28A6	28B6	28C6	28D6	28E6	28F6
2807	2817	2827	2837	2847	2857	2867	2877	2887	2897	28A7	28B7	28C7	28D7	28E7	28F7
2808	2818	2828	2838	2848	2858	2868	2878	2888	2898	28A8	28B8	28C8	28D8	28E8	28F8
2809	2819	2829	2839	2849	2859	2869	2879	2889	2899	28A9	28B9	28C9	28D9	28E9	28F9
280A	281A	282A	283A	284A	285A	286A	287A	288A	289A	28A0	28B0	28C0	28D0	28E0	28F0
280B	281B	282B	283B	284B	285B	286B	287B	288B	289B	28A0	28B0	28C0	28D0	28E0	28F0
280C	281C	282C	283C	284C	285C	286C	287C	288C	289C	28A0	28B0	28C0	28D0	28E0	28F0
280D	281D	282D	283D	284D	285D	286D	287D	288D	289D	28A0	28B0	28C0	28D0	28E0	28F0
280E	281E	282E	283E	284E	285E	286E	287E	288E	289E	28A0	28B0	28C0	28D0	28E0	28F0
280F	281F	282F	283F	284F	285F	286F	287F	288F	289F	28A0	28B0	28C0	28D0	28E0	28F0

130E	130F	1310	1311	1312	1313	1314	1315	1316	1317	1318	1319	131A	131B
130E0	130F0	13100	13110	13120	13130	13140	13150	13160	13170	13180	13190	131A0	131B0
130E2	130F2	13102	13112	13122	13132	13142	13152	13162	13172	13182	13192	131A2	131B2
130E4	130F4	13104	13114	13124	13134	13144	13154	13164	13174	13184	13194	131A4	131B4
130E6	130F6	13106	13116	13126	13136	13146	13156	13166	13176	13186	13196	131A6	131B6
130E8	130F8	13108	13118	13128	13138	13148	13158	13168	13178	13188	13198	131A8	131B8
130EA	130FA	1310A	1311A	1312A	1313A	1314A	1315A	1316A	1317A	1318A	1319A	131AA	131BA
130EC	130FC	1310C	1311C	1312C	1313C	1314C	1315C	1316C	1317C	1318C	1319C	131AC	131BC
130EE	130FE	1310E	1311E	1312E	1313E	1314E	1315E	1316E	1317E	1318E	1319E	131AE	131BE

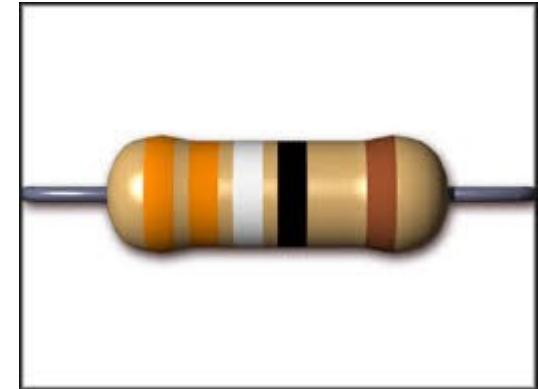
A **Unicode code point** represents a **character**

Characters are defined by their **meaning** in a **language**,
Glyphs are defined by their **appearance**.

A text-to-speech reader should pronounce “a 339 Ω resistor”
“a three hundred and thirty nine Ohm resistor” and not
“a three hundred and thirty nine uppercase omega resistor”

The glyph Ω is represented by unicode character
U+03A9 when it represents the Greek letter omega
U+2126 when it represents Ohms, the unit of electrical resistance.

The glyph **M** is represented by unicode character
U+004D when it represents a Latin letter
U+216F when it represents the Roman numeral for 1,000.



Glyphs are handled by **font renderers**

typeface vs. font

Back in the good old days of analog printing, every page was laboriously set out in frames with metal letters. That was rolled in ink, and then it was pressed down onto a clean piece of paper. That was a page layout. Printers needed thousands of physical metal blocks, each with the character it was meant to represent set out in **relief** (the **type face**). If you wanted to print Garamond, for example, you needed different blocks for every different size (10 point, 12 point, 14 point, and so on) and weight (bold, light, medium).



A **typeface** (also known as **font family**) is a set of one or more fonts each composed of **glyphs** that **share common design features**. Each font of a typeface has a specific weight, style, condensation, width, slant, italicization, ornamentation, and designer or foundry (and formerly size, in metal fonts).

A **font** described a **subset of blocks** in a **typeface**—but each font embodied a particular **size** and **weight**. For example, bolded Garamond in 12 point was considered a different font than normal Garamond in 8 point, and italicized Times New Roman at 24 point would be considered a different font than italicized Times New Roman at 28 point.

Scalable font vs. Bit-mapped font

Computer Hope

Computer Hope

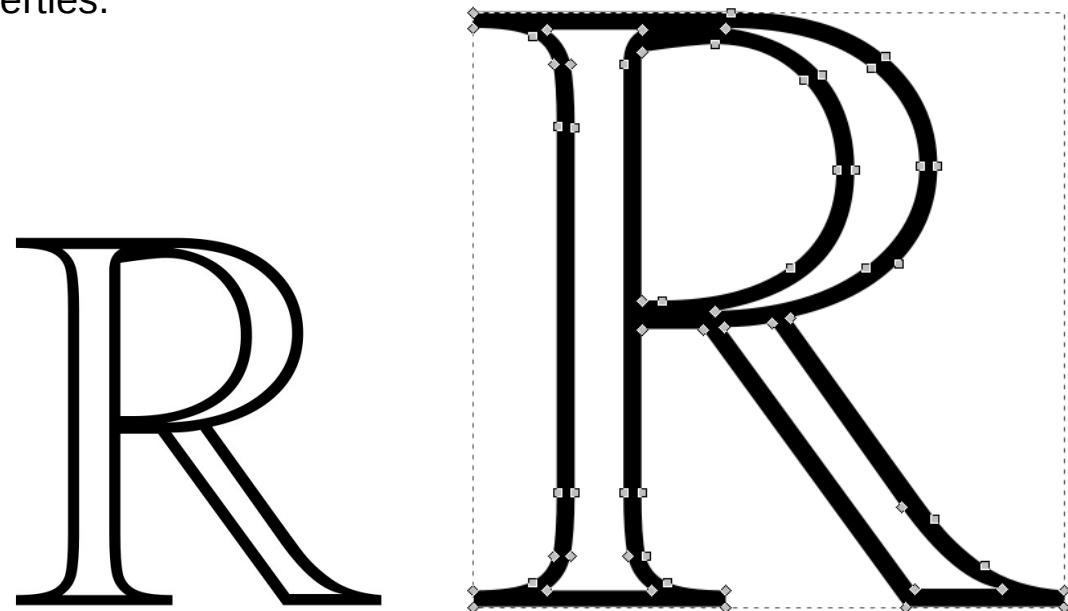
Comp Comp

<http://www.computerhope.com>

A **scalable** font is a font that is created in the required point size **when needed** for **display or printing**. The **dot patterns (bitmaps)** are generated from a set of outline fonts, or base fonts, which contain a mathematical representation of the typeface.

The two major scalable fonts are Adobe's Type 1 PostScript and Apple/Microsoft's TrueType.

A **bitmapped** font that is designed from scratch for a particular font size. It always looks the best. Scalable fonts however eliminate storing hundreds of different sizes of fonts on disk. In most cases, only the trained eye can tell the difference. Scaling does not always retain all properties.



Character vs. Glyph ligatures

character combo	ligature	example
ff	ff	coffee
fi	fi	fiscal
ffi	ffi	office
fl	fl	flavor
Th	Th	The

A **ligature glyph** is the **joining** together of **one or more** glyphs into **one continuous** glyph.
The ligature for aesthetically combining fi is **one glyph**, but **two characters**.

A **ligature character** (unicode standard):
"The existing ligatures exist basically for compatibility and round-tripping with non-Unicode character sets. Their use is discouraged."

← alif lām

The diagram shows the ligature character 'Ĳ' in red on the left, followed by a black arrow pointing to the right. Below the arrow are two black characters: 'I' under 'alif' and 'J' under 'lām'.

bloomingdale's



Unicode string encodings

A Unicode **string** is a **sequence of code points** (each representing a character).

This sequence needs to be **represented** as a set of **bytes** (unsigned integer values from 0 through 255) in memory. The rules for translating a Unicode string into a sequence of bytes are called an **encoding**.

Encodings don't have to handle every possible Unicode character, and most encodings don't.

ASCII encoding:

If a code point is < 128, each byte is the same as the value of the code point.

If a code point is ≥ 128 , the Unicode string can not be represented in this encoding.

```
>>> ord('a'.encode('ASCII'))
97

>>> '€'.encode('ASCII')
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
UnicodeEncodeError: 'ascii' codec can't encode character '\u20ac' in position 0: ordinal not in range(128)
```

Latin-1, also known as **ISO-8859-1** encoding:

Unicode code points 0–255 are identical to the Latin-1 values,

so converting to this encoding simply requires converting code points to byte values;
if a code point larger than 255 is encountered, the string can't be encoded into Latin-1.

```
>>> ord('a'.encode('Latin-1'))
97

>>> '€'.encode('Latin-1')
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
UnicodeEncodeError: 'latin-1' codec can't encode character '\u20ac' in position 0: ordinal not in range(256)
```

Unicode string encodings

UTF-8 is one of the most commonly used encodings. UTF stands for “**Unicode Transformation Format**”, and the ‘8’ means that (one to four) 8-bit numbers are used in the encoding (i.e., a “**variable length** encoding”).

1st Byte	2nd Byte	3rd Byte	4th Byte	Number of Free Bits	Maximum Expressible Unicode Value
0xxxxxxx				7	007F hex (127)
110xxxxx	10xxxxxx			(5+6)=11	07FF hex (2047)
1110xxxx	10xxxxxx	10xxxxxx		(4+6+6)=16	FFFF hex (65535)
11110xxx	10xxxxxx	10xxxxxx	10xxxxxx	(3+6+6+6)=21	10FFFF hex (1,114,111)

UTF-8 has several convenient properties:

- It can handle **any** Unicode code point.
- A Unicode string is turned into a string of bytes containing **no embedded zero bytes**. Hence, UTF-8 strings can be processed by C functions such as `strcpy()` and sent through (e.g., network) protocols that can't handle zero bytes.
- A string of **ASCII text** is also valid UTF-8 text.
- UTF-8 is fairly **compact**: most commonly used characters can be represented with one or two bytes.
- If bytes are corrupted or lost, it's possible to determine the **start of the next** UTF-8-encoded code point and resynchronize. It's also unlikely that random 8-bit data will look like valid UTF-8.

Unicode string (en/de)coding

```
>>> ord('a'.encode('UTF-8'))  
97
```

```
>>> '€'.encode('UTF-8')  
b'\xe2\x82\xac'
```

```
>>> '€'.encode('UTF-16')  
b'\xff\xfe\xac '
```

```
>>> '€'.encode('UTF-32')  
b'\xff\xfe\x00\x00\xac \x00\x00'
```

```
>>> b'\xE2\x82\xAC'.decode('UTF-8')  
'€'
```

```
>>> b'\xff\xfe\xac '.decode('UTF-16')  
'€'
```

```
>>> b'\xff\xfe\x00\x00\xac \x00\x00'.decode('UTF-32')  
'€'
```

R

Unicode Data	
Name	DOUBLE-STRUCK CAPITAL R
Block	Letterlike Symbols
Category	Letter, Uppercase [Lu]
Combine	0
BIDI	Left-to-Right [L]
Decomposition	 LATIN CAPITAL LETTER R (U+0052)
Mirror	N
Old name	DOUBLE-STRUCK R
Index entries	numbers, real R, DOUBLE-STRUCK CAPITAL real numbers set of real numbers, the
Comments	the set of real numbers
Version	Unicode 1.1.0 (June, 1993)

Encodings	
HTML Entity (decimal)	ℝ
HTML Entity (hex)	&x211d;
How to type in Microsoft Windows	Alt +211D
UTF-8 (hex)	0xE2 0x84 0x9D (e2849d)
UTF-8 (binary)	11100010:10000100:10011101
UTF-16 (hex)	0x211D (211d)
UTF-16 (decimal)	8,477
UTF-32 (hex)	0x0000211D (211d)
UTF-32 (decimal)	8,477
C/C++/Java source code	"\u211D"
Python source code	u"\u211D"
More...	

In-browser UTF-8 test: <http://www.fileformat.info/info/unicode/utf8test.htm>
 UTF-8 format description: <http://www.fileformat.info/info/unicode/utf8.htm>