

# Proposal for Emoji: Anvil

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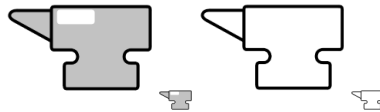
Date: 2024-04-12

## 1. Identification: anvil

- a. **Keywords:** heavy, weight, metal, blacksmith, metalwork
- b. **Category:** Objects > Tools

## 2. Images:

### a. Color and black&white example images



- b. **Licence:** These images are licenced under a [CC BY-SA 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/) licence

## 3. Factors for Inclusion

### a. Expresses multiple concepts: Yes

- i. Represents the idea of "heavy things"
  - 1. In contrast with "light things" like feather 🪶
  - 2. Other heavy things are not specifically heavy, but an anvil is very associated with the idea of heavy
    - a. Other heavy things include whale 🐳 elephant 🐘 person lifting weights 🏋️ filing cabinet 🗄️
- ii. Represents the idea of "accidents": anvils are used extensively in cartoon media as falling objects
- iii. Represents "repair", as anvils are used to repair metalwork
- iv. Can be used to illustrate the idea of "dropping a bombshell"

### b. Can be used with other emoji to convey additional concepts: Yes

- i. Can be combined with person and a Zero Width Joiner (ZWJ) to create "blacksmith" job
- ii. Can be combined with any emoji and a Zero Width Joiner (ZWJ) to create a "squished" version of that emoji
  - 1. compression 🗜️ could also be used for this
- iii. Can be used with the cloud ☁️ emoji to represent "anvil clouds" ([Cumulonimbus incus on Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cumulonimbus_incus))

### c. Breaks new ground: Yes

- i. Some tool emoji exist but there is nothing for blacksmithing, which is important in every culture. Existing tool emoji include:
  - 1. hocho (Japanese kitchen knife) 🗡️ hammer 🛠️ wrench 🗜️ nut and bolt 🛡️
  - 2. hammer and pick 🛠️ pick ⚒️ hammer and wrench 🛠️ toolbox 🧰 screwdriver 🔩 carpentry saw 🪚
- ii. There is no emoji to broadly represent metalwork. Related emoji include:
  - 1. gear ⚙️ chains ⚙️ old key 🔑
- iii. Anvils are important historical devices for a metalworking society. Other related historical devices include:
  - 1. scales ⚖️ alembic 🧪

**d. Is legible and visually distinctive: Yes**

- i. There are many different shapes and types of anvil. The shape proposed by this document is representative of a whole class of anvils.
- ii. The anvil shape is recognisable as it is used throughout media - like children's cartoons - without prior explanation

**e. Completes an incomplete category: N/A**

**f. Is needed for compatibility with popular existing systems: N/A**

**g. Has a high usage level**

**i. In popular culture**

1. Anvils are referenced often in TV shows, such as "Where did all the Anvils go?" from "Gilmore Girls" ([YouTube](#), [wiki](#))
2. From [Wikipedia](#): "A typical [...] anvil [...] is a standard prop for [cartoon gags](#), as the epitome of a heavy and clumsy object that is perfect for dropping onto an antagonist. This visual metaphor is common, for example, in [Warner Brothers' Looney Tunes](#) and [Merrie Melodies](#) shorts, such as those with [Wile E. Coyote and the Road Runner](#).<sup>[4]</sup>"

**ii. In video games**

Anvils are incredibly pervasive throughout video games. A few examples include: [Minecraft](#) - [Terraria](#) - [Starbound](#) - [Valheim](#) - [V-Rising](#) - [World of Warcraft](#) - [Runescape](#) - [The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim](#) - [Roblox Islands](#) - [Stardew Valley](#) - [Sun Haven](#) - [Nightingale](#) - [Dwarf Fortress](#) - [Wizard101](#) - [ARK: Survival Evolved](#) - [Eco](#) - [Muck](#) - [Core Keeper](#) - [Necesse](#) - [Northwind](#) - [Dragon Quest Builders 2](#) - [Guild Wars 2](#) - [Dead Poly](#) - [Divinity: Original Sin](#) - [Colony Survival](#)

**iii. As audio**

1. The anvil "clang" sound effect is used and distributed extensively (see soundboards: [pixabay](#), [myinstants](#), [pond5](#), [deadsounds](#))
2. From [Wikipedia](#): "Anvils have been used as [percussion instruments](#) in several famous [musical compositions](#), including [...]"

**iv. In tradition**

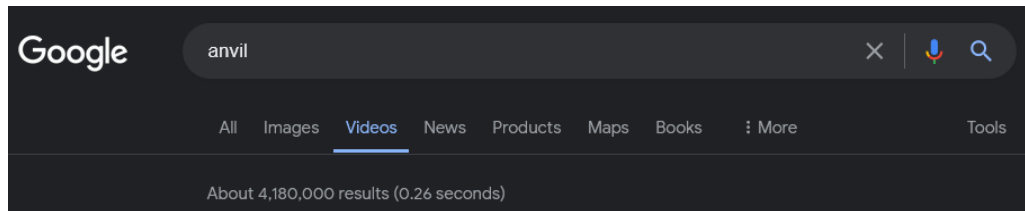
For example, anvils have a high historical importance in Gretna Green ([Wikipedia](#)) in Scotland, where they have become symbols of weddings, and priests there referred to as "anvil priests" ([Wikipedia](#))

**v. Search Frequency**

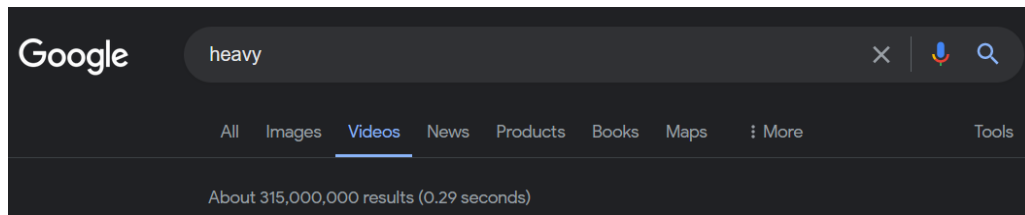
For all trend results, the search for "heavy" is also included, as it is deemed a relevant search term related to the anvil.

**1. Google Video Search:**

[About 4,180,000 results](#) (anvil)

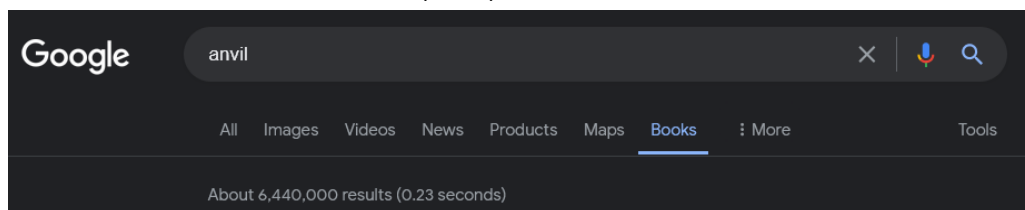


[About 315,000,000 results](#) (heavy)

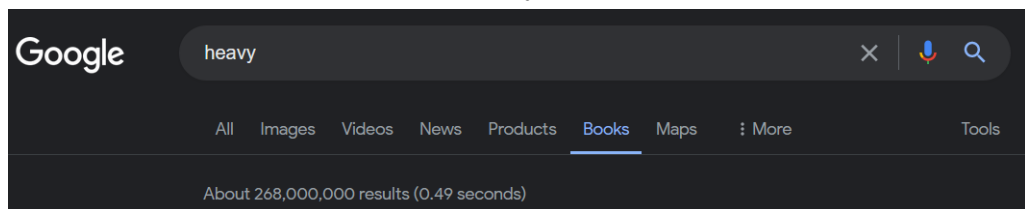


**2. Google Books:**

[About 6,440,000 results](#) (anvil)



[About 268,000,000 results](#) (heavy)



### 3. Google Books Ngram Viewer:

[Anvil](#)

Google Books Ngram Viewer

Q elephant,anvil

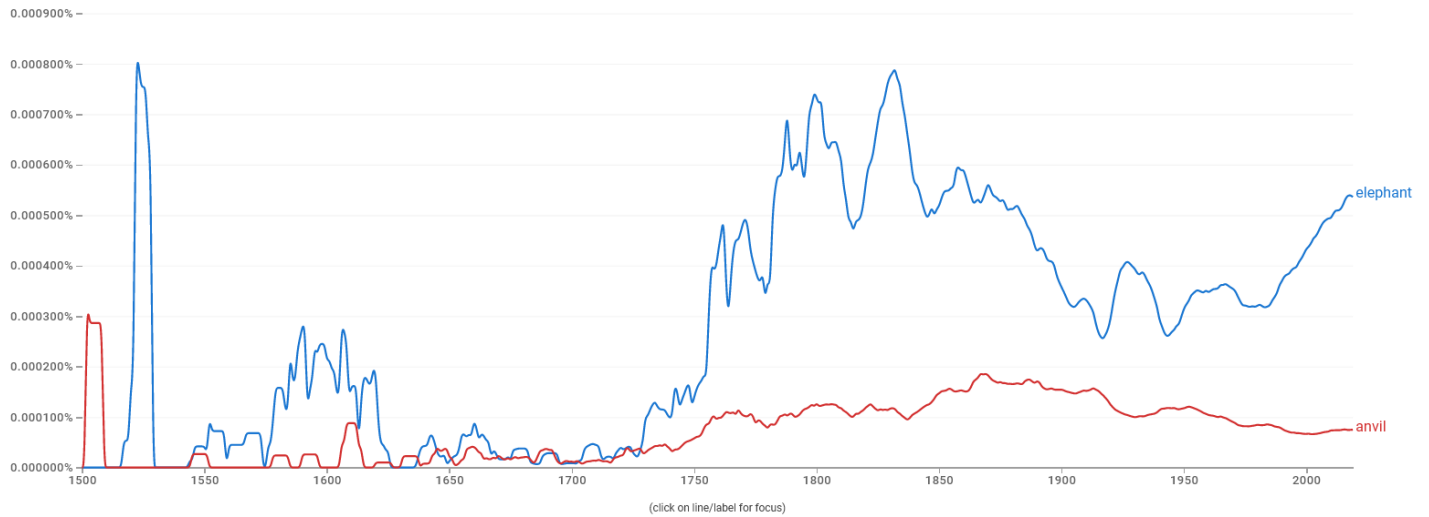
× ?

1500 - 2019

English (2019)

Case-Insensitive

Smoothing



[Heavy](#)

Google Books Ngram Viewer

Q elephant,heavy

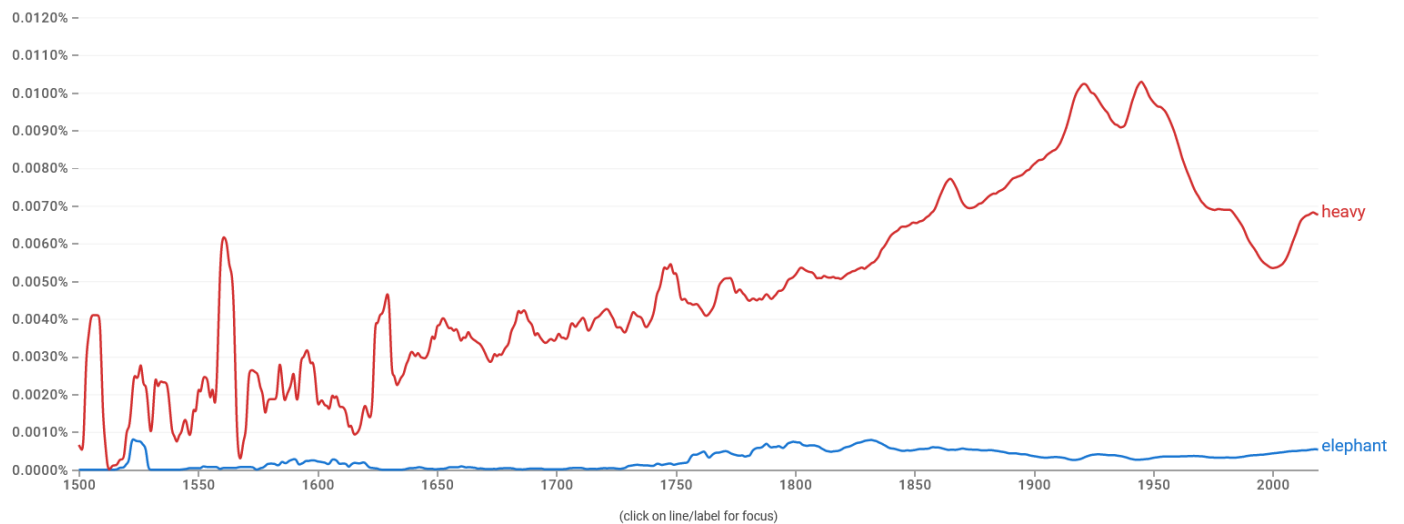
× ?

1500 - 2019

English (2019)

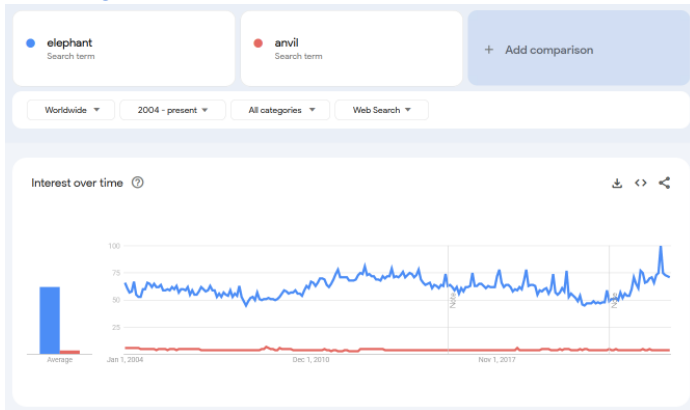
Case-Insensitive

Smoothing

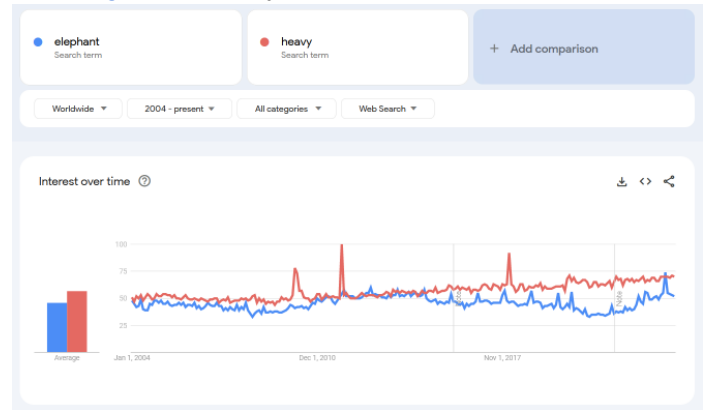


## 4. Google Trends: Web Search

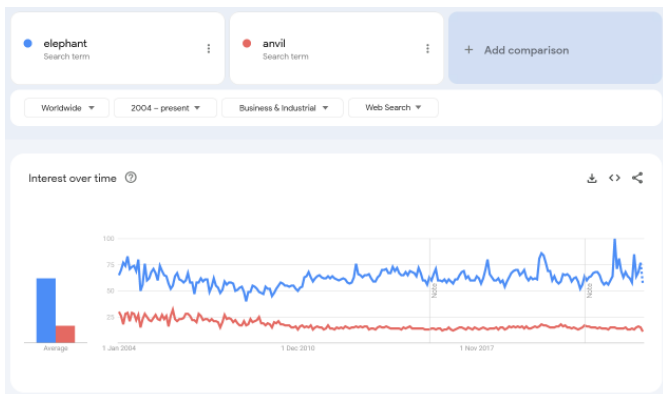
### All categories (anvil)



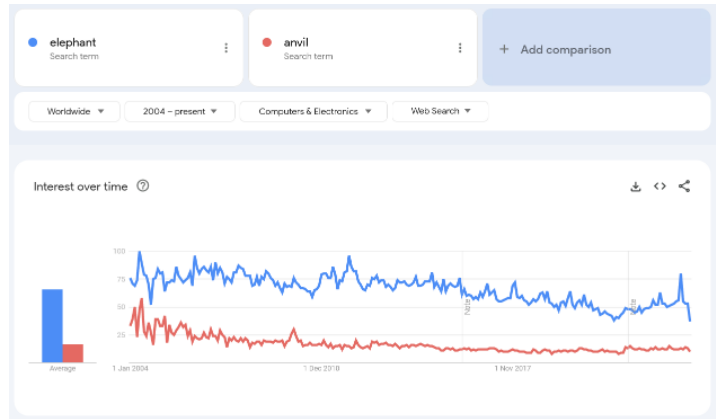
### All categories (heavy)



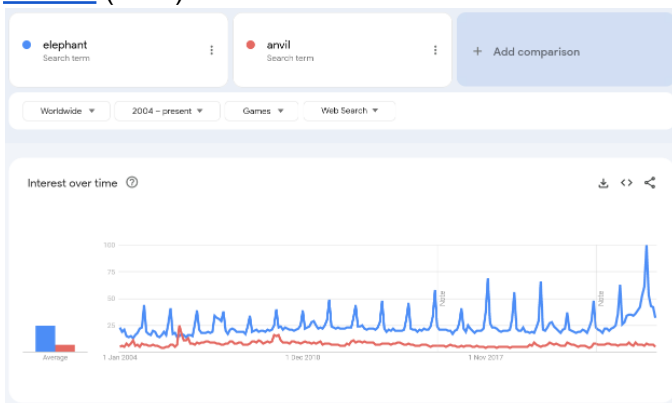
### Business & Industrial (anvil)



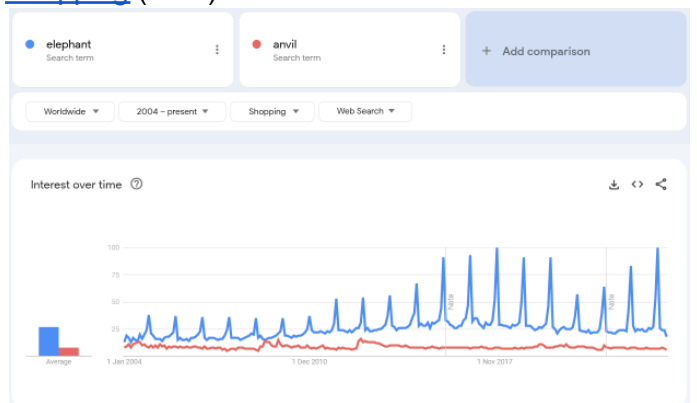
### Computers & Electronics (anvil)



### Games (anvil)

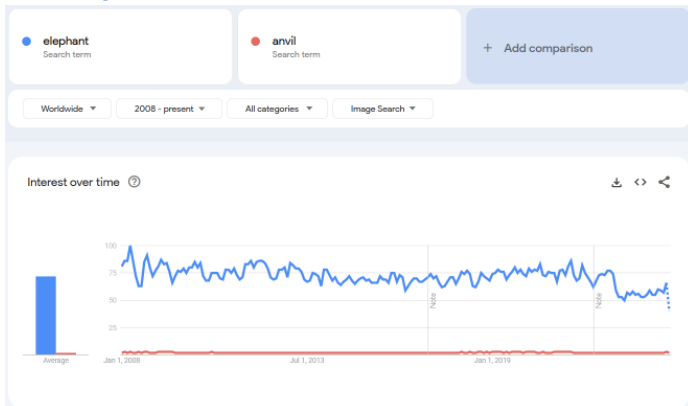


### Shopping (anvil)

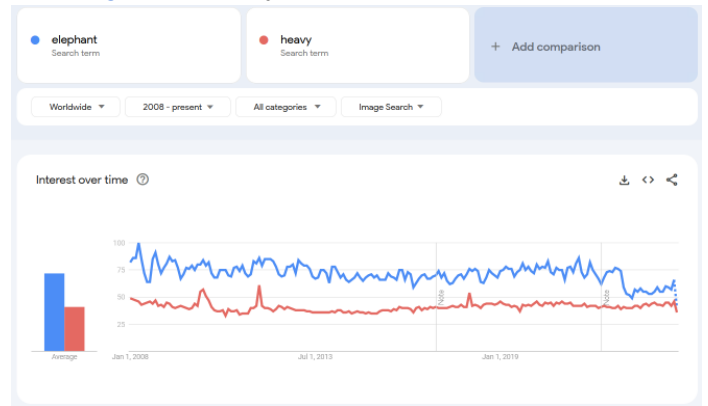


## 5. Google Trends: Image Search

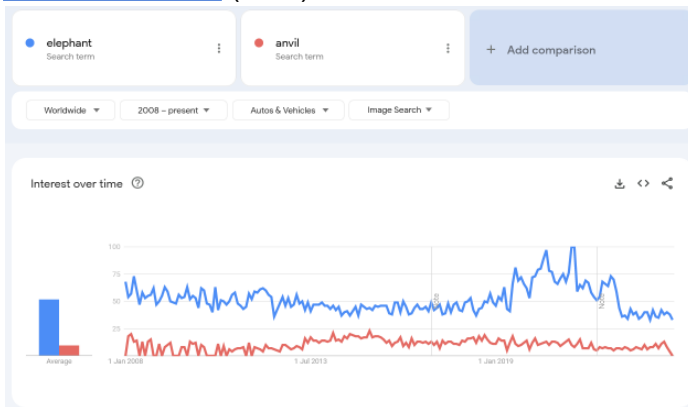
### All categories (anvil)



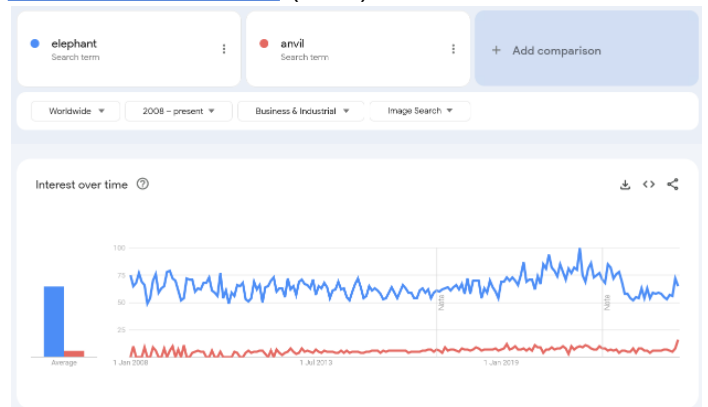
### All categories (heavy)



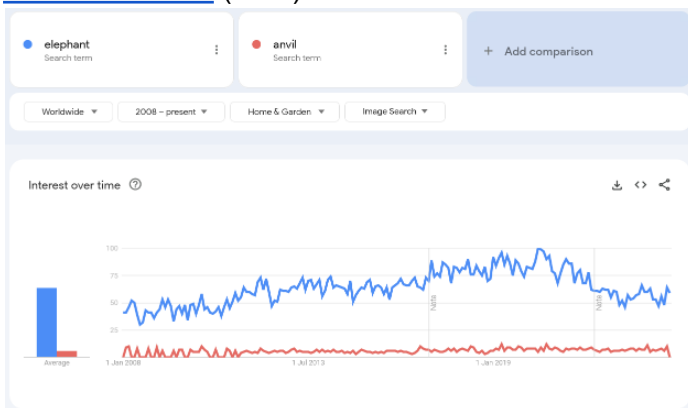
### Autos & Vehicles (anvil)



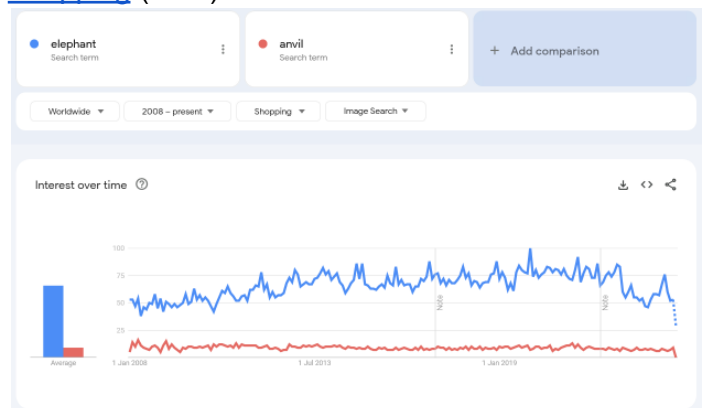
### Business & Industrial (anvil)



### Home & Garden (anvil)



### Shopping (anvil)



#### 4. Factors for Exclusion

##### a. Already represented: No

- i. Other heavy things are not specifically heavy, but an anvil is very associated with the idea of heavy. Other heavy things include:

1. whale 🐳 elephant 🐘 person lifting weights 🏋️ filing cabinet 🗄️

##### b. Overly specific: No

- i. Some tool emoji exist but there is nothing for blacksmithing, which is important in every culture. Existing tool emoji include:

1. hocho (Japanese kitchen knife) 🗡️ hammer 🔨 wrench 🛠️ nut and bolt 🌰  
2. hammer and pick 🛠️ pick 🪓 hammer and wrench 🛠️ toolbox 🧰 screwdriver 🔩  
carpentry saw 🪚

##### c. Open-ended: No

- i. Anvils may look different to one another, but are overall a unique object.

##### d. Transient: No

- i. Anvils have existed for thousands of years in every culture involving metalworking.

##### e. Justified by an existing emoji: N/A

#### 5. Other information: N/A