

The Battle of the Desktops

KDE vs. GNOME

Of course, the two major desktop environments, KDE and GNOME, have their own fan clubs, but this cover story will be comparing the two. Instead of individual tests on separate desktops this issue offers three articles that compare various aspects of both KDE and GNOME.

- Page 20 and following look into the visual impact of the new features. How has the look and feel of KDE and GNOME, and their basic control elements (windows, menus, start and taskbars, etc.) changed?
- Both desktops comprise powerful file managers that offer far more than the facility for navigating directories, copying, and deleting files: Konqueror (KDE) and Nautilus (GNOME) are compared on page 23 and following.
- Finally, part 3 (starting on page 26) looks into applications, after all, both desktops are packed with integrated tools and utilities that go a long way to defining the look and feel of the desktop.

And what else?

There are also a few alternatives for those of you unfamiliar with KDE and GNOME. The workshop starting on page 30 shows you how to create your own

The battle of the desktops – this is what we have all been waiting for; the new KDE and GNOME versions, out more or less simultaneously, and our big opportunity to provide a detailed comparative analysis of the two.

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themes for the *Window Maker* window manager. And *deskTOPIa*, which you will find on page 80, introduces you to an alternative file manager called *emelfm*. ■

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KDE vs. GNOME File Managers .23

Find out why Nautilus and Konqueror are such high performance file managers.

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Window Maker Themes30

How to create your own desktop designs and themes.

Blackbox Window Managers ...34

All the features in a smaller quicker window manager.

Installation

KDE 3.1

To install the KDE 3.1 packages on SuSE Linux 8.1, you will need to update the *pilot-link* package. Our sister magazine website at <http://www.linux-user.de/ausgabe/2003/04/025-intro/> provides a link to the *pilot-link-0.11.7-1.i386.rpm* archive.

Before installing, you should first update your *pilot-link* package:

```
rpm -Uvh pilot-link-0.11.7-1.i386.rpm
```

and then install all the RPM packages from your favorite KDE directory:

```
rpm --force -Uvh /myfavoritedirectory/KDE/SuSE/8.1/*.rpm
```

New RPM's for SuSE 8.1 can be found online along with Debian Woody packages. The best place to start is at <http://www.kde.org/download/>

GNOME 2.2

There were no binaries available for GNOME 2.2 when this month's issue went to press and so you will have to rely on source packages <http://www.gnome.org/start/2.2/>