

KDE vs. Windows 7

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For several years, I've been saying that KDE is no longer trying to catch up with Windows, but surpassed it several years ago. However, last week a reader challenged me to prove it.

While KDE is consistently extending the metaphor of the desktop, Windows 7 is different only in a few minor ways from its first ancestor Windows 95. Moreover, many of these differences are more a matter of fashion, such as displaying icons on the taskbar rather than application names, as they are genuine improvements.

I can say this, despite the fact that Windows 7 comes in several editions, because the differences between these editions is largely in additional applications, not the graphical interface. So far as I can see, the only major exception to this observation is that the Starter edition that ships with notebooks lacks the tools to change the wallpaper or desktop theme.

Otherwise, KDE and Windows 7 invite comparison far more than Windows and GNOME or Unity.

[Rest here](#) [3]

[KDE](#) [Microsoft](#)

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