

# GNOME or KDE? The Old Question Is New Today

By *srlinuxx*

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Should you use KDE or GNOME on your Linux desktop?

At first the question sounds obsolete. Where once GNOME and KDE accounted for seventy percent of Linux desktop installations, today the choice has broadened, with half a dozen environments vying for users' attention.

However, the change is less dramatic than it appears. GNOME 3, Linux Mint's Cinnamon/Mate, and Ubuntu's Unity offer different interfaces, but the same GNOME utilities and applications underneath. Add their popularity together, and the same seventy percent of the Linux users ? give or take ? continue to select either KDE or GNOME. So the question of which to choose remains as timely as ever.

Here's how today's Big Four compare from where I sit. I have awarded points for ranking in each category, with the lowest score being the best:

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[KDE Software](#)

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**Links:**

[1] <http://www.tuxmachines.org/taxonomy/term/108>

[2] <http://www.tuxmachines.org/taxonomy/term/38>

[3] <http://www.datamation.com/open-source/gnome-or-kde-the-old-question-is-new-today-1.html>