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Created *17/05/2014 - 1:26am*

Submitted by Rianne Schestowitz on Saturday 17th of May 2014 01:26:41 AM Filed under [KDE](#) [1]

The first beta of what will become the next-generation KDE Plasma workspace (KDE Next) was released yesterday. The final release is scheduled for release sometime in July (2014), so things should be moving really fast from now on. Here's an excerpt from the release announcement:

The Plasma team would like to ask the wider Free Software community to test this release and give any feedback . Plasma Next is built using QML and runs on top of a fully hardware-accelerated graphics stack using Qt 5, QtQuick 2 and an OpenGL(-ES) scenegraph. Plasma Next provides a core desktop experience that will be easy and familiar for current users of KDE workspaces or alternative Free Software or proprietary offerings.

[2]

[KDE](#)

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

[2] <http://www.linuxbsdos.com/2014/05/15/screenshots-of-kde-plasma-next-beta-1/>