Plasma: State of the Union



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Plasma 5 Status

- Design now integral part of the process
- Code review is almost universal
- More automated testing, plus live builds
- Users appreciate focus on stability and
- Rapid releases
- Team-driven governance model works well
- Little friction among devs and users

Plasma Last Year

- Frameworks 5 and Plasma 5 are maturing
- 5.8 LTS is well received
- Processes needed some adjustments, but overall we're very happy
- LTS fills a niche and makes distros happy

Plasma: What's up Now?

- Big push for Wayland
- Productivity features
- Plasma Mobile
- Kirigami matures
- System Settings overhaul

Why Wayland?

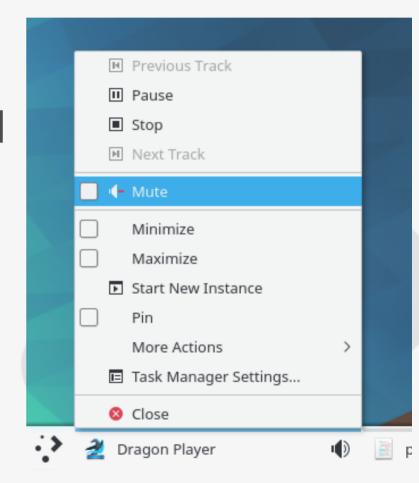
- Leaner graphics stack
- Better protocol semantics
- Improved rendering: Less tearing, More FPS
- Potentially more secure
- Improved High-DPI display support

Wayland Status

- It's "getting there"
- More testing needed (Neon Images!)
- Wayland on Nvidia hardware is an unsolved problem
- More testing is needed
- More help is needed as well!

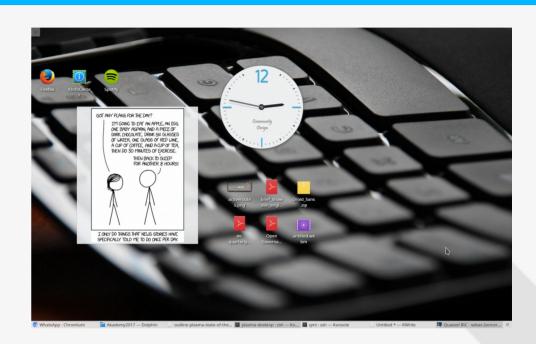
Taskbar Enhancements

- Jump lists, for e.g. filesystem places
- Progress of downloads and other jobs in task manager
- Window switching shortcuts (Meta + <number>)



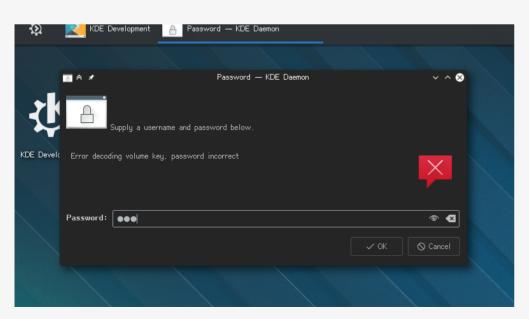
Folderview and Widgets

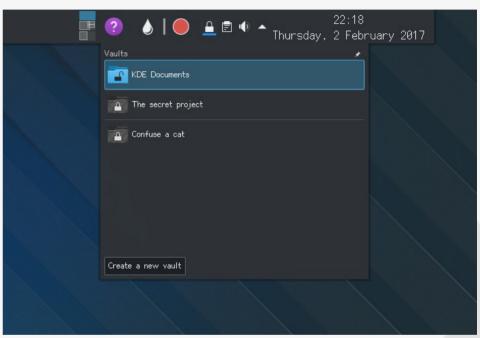
- Folderview by default
- Widgets inside folder view
- Resizing widgets by dragging borders
- Lots of rendering improvements, performance and bugs fixed



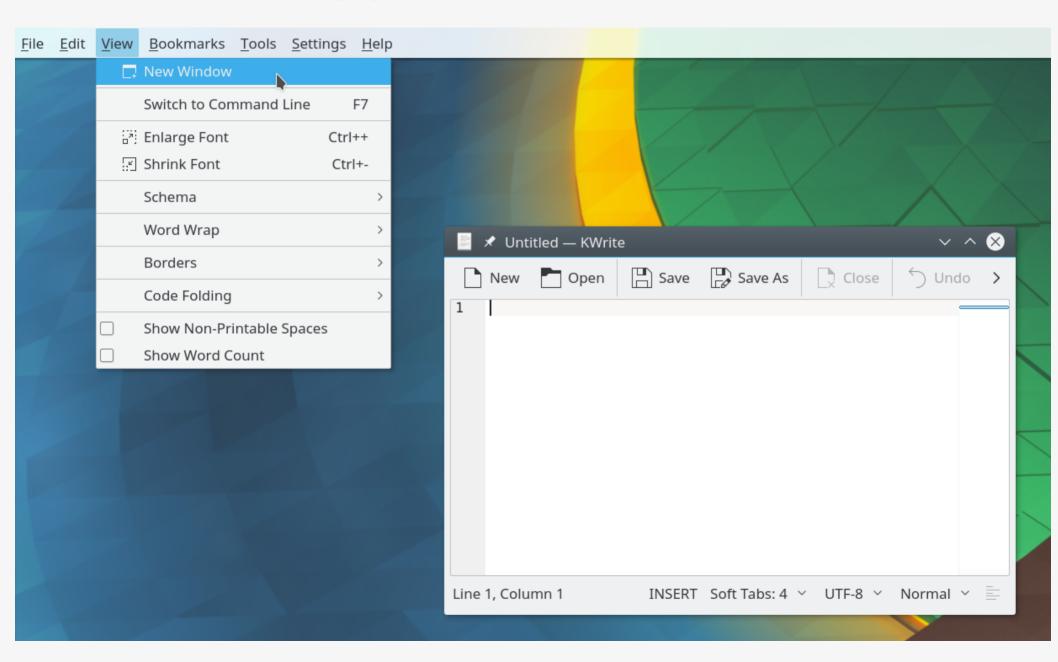
Plasma Vault

- Encrypted Volumes
- Ties in with Activities

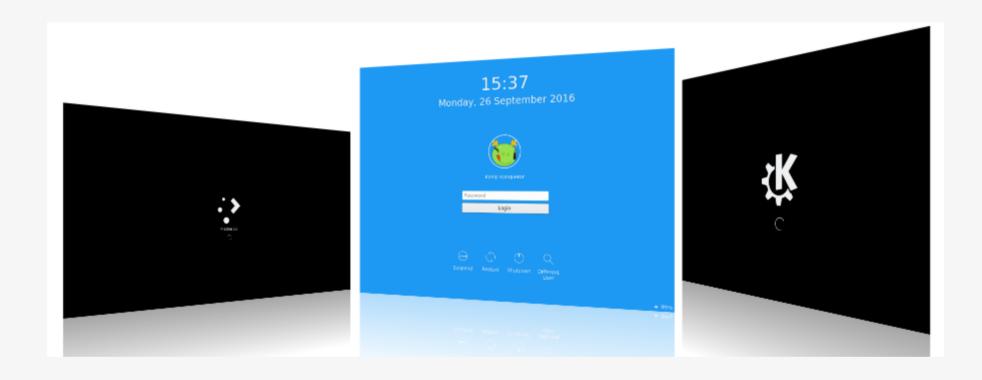




AppMenu is back!



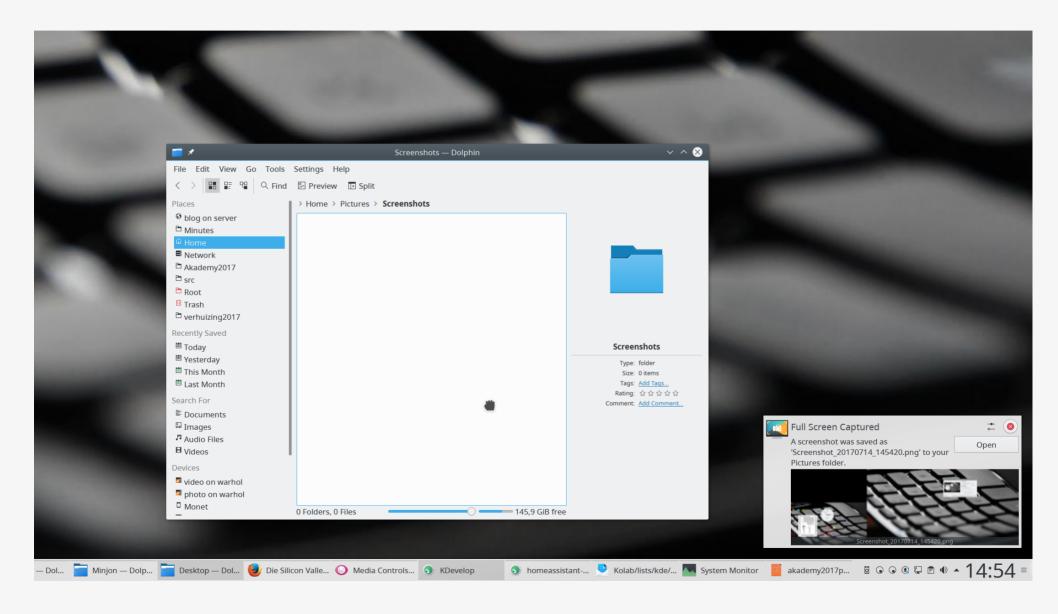
Boot-to-Shutdown artwork



Improved Touchscreen Support



Interactive Previews

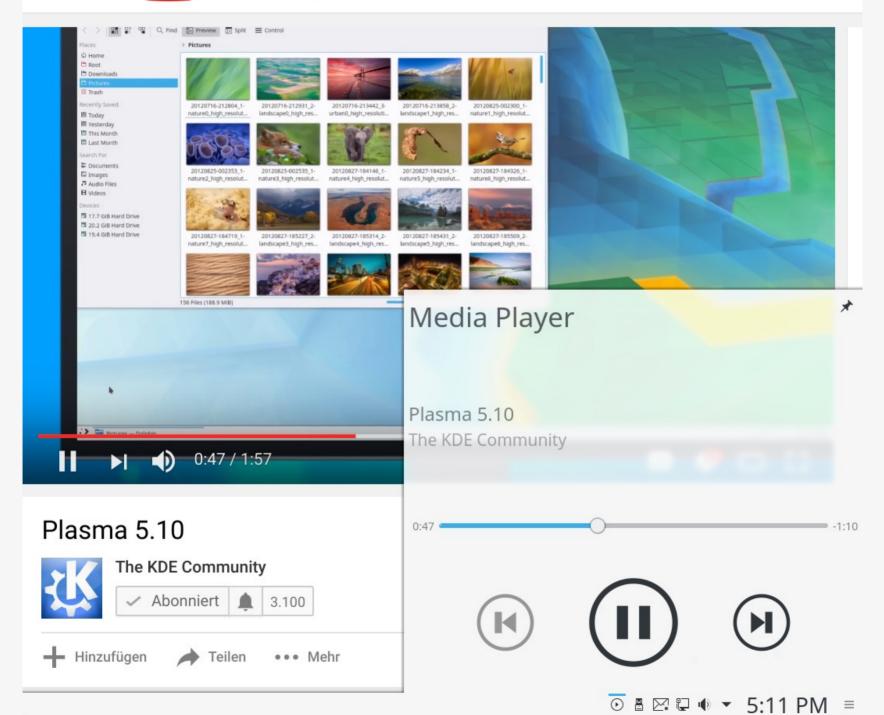


Web Browser Integration

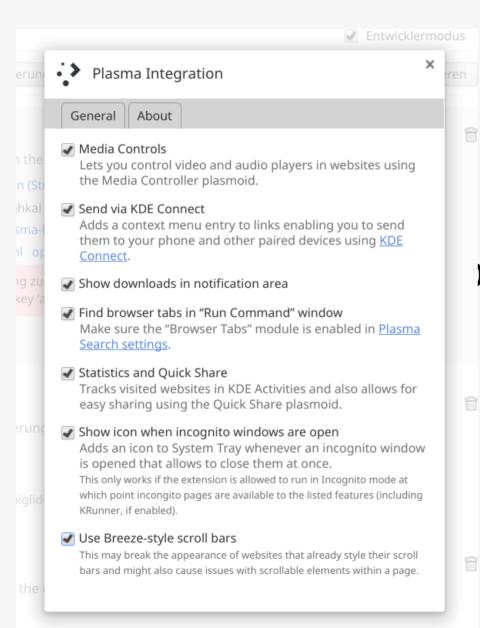
- Media controls
- Download progress in task manager
- Send URL to device (via KDE Connect)
- Browser tabs runner
- More to come...



plasma 5.10





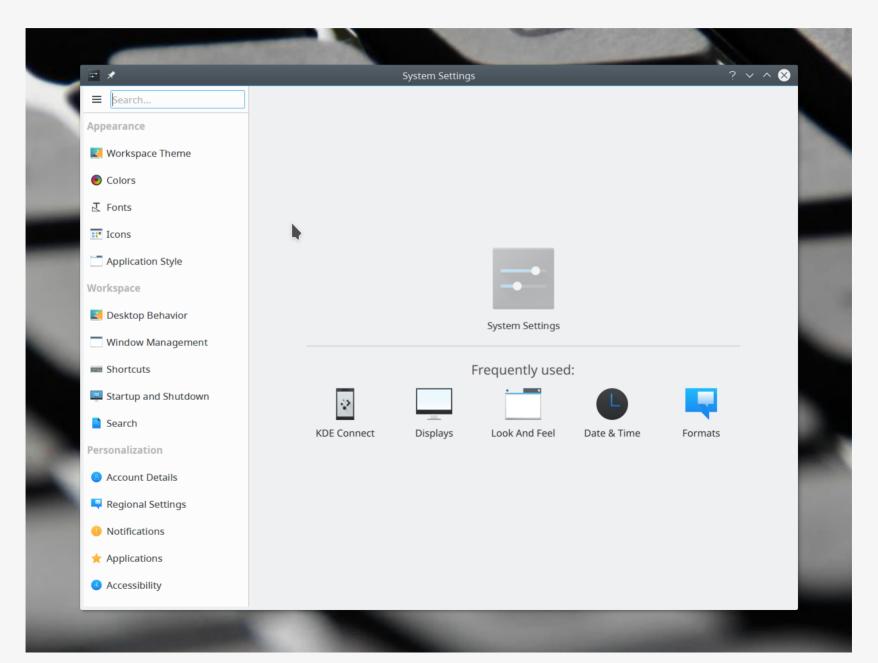




System Settings 3.0

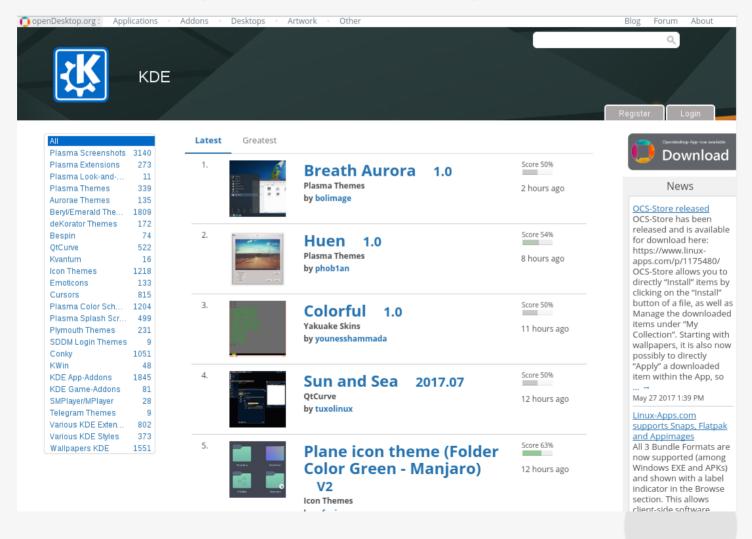
- System Settings gets a UI overhaul
- New Mode is optional, tree and icon view still exist
- Modules continue to be improved, but will take some time

System Settings 3.0



Store

store.kde.org is flourishing (Donations!)



Plasma Mobile: Halium

- Less contenders (Firefox and Ubuntu Mobile are gone)
- Halium collaboration effort
- New reference device: Nexus 5X
- New hardware support much easier

Plasma's Vision

Plasma is a **cross-device** work environment by the KDE Community where trust is put on the user's capacity to best **define her own workflow and preferences**.

Plasma is **simple by default**, a clean work area for **real-world** usage which intends to **stay out of your way**.

Plasma is **powerful when needed**, **enabling the user** to create the workflow that makes her more **effective** to complete her tasks.

Plasma **never dictates** the user's needs, it only strives to solve them. Plasma never defines what the user is allowed to do, it only ensures that she can.

Our motivation is to enable actual work to happen, across devices, across different platforms, using any application needed.

We build to be durable, we create to be usable, we design to be elegant.

Plasma Future: Next LTS

- Plasma 5.12 will be the next LTS release
- Supported for at least 2 years
- ~6 months support overlap with 5.8 LTS
- Very similar to how we handle 5.8 LTS
- Required Qt is 5.9 (also LTS)
- Aligns well with downstream plans

Plasma Future: Containerization

- Containerization technology matures
- Great way to deliver the latest apps to users
- More direct way of deployment
- Better control over the stack
- Especially worthwhile within the scale of KDE
- Support in Discover and store.kde.org

Plasma Future: Stable!

- No Big Break on the horizon
- Core will continue to be improved
- Bugs fixed
- Performance improved
- Features added
- Also: Wayland!

Thanks!

Muchas Gracias!