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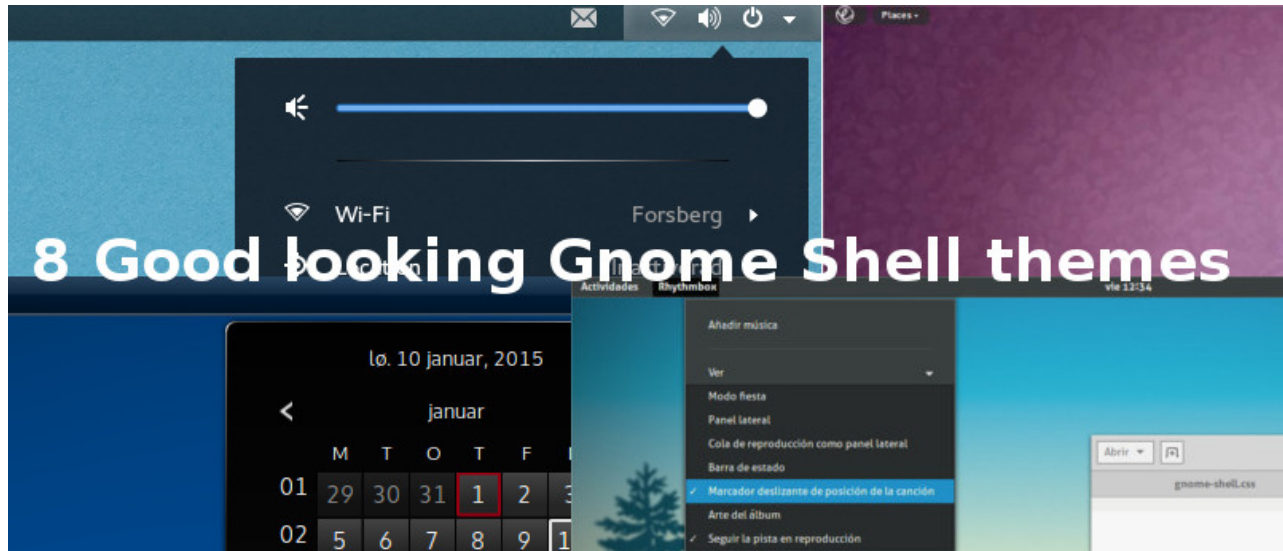
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8 Good-looking Gnome Shell Themes



Derrick Diener 3rd Feb 2015 **Linux** **12 Comments**

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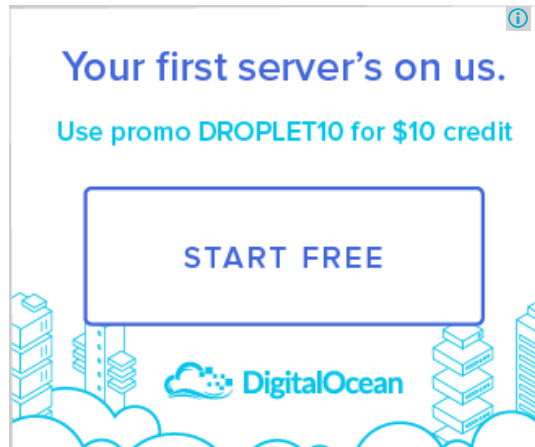
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This article is part of the [Linux Desktop Themes](#) series:

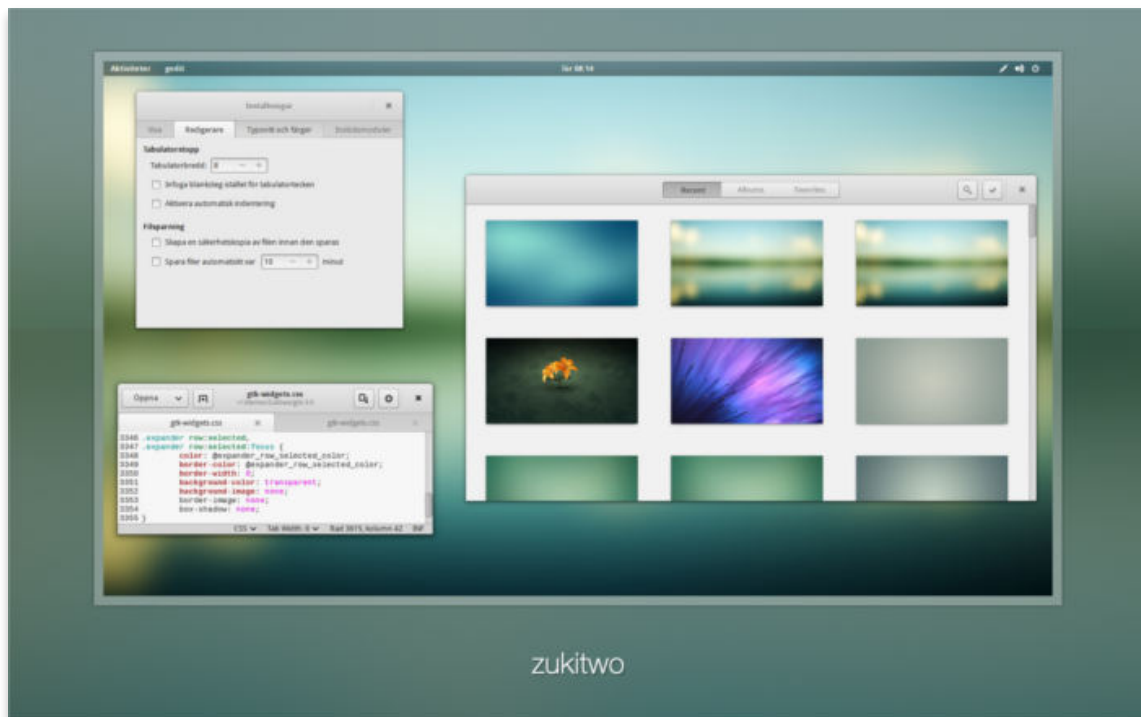
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Do you love Gnome Shell but hate the way it looks? Don't worry, the Internet is chock full of better-looking



Note: the installation instructions to all these themes can easily be found on the same page in which you download them from.

1. Zukitwo



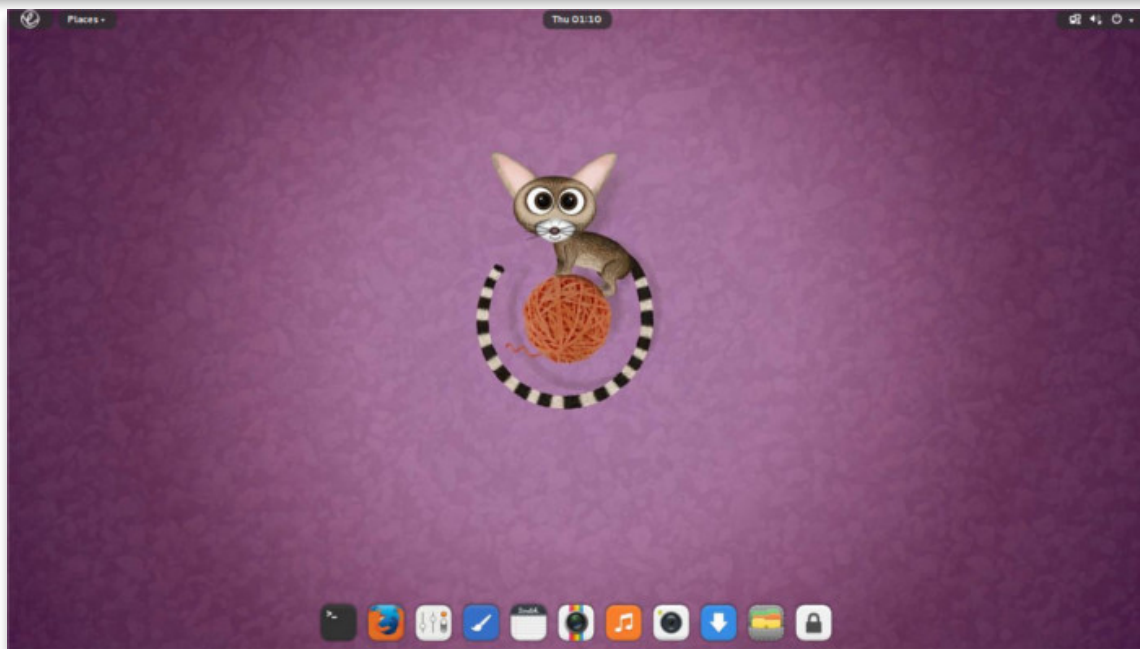
[Zukitwo](#) is a beautiful, transparent and minimal looking theme. Why is it number one? Simple. It can make the Gnome Shell desktop look absolutely stunning without going crazy with style changes. Sometimes the simple things look the best.

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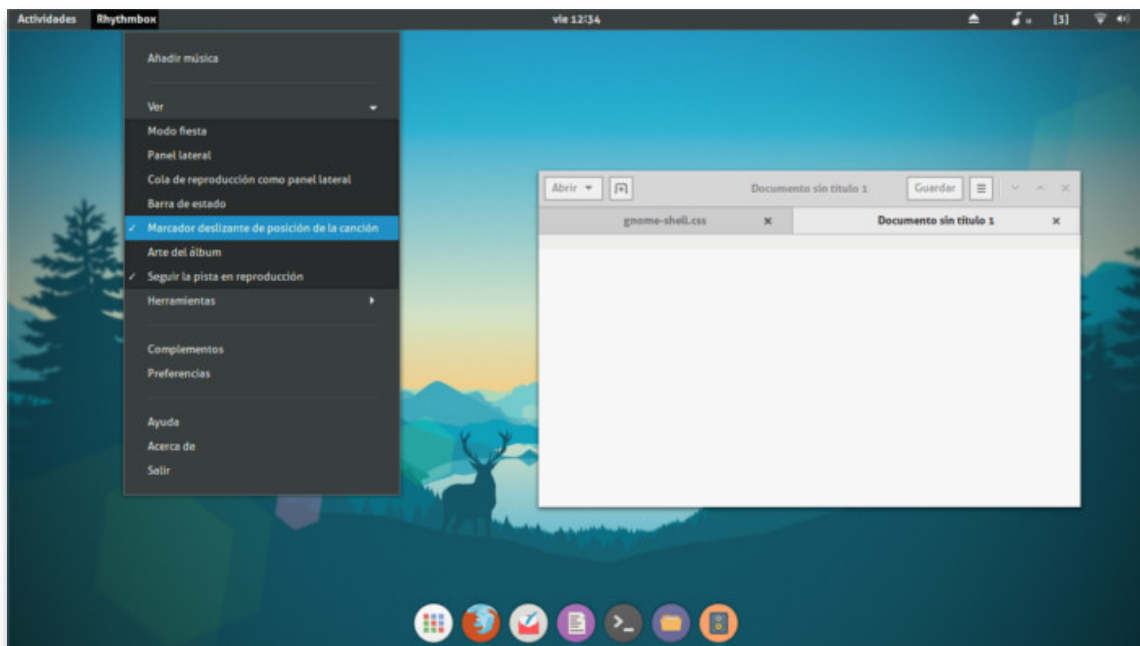
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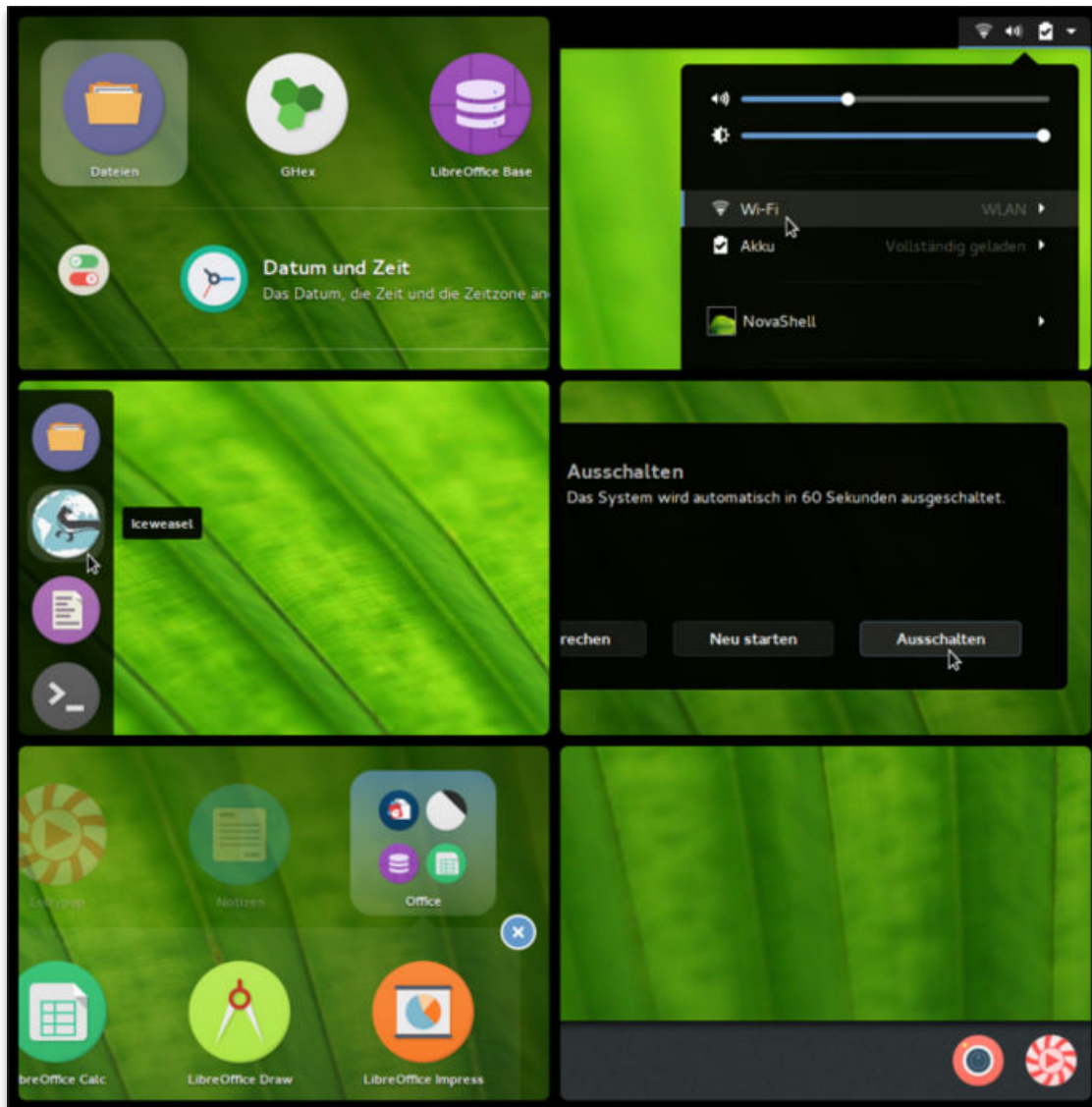
[Lexis](#) is an incredibly refreshing theme that we've all been waiting for. It doesn't go for the typical flat design trend and instead goes its own way by removing excess parts from the Gnome Shell top bar. And in doing so, it makes Gnome look completely new and shiny.

3. Zukitre Shell



[Zukitre Shell](#) is a Gnome Shell theme inspired by a GTK theme sporting the same name. There certainly isn't

4. NovaShell



So, if my past articles are any indication, I prefer minimalism when it comes to design and especially when it comes to aesthetics. [NovaShell](#) is a theme dedicated to making the Gnome Shell simplistic in the looks department, and it is one of my favorite examples. If you love minimal, you'll probably love the NovaShell take on it.

5. EleganzE

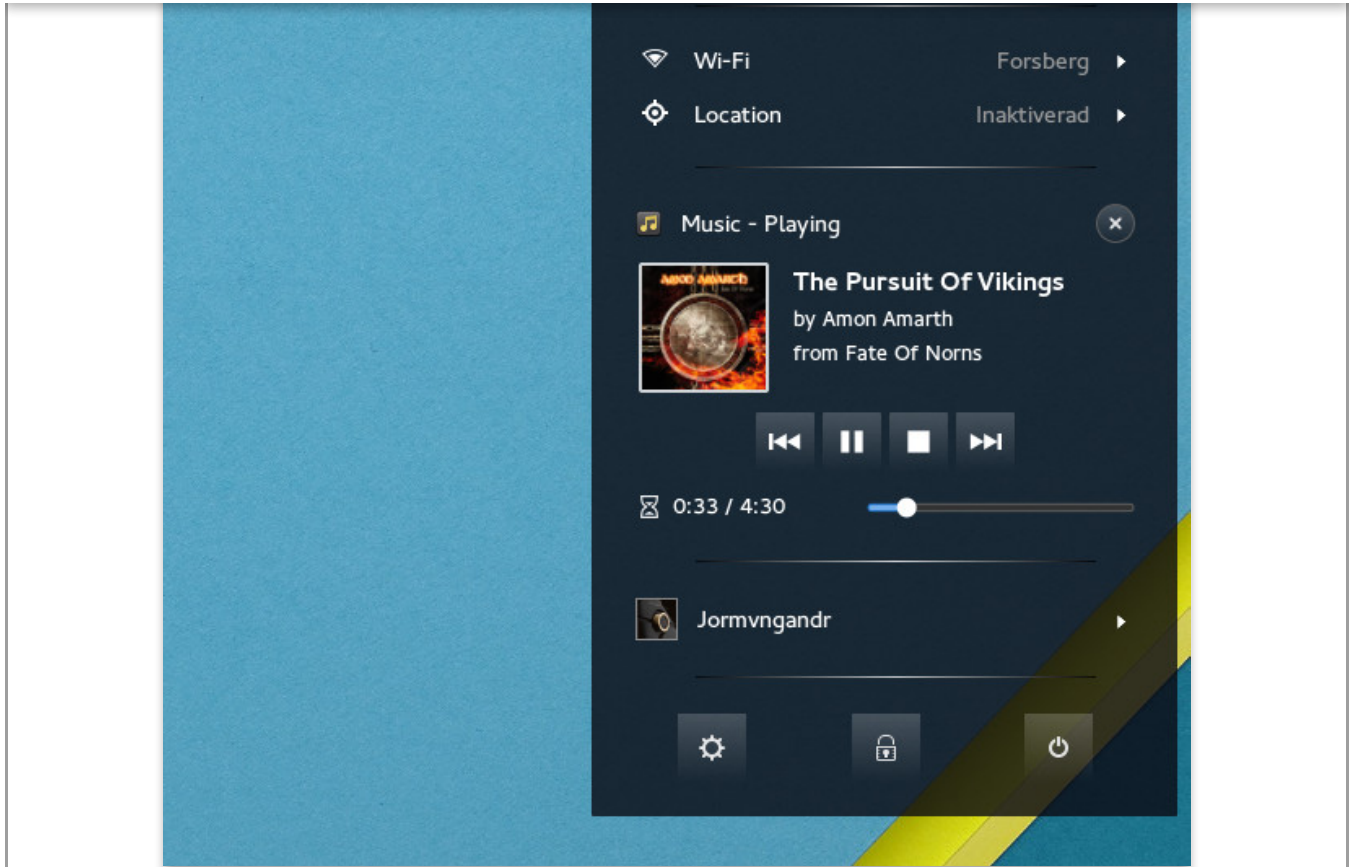


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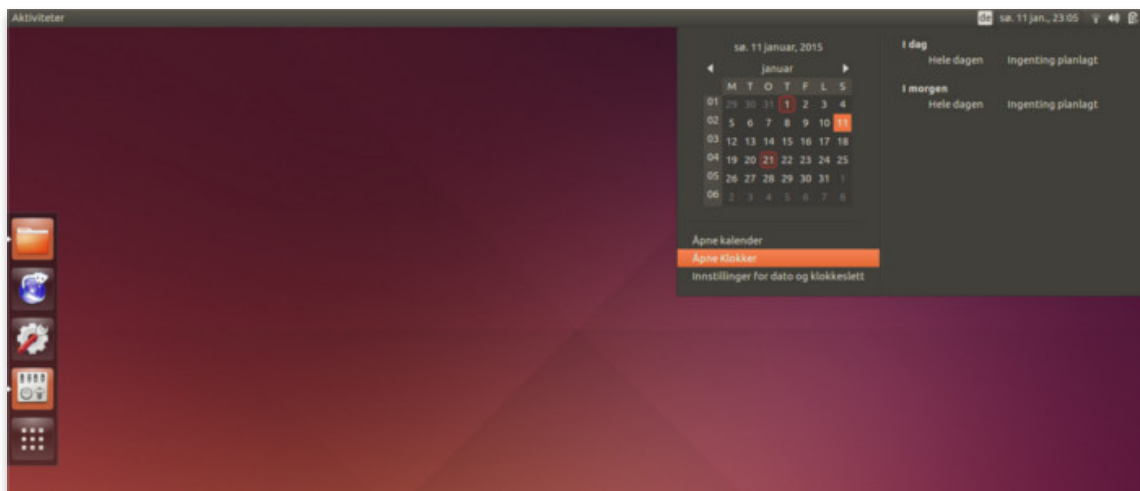
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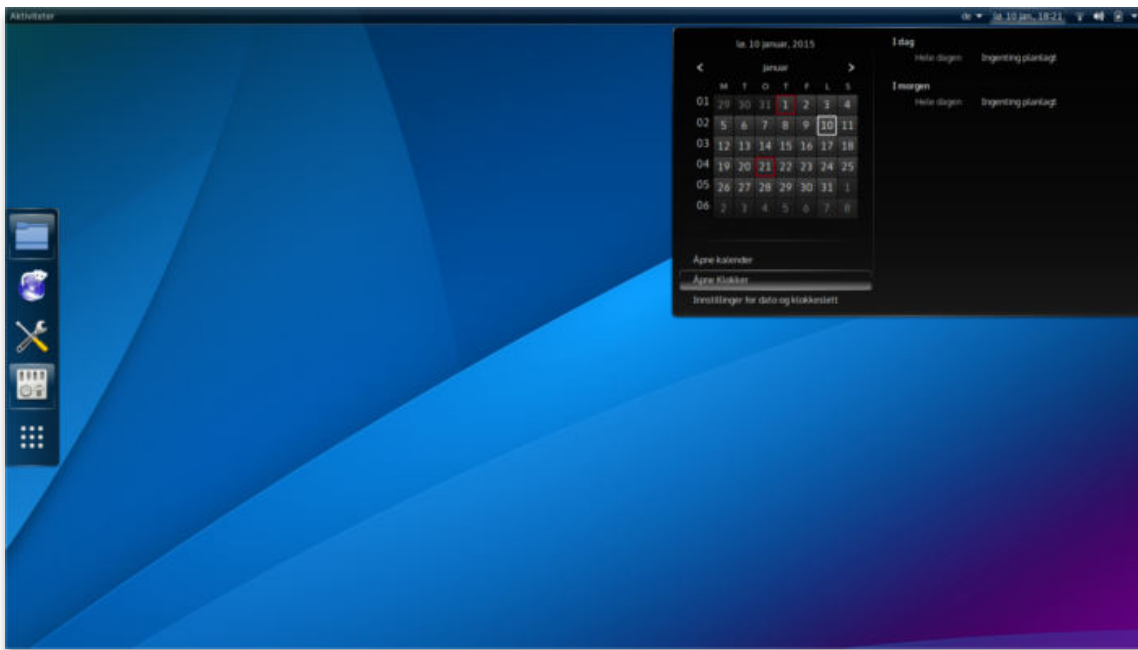
EleganZe is elegant, or to put it more correctly, elegant looking. It changes Gnome up a little bit and makes it transparent and easier on the eyes. That's basically what this theme does. It takes Gnome and makes everything a little easier to look at. It doesn't over-complicate it with insane changes, just small little things. Overall, EleganZe is a modest theme for modest individuals.

6. Ambiance Gnome



Have you ever wanted to make your Gnome Shell desktop look more like Unity or Ubuntu? If you install [Ambiance Gnome](#) to your system, you'll be able to! This theme takes heavy inspiration from the Ambiance theme that has shipped with Ubuntu for years. How awesome is that?

7. Oxygenium



I love KDE. I also love Gnome. When I discovered that someone created a theme that makes Gnome Shell look like KDE, I couldn't contain my excitement. Check out [Oxygenium](#). It's the Gnome Shell version of the KDE Plasma theme known as Oxygen. If you love the way KDE looks but are currently on Gnome, I'd seriously consider this one.

8. Xenlism



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[Xenlism](#) is a theme inspired by Elementary OS's window manager theme. Very minimal. So minimal in fact, the Gnome bar is completely transparent. This theme is clearly intended to aide in turning Gnome Shell into something similar to Elementary's Pantheon desktop environment. And you know what? It looks awesome! If you love minimalism, Xenlism should be right up your alley.

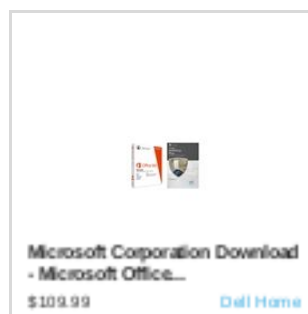
Conclusion

I love Gnome, I must confess. No other desktop environment on Linux, in my view, looks quite as good. And when it comes to themes, no other desktop could be made to look so good with such little effort. Enjoy the list!

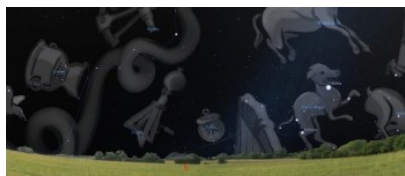
Do you have a favorite Gnome Shell theme that wasn't listed above? We'd love to hear your favorite in the comment section below!

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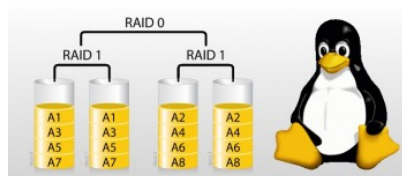
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12 comments

**Donatello**

I gave up Gnome for KDE more than a year ago, and have no regrets.

Feb 4, 2015 at 10:15 am Reply

**TJ**

... Ok. How is that pertinent?

Go to: <http://www.maketecheasier.com/great-kde-plasma-themes/>

Apr 27, 2015 at 11:28 am Reply

**Erik**

Never been to fond of the way KDE4 looks, but I as good as always preferred KDE over Gnome. Now that KDE5 is out, the looks has become really great!

Feb 5, 2015 at 10:27 am Reply

**simon**

I don't see what there is to like about Gnome. You need 3rd party hacks which are often unstable just to be able to customize your Desktop. What a joke.

Kde all the way.

Feb 5, 2015 at 5:43 pm Reply

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Gnome Classic with ClearLooks Phenix theme is fast, simple and functional, like in the good old days of Gnome 2. So why bother with this sh...t of Gnome Shell ?

Feb 6, 2015 at 12:59 am Reply

G

gnumber9

was a gnome user from 99 till whenever 3 came out. i still don't get gnome 3, sorry, i keep an image of it to load every once and while to update and see if it has turned into a user interface, but no luck yet. kde icons already work much better than the default gnome icons, which look like old folders from the back of a filing cabinet. running frameworks 5 on a test machine and watching kde 4 transform into 5, so far it's painless. mate is really getting along and i use it for a gtk based ui when apropos. go opensource and i wish gnome all the luck in the world, whatever it is supposed to be.

Feb 6, 2015 at 7:12 am Reply

W

wally

There are some sharp looking themes there; nice variety of looks, too.
Judging from your commenters so far, the usual Linux fans are out in force. You'd think they'd be happy having found something they like, but noooooo.

Feb 6, 2015 at 8:38 pm Reply

D

Donatello

@Wally: I have found something I like. As I said, it's KDE. Anyone who wants is free to stick with Gnome if that's their preference. That's what's great about Linux... there's a flavor for everyone, and if there isn't a flavor you like, you can create it.

Feb 8, 2015 at 9:59 am Reply

T

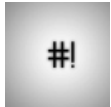
TJ

@Wally, exactly. I don't understand why finding something they like isn't good enough for them, and why they have to post the stereotypical "KDE all the way" comments. OK, I get

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Otherwise, contribute to gnome discussion here since folks coming here are obviously not looking for KDE stuff (I use both KDE and GNOME and expect to find information specific to each from different sources, but instead tend to find a mashup of immature bickering on which is better instead).

Apr 27, 2015 at 11:32 am Reply



Eddie G.

I have been a Gnome user since the Gnome 2.x days, and I'm not about to quit on it! I love the new iteration of Gnome!....And now with these themes/shells out there I can customize it even more! I treid KDE back in it's 4.x days, but its too cluttered and confuseing for my tastes, and while XFCE.....Cinnamon, and MATE are also great, its Gnome that I find the most intuitive and progressive. I will be using Gnome for quite some time i nthe distant future seeing as how my daily driver is based off of it...(Fedora 20!) thans for the information!!!

Feb 8, 2015 at 11:18 am Reply



Laszlo

Gnome is created for those who can live without start menu.

Jun 1, 2015 at 7:23 am Reply



Ayo Isaiah

I actually like Gnome3 and I'm using the Numix theme (not listed here) which looks great, butv yeah, it does require a bit of effort to get it to be useful.

Jun 15, 2015 at 12:12 pm Reply

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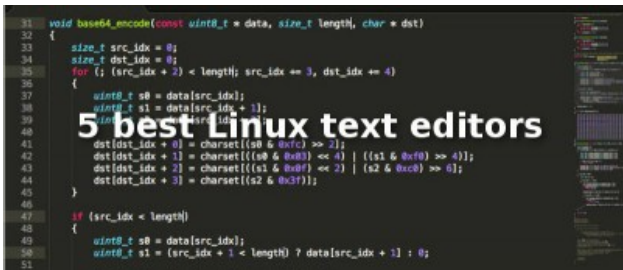
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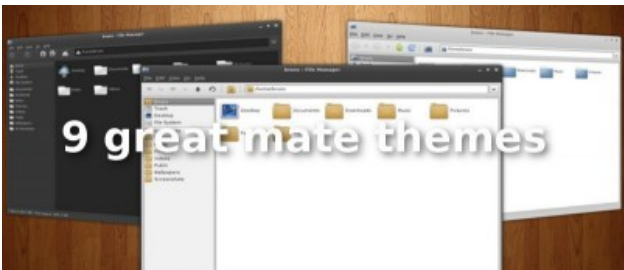
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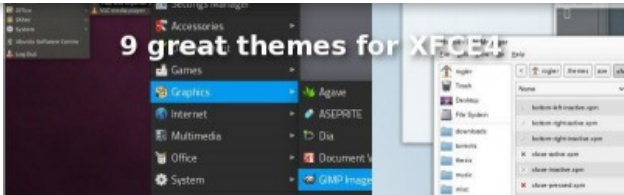
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