

Fedora 9, KDE4, and sucking up to your spouse

Building a KDE4-based distribution,
fostering community and
collaboration.

...and strategies to suck-up to your
spouse for letting you come to an all-
too-fun software conference.

Rex Dieter, akademy 2008

Outline

- * Developing a KDE4-based distribution: Fedora 9

Released May 13, 2008
Shipped with kde-4.0.3

- * Collaboration, community, mentoring

- * And sprinkled in, hints, tips, to keep your significant other happy enough, so that you can come to conferences without risking your relationship.

Packaging goals, guidelines

- * Use a common prefix/root
- * Everything must be parallel-installable (without conflicts)
- * No duplicated (kde3/kde4) apps

Net Result: A single, kde4-only desktop.

Spouse tip: no magic bullet, relationships take time and attention.

KDE3?

What parts of KDE3 to include?

A KDE3 development environment and runtime (most of kdelibs, kdebase, basically).

Interestingly, this includes crystalsvg icon theme from kdelibs3.

Spouse tip: do cater to their whims and wishes

Building KDE4

Building KDE4 was challenging

- * New build technologies (cmake)
- * New build/runtime dependencies
- * New apps/packaging

Spouse tip: show love in everything you do.

Distribution Integration

Want to keep this list as small as possible.

- * Theming (kdm, ksplash, wallpaper)
- * kde3/kde4 -devel parallel-installability (in same prefix):
- * ConsoleKit support: work in progress to upstream.
- * Misc: PackageKit, PulseAudio, Selinux (*)

Spouse tip: gifts are nice, small and large. Can't go wrong with flowers.

Testing/QA

Can't stress this enough.

By getting a KDE4 desktop into the hands of users, we're helping to lead the way for wider exposure and testing. Combine this with Fedora's "contributor" culture, it yields a healthy ecosystem.

Spouse tip: take time to talk.

Community

- * Fedora: kde-sig continued growth, added several active members.
- * KDE: Code of Conduct, etc... good stuff.
- * Mentoring: Important to harness interested new contributors.

Spouse tip: surprises. A night or day off, dinner out, you take kids for a day/afternoon.

More talking-points

- * spins, livecd-creator, revisor
- * fedora's relationship with Red Hat
- * what's up with mp3's? :) patents vs. freedom
- * are the cub's finally going to win the world series?