

# Instant Workstation

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Some considerable time ago I wrote up instructions on how to set up a FreeBSD machine with the latest KDE Plasma Desktop. Those instructions, while fairly short (set up X, install the KDE meta-port, .. and that's it) are a bit fiddly.

So I was prompted slightly by a Twitter exchange recently I've started a mini-sub-project to script the installation of a desktop environment and the bits needed to support it. To give it at least a modicum of UI, dialog(1) is used to ask for an environment to install and a display manager.

The tricky bits I pointed out to me after I started I are hardware support, although a best-effort is better than having nothing, I think.

In any case, in a VBox host it's now down to running a single script and picking Plasma and SDDM to get a usable system for me. Other combinations have not been tested, nor has system-hardware-setup. I'll probably maintain it for a while and if I have time and energy it'll be tried with nVidia (those work quite well on FreeBSD) and AMD (not so much, in my experience) graphics cards when I shuffle some machines around.

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[KDE BSD](#)

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