It's hard to believe, but we're coming up on 10 years of GNOME Shell. Though GNOME 3.0 wasn't released until April of 2011, design and development were in full swing in mid-2010, and had been for some time.

Of course, the shell has not been standing still since then. Many important areas have been refined and iterated on since those early days, including the notifications, the app grid, and the system status area.

Also: [GNOME Shell Continues Eyeing Improvements As It Approaches 10 Years Old](https://www.phoronix.com/scan.php?page=news_item&px=GNOME-Shell-Mid-2020-Plans) [3]