

CoW — Compositor on Wayland



# A stacking window manager using River as the compositor.

Release Information

The latest release of CoW is 0.3 (September 2026).

View the changelog

Next Release

CoW 0.4 currently includes 23 merged changes since the latest release.

- PR: cmd: prevent stack
- PR: module: fix snapshot issues
- PR: cowpager: inherit font from

Preview the next release

Aims

The aims of CoW are to represent the 90s look-and-feel of FVWM and MWM, while also allowing for more modern styles as well. CoW can be configured directly through commands and the same commands can be used in its configuration file, making CoW scriptable through external applications.

High-level features include:

- IPC scripting.
- Server-side decorations can be customisable.
- Placement of windows through different commands.
- Native menu support.
- Rules can control scripting.
- Internal DSL (Domain Specific Language) allows for filtering.

... plus a lot more!

Community & Development

CoW is developed in C, hosted on Codeberg. The community is small but friendly, and we can be found on IRC (irc.libera.chat, in #cow-wayland)

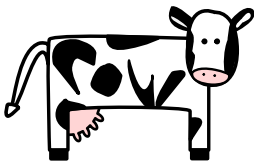
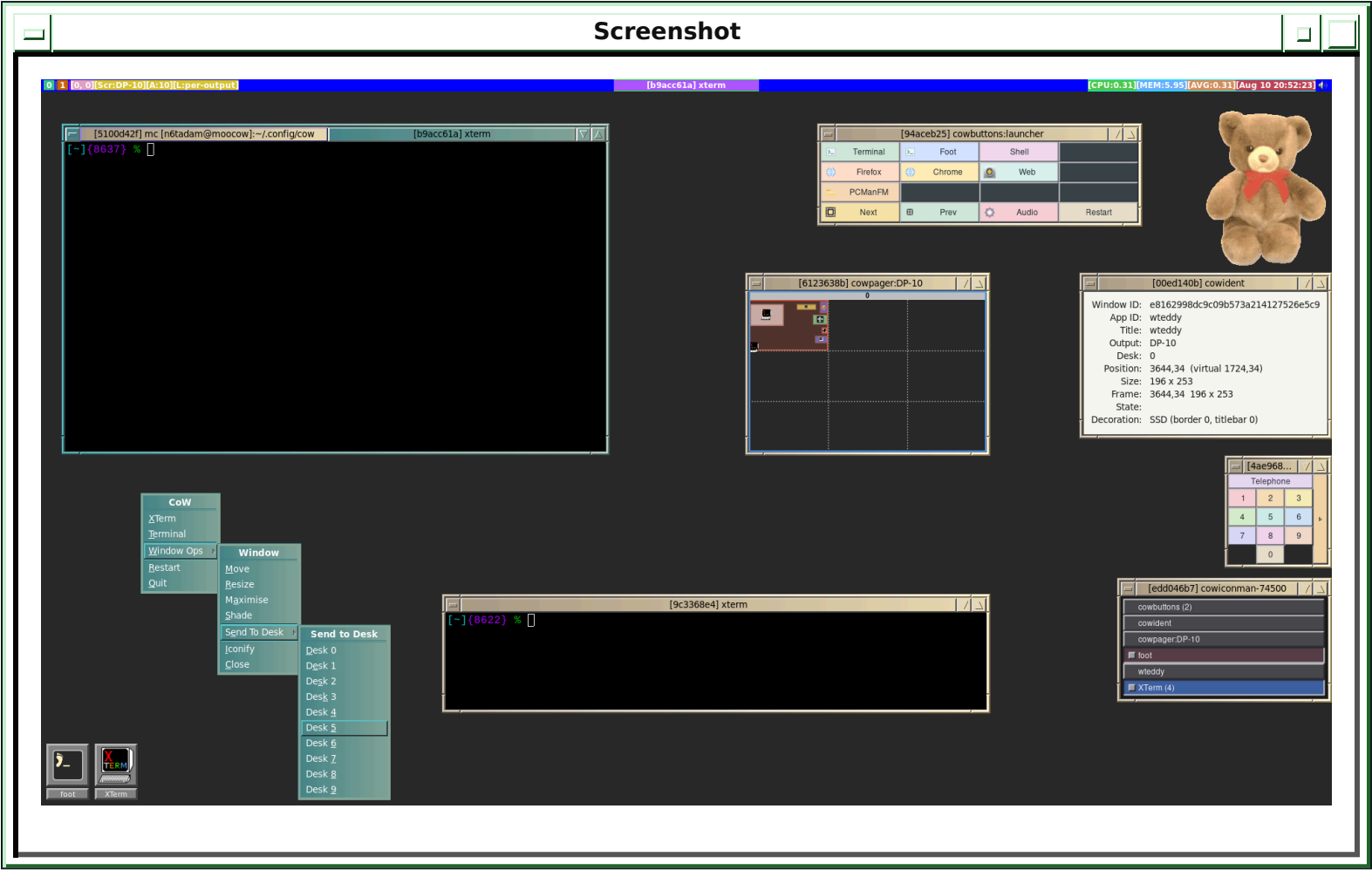
Some useful things to know about the community:

- IRC is the best way of saying hello or asking questions
- Report any issues over IRC or by creating a [Codeberg issue](#).
- There's some chatter on Mastodon about CoW and other WMs.
- A community Wiki exists. [Feel free to contribute](#)

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- See the [README file](#)
- For anything else, ask on IRC



CoW is open source. Questions and discussions are welcome in [#cow-wayland](#).

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