

Alpha Testing vs Beta Testing

What is Alpha Testing?

Alpha Testing is a type of Acceptance Testing performed by the testers who are part of the organization, in other words: internal employees. It is the final stage of testing and it is usually done to verify that an application is free of errors / bugs before being launched on the market.

This test uses black box and white box techniques and it is performed near the end of the development of the software and before Beta Testing.

What is Beta Testing?

Beta Testing is performed by real users and it is unstructured. It can be considered as a form of external User Acceptance Testing.

Users can freely use the application and then they are encouraged to give feedback about their experience. This test is more focussed on performance and scalability.

Beta Testing helps reduce product failures and provides higher product quality through customer validation that resulted from their experience with the application.

Source: [PractiTest](#)

Alpha / Beta Testing - Additional Definitions

Alpha Testing is a type of software testing performed to identify bugs before releasing the product to real users or to the public. **Alpha Testing** is one of the user acceptance tests. **Beta Testing** is performed by real users of the software application in a real environment

Alpha Testing is done within the organization, while **Beta Testing** is done in the user's environment. During **Alpha Testing** only functionality and usability are tested, while during **Beta Testing** usability, functionality, security, and reliability are tested to the same depth

Alpha and Beta Testing are examples of Acceptance Testing. **Alpha Tests** are internal and aim to spot any glaring defects, while **Beta Testing** is an external pilot-test of a product before it goes into commercial production.