



Version January 2023  
[www.kilt.io](http://www.kilt.io)

# KILT Protocol

KILT was built to challenge monopolies and their poor handling of user data, specifically addressing the issues of digital identity in the next generation of the internet, Web3.

In the physical world, your identity starts with your face or fingerprint. These identifiers are given to you at birth. Later, credentials are given to you by universities and governments (diploma, driver's license, passport) or other services (email, Twitter account, etc.). Your identity grows by adding more and more credentials to your identifier, but the core of your identity, your identifier, always stays with you.

KILT brings these trusted identity elements to the digital world in a secure, practical way. Digital identity is built around a decentralized identifier (DID) – a unique string of numbers and letters that forms your digital fingerprint – and any credentials you choose to add to this identity. Credentials remain with you, not with an external company, until you choose to show them.

Using this method, companies can conduct KYC (know your customer) checks without needing to store data, reducing centralized silos that are a honeypot for hackers. Your identity belongs to you, and no external service can deny you access to your credentials.

KILT can also be used for machines, services, and anything that identities can be built on.

Applications built on KILT include the [Sporran wallet](#) for KILT Coins and credentials; [web3name](#) to add an easily-readable name to a DID; [SocialKYC](#), an attestation service built on KILT that issues credentials confirming ownership of your accounts (email, Twitter, Discord, GitHub, etc.) after you prove that you control them; and [DIDsign](#), a decentralized way to sign and verify any kind of digital files privately and securely. You can start building your identity now using these tools; payments for a DID and web3name can be made with KILT or using Checkout Service / Paypal.

KILT launched on [Kusama](#) in September 2021. In November 2021 KILT became a fully decentralized blockchain owned and run by the community governance of KILT Coin holders. After nearly a year of testing and launching applications "Built on KILT", the blockchain moved from Kusama to [Polkadot](#) in October 2022 to leverage the stability and bank-level security that Polkadot provides.

KILT Protocol is open source to allow anyone – enterprise, government, developers – to build trusted digital identity solutions that put the owner of the data in control.