

# BETA VERSION

A pre-release of software that is given out to a large group of users to try under real conditions. Beta versions have gone through alpha testing in-house and are generally fairly close in look, feel and function to the final product; however, design changes often occur as a result.

Beta testing is imperative when writing software because developers are too close to their products, and fresh eyes are essential. In addition, for Windows developers especially, it is impossible to duplicate the myriad configurations of PC hardware/software that exist, and beta versions test for potential conflicts as much as usability. In more closed environments such as the Mac and mobile phone platforms, beta testing is less about coexistence with other software and more about functionality and ease of use, the latter a long-standing joke in this industry (see user interface). See alpha test, beta test, release candidate and dogfooding.

## What does beta stand for in testing?

In software development, a beta test is the second phase of software testing in which a sampling of the intended audience tries the product out. Beta is the second letter of the Greek alphabet. Originally, the term alpha test meant the first phase of testing in a software development process.

## What are the types of beta testing?

### The 6 Different Types of Testers in Your Beta Program

**Exclusivity Junkies.** Many beta testers enjoy testing because it's a chance to be one of a select few to experience a product before its release. ...

**Problem Solvers.** ...

**Product Enthusiasts.** ...

**Knowledge Hounds.** ...

**Social Networkers.** ...

**Freebie Seekers.**