

Plazmic Content Developer's Kit

Version: 4.7

Feature and Technical Overview



plazmic[™]

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Overview

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The Plazmic® Content Developer's Kit is a free suite of graphics design tools that enables designers and developers to create interactive themes, mobile web sites, splash screens, graphics, and animated content optimized for use on BlackBerry® devices.

Designers and developers can create custom themes and produce full multimedia content. The Plazmic Content Developer's Kit includes utilities that facilitate the conversion of various file formats (including Adobe® Flash®) into a format that is optimized for delivery and use on wireless devices. The BlackBerry Smartphone Simulator enables designers and developers to test and debug their themes and animations before distributing them to devices.

The Plazmic Content Developer's Kit includes the Plazmic Theme Builder, which enables you to design custom BlackBerry themes, and the Plazmic Composer, an illustration and animation tool for designing SVG content.

Plazmic Theme Builder overview

The Plazmic® Theme Builder enables designers and content developers to customize various elements on the BlackBerry® device UI. With the Plazmic Theme Builder, you can customize Home screen icons, banners, indicators, backgrounds, fonts and colors for lists and menus, and more. Catalogs help to organize project resources such as images and colors for later use, and include sample resources for reuse. You can download and install the BlackBerry Smartphone Simulator to test new themes on the desktop, before you distribute them to the BlackBerry device.

The Plazmic Theme Builder workspace includes a view area to see how your theme appears on the selected BlackBerry device, buttons for designing each of the customizable elements and areas (such as the Home screen, banners, and global UI elements), and tools for arranging and resizing elements on the BlackBerry device screen.



Plazmic Composer overview

Plazmic® Composer is a graphical design tool for creating animated content, such as animated web graphics, application splash screens, and custom theme icons, for BlackBerry® devices. Content developers and designers can create content that uses animation, sound, and interactive content such as object rollovers, hyperlinks, and triggers to start applications. They can then use this content to create a fully customized screens that contain multimedia content, and that can also be adapted for use as web content in the BlackBerry Browser.

You can also use the Plazmic Composer to customize Home screen and Lock screen themes using rich multimedia content.

The Plazmic Composer workspace incorporates a view window for manipulating content, a tool box for common drawing tasks, a catalog for project resources, an animation editor for developing animated content, and windows for viewing and working with layers and objects.



Features

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You can use the Plazmic® Theme Builder and Plazmic Composer to create themes and multimedia content for a wide range of devices and multiple versions of the BlackBerry® Device Software.

Plazmic Theme Builder

Feature	Benefit
create fully customized themes	Design and develop unique UIs, Home screen and banner icons, fonts, wallpaper backgrounds, buttons, and more.
customize banners	Banner customization includes the ability to create full screen banners and hide individual banner items. Reposition, resize, and redesign banner icons for your custom theme.
customize the Home screen and phone screen backgrounds	Backgrounds for each Home screen and each of the phone screens are customizable.
completely customize the Lock screen and Home screens	You can completely customize the Lock screen and Home screen with animation using SVG files.
organize theme resources using catalogs	The Plazmic Theme Builder catalogs enable you to save commonly used images and colors for re-use.
include web links on themed screens	Each theme can contain multiple web links. Provide links to web pages directly from the Applications screen.
customize cursor navigation	You can customize the cursor navigation path by creating a specific set of rules for the cursor navigation.
test themes on the desktop	Use the BlackBerry Smartphone Simulator to test themes for your device type before you distribute it to actual devices.


Plazmic Composer

Feature	Benefit
create more dynamic content using SVG	Develop content using vector graphics, animation, and sound using thePlazmic Composer. Use this content in themes you develop in the Plazmic Theme Builder.
Adobe®Flash® support	You can import .swf files into the Plazmic Composer for use in animated screens.
access applications from theme elements	Theme buttons in the Plazmic Composer enable you to start applications.
test content on the desktop	Use the BlackBerry Smartphone Simulator to test dynamic content for your device type before you distribute it to actual devices.

New features

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The Plazmic® Content Developer's Kit includes the following new features for this release:

Feature	Benefit
Create themes for BlackBerry® Storm™ Series, BlackBerry® Curve™ 8900 and BlackBerry® Curve™ 8350i smartphones.	Create themes and dynamic content for BlackBerry Storm Series , BlackBerry Curve 8900 smartphones and BlackBerry Curve 8350i smartphones. Take advantage of additional themable elements for the BlackBerry Storm Series smartphones.
Orient themed content in portrait and landscape modes.	Develop content that can be oriented in portrait or landscape modes for BlackBerry Storm Series smartphones.
Theme additional elements for touch screen devices.	Customize the Shortcut bar for BlackBerry Storm Series smartphones.
Further customization for Call screens.	Design and place items on the Active Call and Incoming Call screens, for BlackBerry Storm Series smartphones.
Additional customizable icons.	Theme additional icons, including Move, Alt, Caps, Num, and Multitap.
Display icon text in custom Zen themes.	Display text over or under icons in custom Zen items.
Further customization for Profiles icon.	Resize the Profiles icon: 

Requirements

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Item	Requirement
computer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intel® Pentium® III processor (800 MHz or greater) • minimum 256 MB of RAM available (512 MB or greater recommended) • minimum 400 MB available hard disk space • minimum 1024 by 768 display resolution, 32-bit color (millions of colors recommended)
operating system	Any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional Home or Professional edition • Microsoft Windows Vista™
BlackBerry® device	Any of the following BlackBerry devices: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BlackBerry® 7100 Series • BlackBerry® Pearl™ 8100 Series • BlackBerry® Pearl™ 8220 • BlackBerry® Curve™ 8300 Series • BlackBerry® Curve™ 8350i • BlackBerry® 8700 Series • BlackBerry® 8800 Series • BlackBerry® Curve™ 8900 • BlackBerry® Bold™ 9000 • BlackBerry® Storm™ Series
BlackBerry® Device Software	BlackBerry Device Software version 4.2.0 or later
desktop software	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adobe® Acrobat® Reader® version 3.0 or later • A BlackBerry Smartphone Simulator version 4.2.2.57 or later from www.blackberry.com/developers

Resources

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For more information about the Plazmic® Content Developer's Kit, visit www.plazmic.com or www.blackberry.com/developers.

To download the Plazmic Content Developer's Kit, visit www.plazmic.com.

To download a BlackBerry Smartphone Simulator, visit na.blackberry.com/eng/developers/downloads. You can install more than one version of the BlackBerry Smartphone Simulator.

Glossary

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SVG

Scalable Vector Graphics

SWF

Adobe®Flash® file web format

Legal notice

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Plazmic Inc.
295 Phillip Street
Waterloo ON N2L 3W8
Canada

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