

# Yes, the Windows 7 beta wallpaper was a picture of a betta fish

 [devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20100901-00](http://devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20100901-00)

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It wasn't long before people realized that the fish in the default wallpaper for the Windows 7 beta was a betta fish. This was intended to be a cute little pun, though some people took the semiotics to an extreme, Dude, this is Windows, not *The Da Vinci Code*. It's not like the people who chose the wallpaper are using a backchannel to pass secret messages to you like "I know I'm not supposed to tell you, but here's the Windows product schedule" or "Help, I'm trapped in a wallpaper factory!" They're just having a bit of fun. I have yet to see anybody point out that the fish was blowing *seven* bubbles. And no, I don't know what it "signifies".

(I always wonder about the people who claim that the government embeds subtle messages about their complex conspiracies in plain sight. If you want to keep a secret, you don't run around talking about it!)

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