

GNOME Shell Extension for Vula

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Overview

Vula was fully controlled and configured through the command line. While this may be popular with a tech-savvy audience, it can hinder broader adoption, which Vula tries to achieve with its no-config approach. We proposed a GNOME Shell Extension that would allow users not familiar with the command line to interact with Vula.

Functionalities

- ▶ Starting and stopping Vula
- ▶ Repair Vula
- ▶ Vula rediscover
- ▶ Seeing the status of Vula
- ▶ Get verification key
- ▶ Get descriptor key

Vula GNOME Shell Extension (Demo)

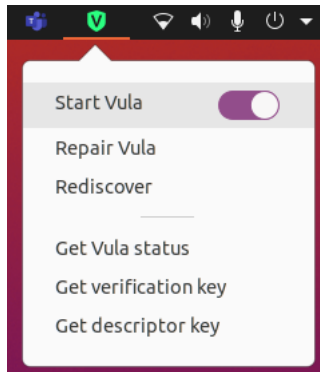


Figure: Vula GNOME Shell Extension

Remarks

A gnome shell extension would be ideal for Vula. However the development and maintainability of gnome shell extension is a nightmare because:

1. No examples at all, just “docs” and source code that is “obfuscated” .
2. Spent hours reading docs with missing large important pages and lots of mistakes.
3. No test environment, no debug tools and a magic “top level Shell” with its own elements that also requires learning what objects and events it has.
4. Horrible extension API design e.g. memory leaks when you remove objects/events in not correct order.
5. Extensions break with every gnome version update.