

Did Anyone Say
semVer?

Philipp Krenn

@xeraa

Semantic Versioning 2.0.0

<https://semver.org>

MAJOR . MINOR . PATCH

aka break.add.fix

Lowest and Highest Version?

1.0.0-alpha.2 1.0.0-beta 1.0.0-alpha.11
1.0.0-alpha 1.0.0-alpha.beta

ARE YOU COMING TO BED?

I CAN'T. THIS IS IMPORTANT.

WHAT?

SOMEONE IS WRONG ON THE INTERNET.



"You're doing SemVer wrong"

What Is *THE* API?

REST, client, platform, "internals" –
it depends

Log4J 2.x Versioning

"Upgrade to Log4j 2.3.2 (for Java 6), 2.12.4 (for Java 7), or 2.17.1 (for Java 8 and later)"

What Is Breaking?

LATEST: 10.17 UPDATE

CHANGES IN VERSION 10.17:
THE CPU NO LONGER OVERHEATS
WHEN YOU HOLD DOWN SPACEBAR.

COMMENTS:

LONGTIMEUSER4 WRITES:
THIS UPDATE BROKE MY WORKFLOW!
MY CONTROL KEY IS HARD TO REACH,
SO I HOLD SPACEBAR INSTEAD, AND I
CONFIGURED EMACS TO INTERPRET A
RAPID TEMPERATURE RISE AS "CONTROL".

ADMIN WRITES:
THAT'S HORRIFYING.

LONGTIMEUSER4 WRITES:
LOOK, MY SETUP WORKS FOR ME.
JUST ADD AN OPTION TO REENABLE
SPACEBAR HEATING.

EVERY CHANGE BREAKS SOMEONE'S WORKFLOW.

Security Fixes?

undocumented / unintended use

How you think Open Source apps are maintained



How Open Source apps are really maintained



Accidental Changes Happen

"Experimental"?

yes **or** no

UI Changes?

yes **or** no

Asymmetric

add vs remove

Avoid Version Ranges

Java 🙌, npm 🙊

Before 1.0?

ZeroVer == 🤠🐎

Major Version Frequency

rare, big event vs common, as needed

Version Numbers as Marketing



Example: JDK <9

major.minor.security: 1.7.0_55 vs 1.7.0_60

Example: JDK 9+

release train, might have breaking changes

Example: Kubernetes

replacement, deprecate, roll forward, remove

<https://kubernetes.io/docs/reference/using-api/deprecation-policy/>

Example: Terraform

0.x and enterprise support?

<https://github.com/hashicorp/terraform/issues/15839>

Example: Ansible

not SemVer but mayhem

<https://www.ansible.com/blog/ansible-3.0.0-qa>

Release	General availability	Latest minor version	Latest release	End of support ^[45]
5.1	14 November 2008; 12 years ago ^[46]	5.1.73 ^[47]	2013-12-03	Dec 2013
5.5	3 December 2010; 10 years ago ^[48]	5.5.62 ^[49]	2018-10-22	Dec 2018
5.6	5 February 2013; 8 years ago ^[50]	5.6.51 ^[51]	2021-01-20	Feb 2021
5.7	21 October 2015; 6 years ago ^[52]	5.7.35 ^[53]	2021-07-20	Oct 2023
8.0	19 April 2018; 3 years ago ^[54]	8.0.27 ^[55]	2021-10-19	Apr 2026

Legend: ■ Old version ■ Older version, still maintained ■ Latest version ■ Latest preview version

Example: MySQL

Alternative: CalVer

Ubuntu

Alternative: Odd / Even

MongoDB < 5.0

node.js < 1.0

Linux 1.0 - 2.6.x



The year is 50 BC. Gaul is entirely occupied by the Romans. Well, not entirely... One small village of indomitable Gauls still holds out against the invaders. And life is not easy for the Roman legionaries who garrison the fortified camps of Totorum, Aquarium, Laudanum and Compendium...

Alternative: Git Hash



We're doing

SemVer



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