

Homebrew

→ CHEATSHEET

workbrew.com/homebrew/cheat-sheet



Workbrew

Homebrew: How to Unite Developers IT Administrators, and Security Professionals

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Agenda

1. O hai 🖐️
2. Homebrew
3. How do I get started?
4. Problems
5. Locking Things Down
6. Lessons Learned
7. Workbrew
8. Q&A

01

O hai 🖐️

O hai

Who am I to give advice?

2000–2010

Systems Administrator

2010–2020

Software Developer

2020–Present

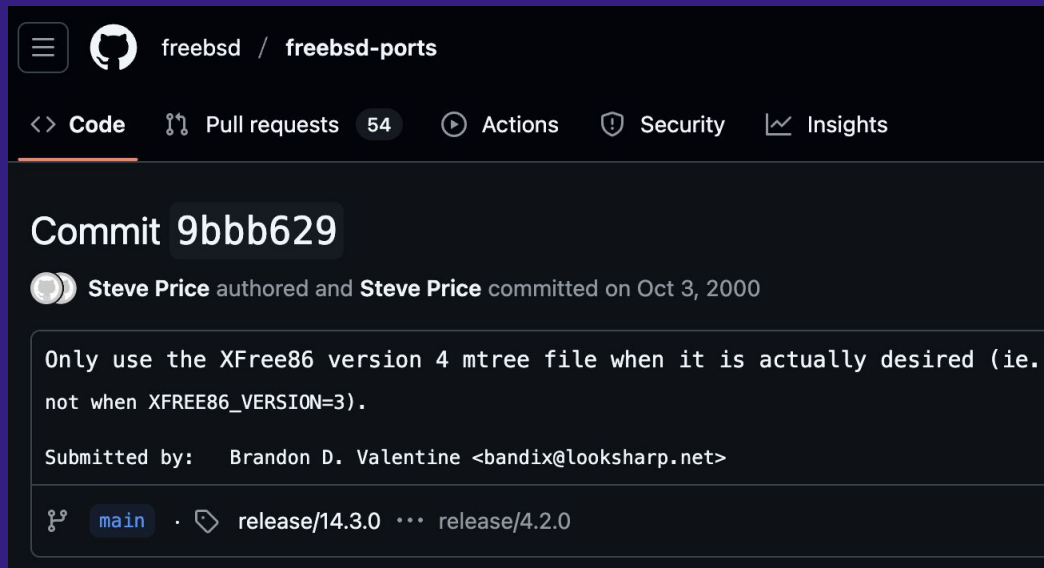
Grew a big beard and started to have Big Thoughts™.



In the year 2000....

O hai

Don't call it a
comeback.
I've been here for
[25] years.



O hai

~~DarwinPorts~~

...

MacPorts

But now, the Mac!

#7948 closed defect (fixed)

Opened 19 years ago

Closed 19 years ago

UPDATE: maildrop-2.0.2

Reported by:	bugs@...	Owned by:	matt@...
Priority:	Normal	Milestone:	
Component:	ports	Version:	1.2
Keywords:		Cc:	markd@...
Port:			

Description

patch to update to maildrop-2.0.2

Updates the maildrop port to 2.0.2. Patch attached. The port is currently at revision 1.6.3, for which distfiles are no longer available, so it fails to build. Maildrop 2.0.x requires PCRE so it has added as a dependency.

My first stab at [DarwinPorts](#), so be gentle.

HOME BREW

At long last!



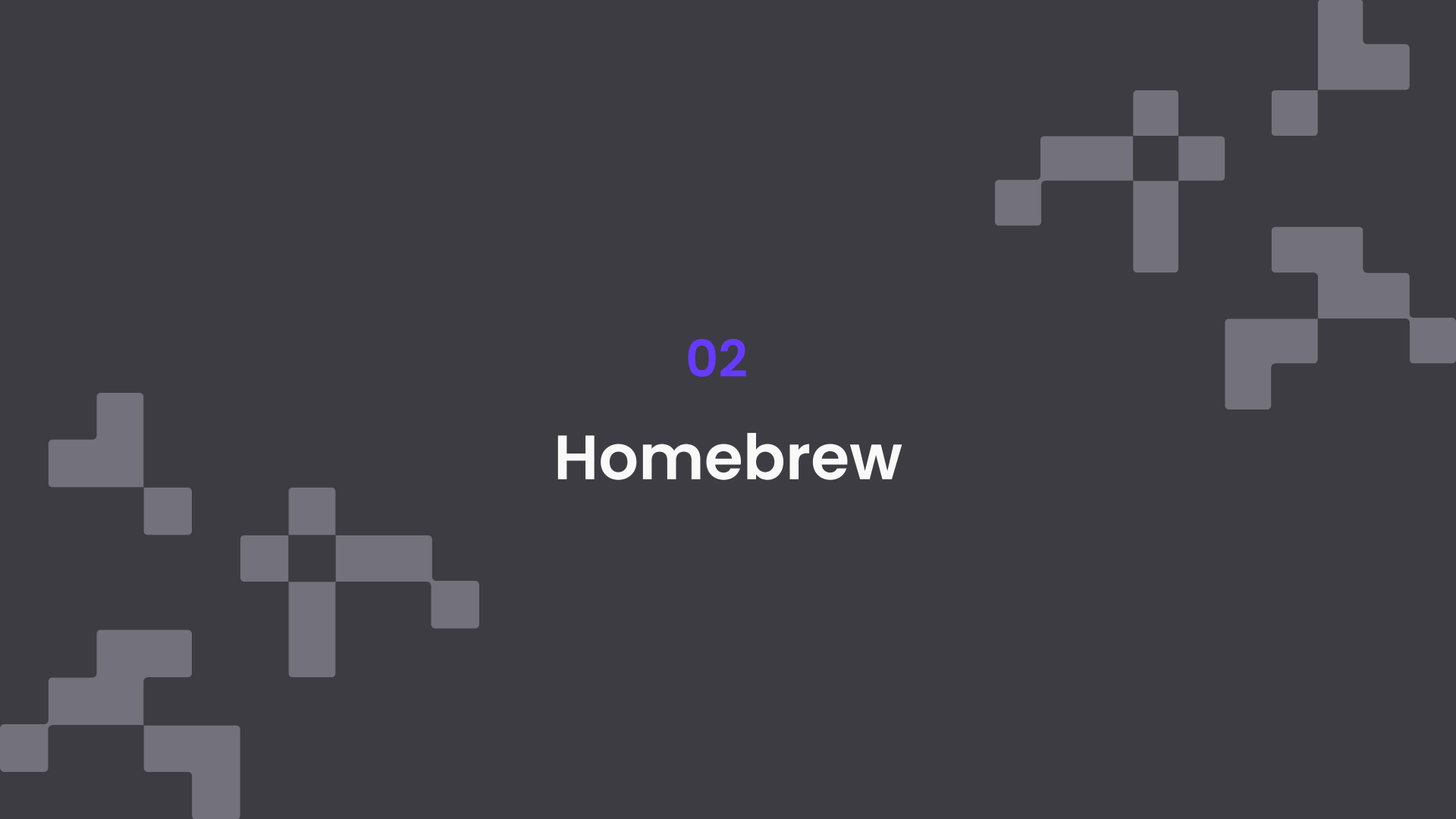
bval commented on Sep 28, 2018

Contributor



This works in conjunction with [Homebrew/homebrew-cask#52595](#) to migrate phantomjs over to a Cask. This is detailed in [#32402](#).

-
- ☒ Have you followed the [guidelines for contributing](#)?
 - ☒ Have you checked that there aren't other open [pull requests](#) for the same formula update/change?
 - ☒ Have you built your formula locally with `brew install --build-from-source <formula>`, where `<formula>` is the name of the formula you're submitting?
 - ☒ Does your build pass `brew audit --strict <formula>` (after doing `brew install <formula>`)?

The background is a dark gray with four decorative pixelated patterns in the corners, resembling a 2D game's environment. These patterns are composed of light gray squares of various sizes, some forming larger shapes like L-shapes or crosses.

02

Homebrew

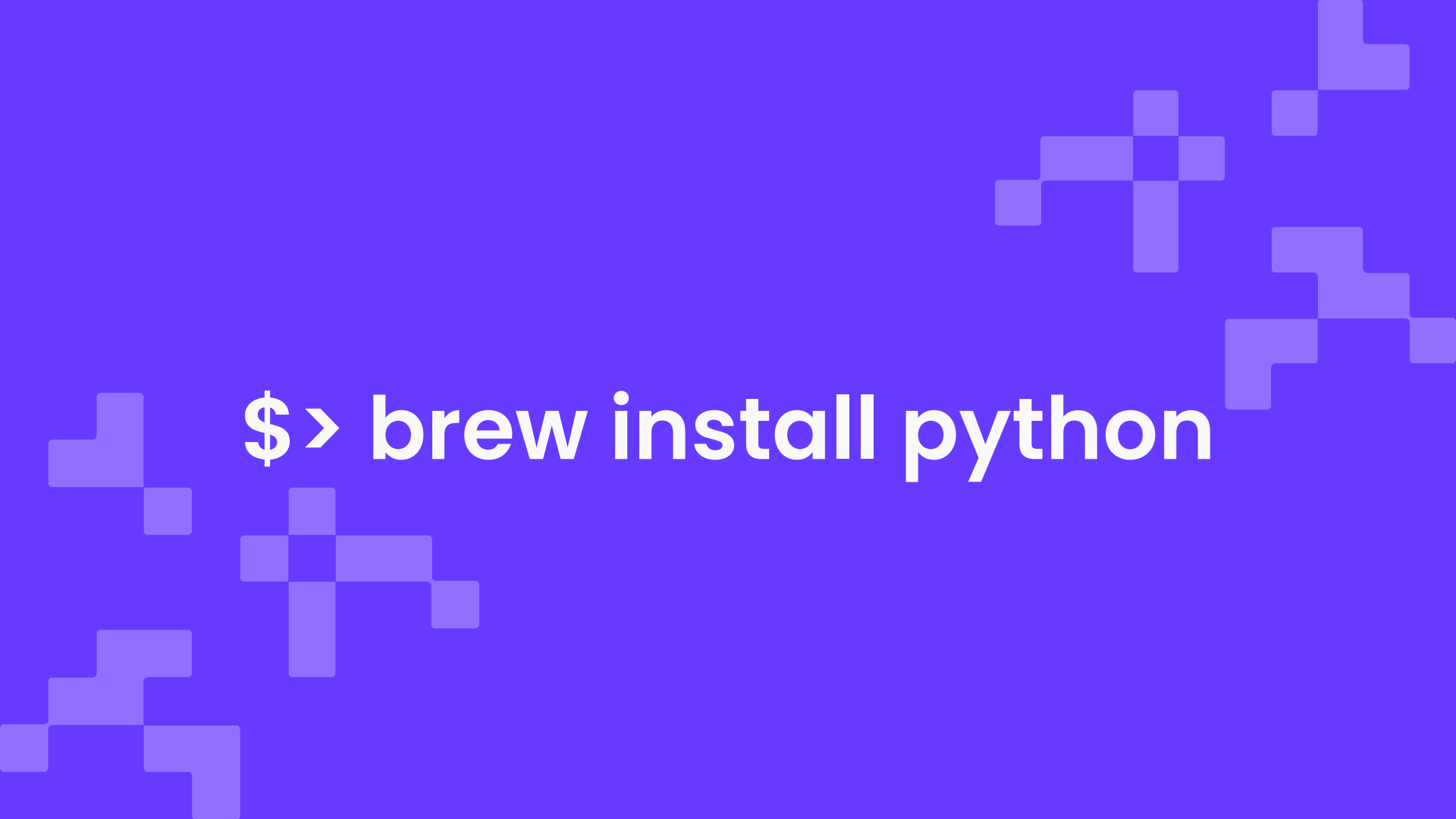
HOMEBREW

Homebrew, the #1 app store for devs

Open Source with a thriving community of contributors and maintainers.

Industry Standard with over 15 years of history, it's the default choice for developers.



The background is a solid blue color. In the four corners, there are decorative patterns made of light blue squares. These squares are arranged in a way that suggests a larger, pixelated shape, possibly a cross or a star, though the corners cut them off. The patterns are more dense in the top-right and bottom-left corners and more sparse in the top-left and bottom-right corners.

\$> brew install python

The image features a solid blue background with decorative pixelated patterns in the corners, resembling a digital or retro aesthetic. These patterns are composed of small, light blue squares arranged in various geometric shapes, including L-shapes and crosses.

\$> brew upgrade python

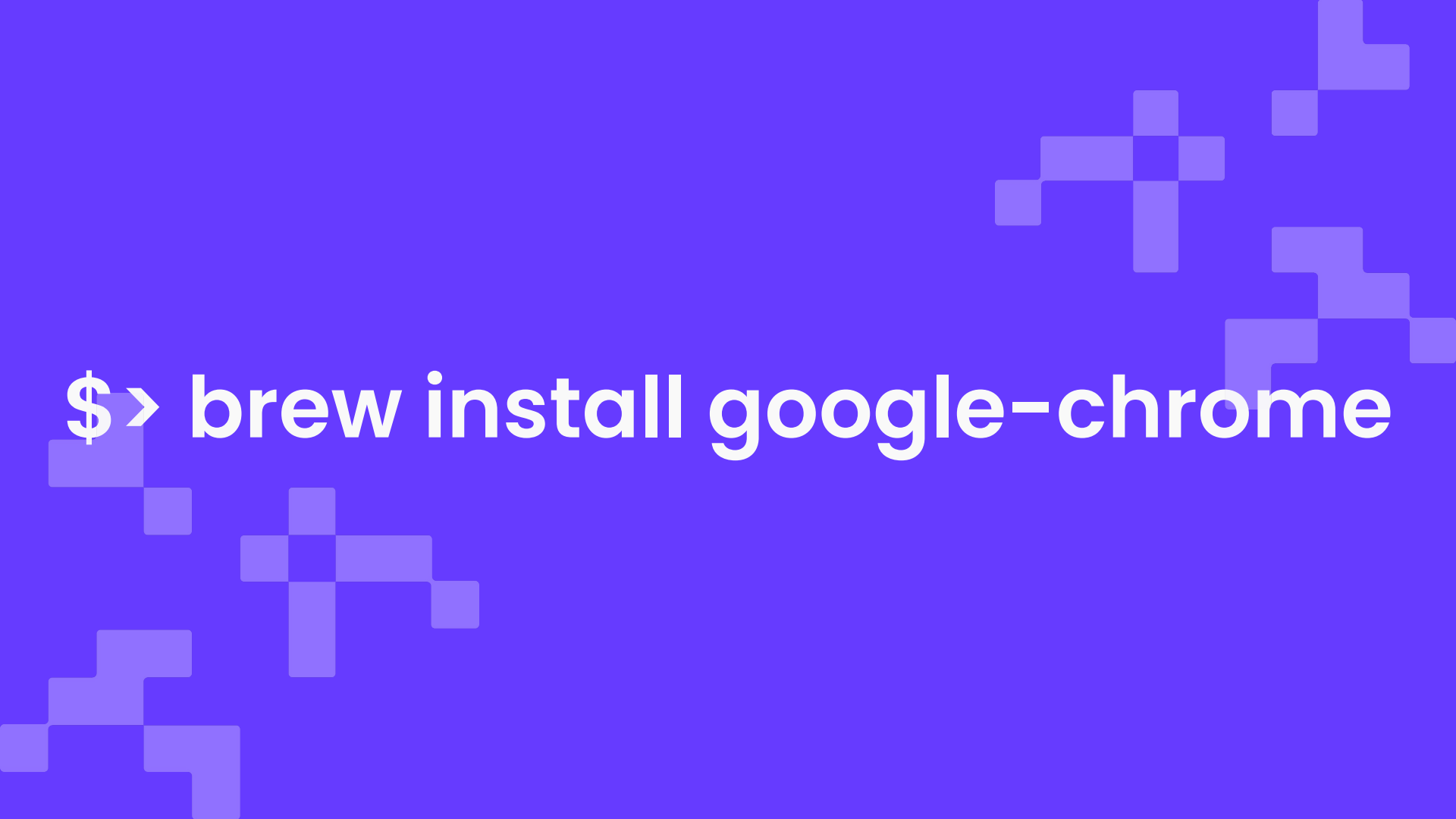
HOMEBREW

Homebrew, the #1 app store for devs everybody

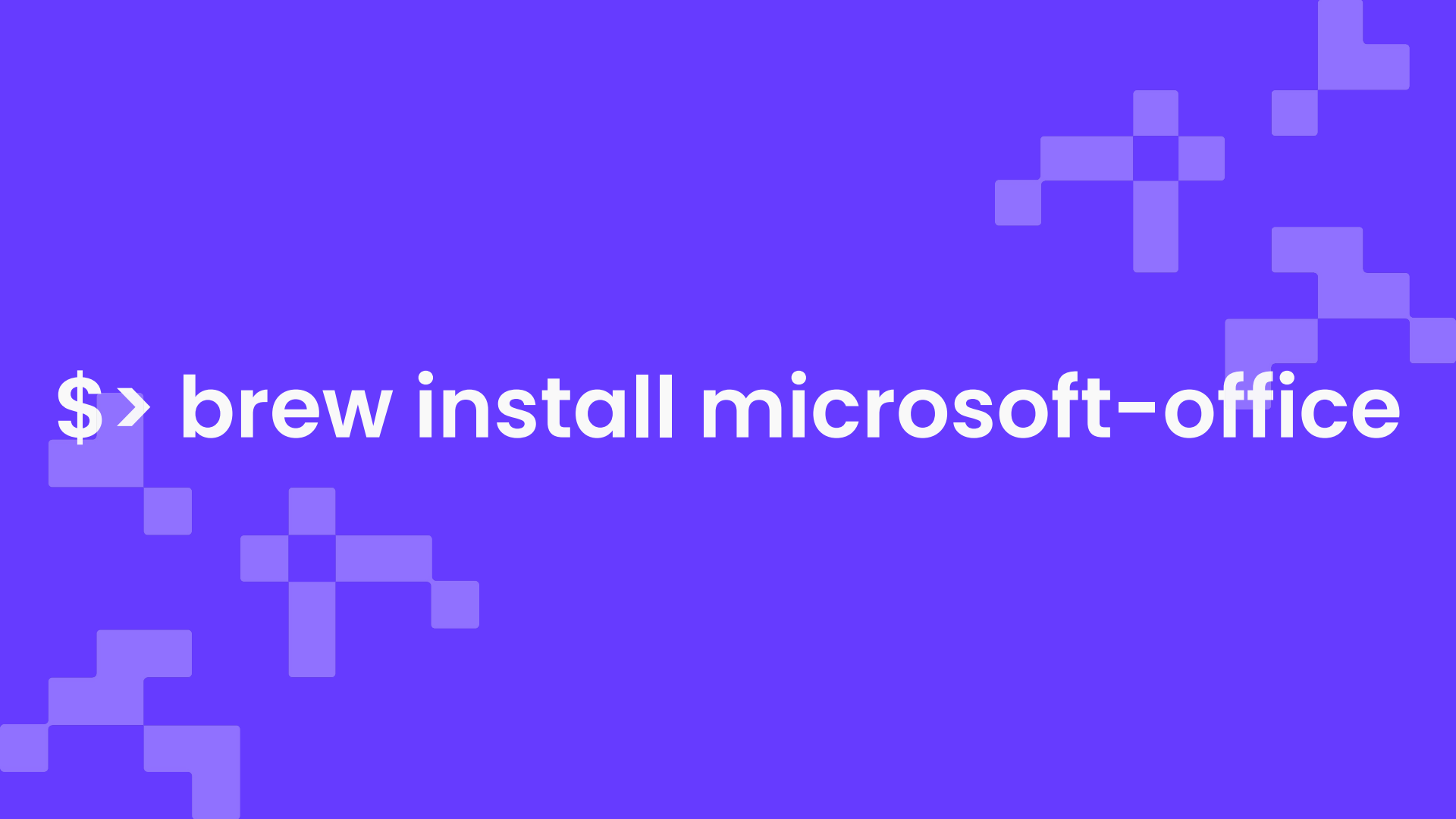
Open Source with a thriving community of contributors and maintainers.

Industry Standard with over 15 years of history, it's the default choice for installing software.



The image features a solid blue background with decorative pixelated patterns in the corners. These patterns consist of light blue squares arranged in cross-like and stepped shapes. The text is centered horizontally and rendered in a white, bold, sans-serif font.

\$> brew install google-chrome

A decorative pixel art pattern in a light purple color is scattered across the dark purple background. It consists of various geometric shapes, including squares, rectangles, and larger clusters that resemble stylized letters or symbols, arranged in a non-uniform, artistic manner.

\$> brew install microsoft-office



15K
Packages

HOME BREW

Everything under the sun

Open Source programming languages,
databases, IDEs and libraries.

Closed Source desktop applications, drivers,
or any other binary.

Internal Software CLIs, automations,
data-analysis, and utilities.

HOME BREW

Homebrew is everywhere

Trusted by tens of millions of developers daily.

Default package manager for macOS.

Multi-platform runs on Linux and Windows under WSL.



35M
Devices

HOME BREW

Homebrew is active

Updated 100+ times daily.

Strength in numbers. To date 14,000+ unique people have contributed to Homebrew Core.

Automated. Homebrew CI runs all day long automatically looking for new versions and patches.

June 17, 2025 – July 17, 2025

Overview

3,116 Active pull requests

 3,052

Merged pull requests

 64

Open pull requests

HOME BREW

Homebrew is consistent and secure

Configuration as code builds packages
the same way. Every time.

Signatures! Thanks to a collaboration
between Trail of Bits, GitHub, and
Homebrew you can now cryptographically
verify a given Homebrew package is an
official build.

Attestations

Filter

Search or filter

229,956 items



schemathesis--4.0.11.arm64_linux.bottle.tar.gz and 6 others

#8831982 · 7 subjects · <https://slsa.dev/provenance/v1> · 2 minutes ago by [publish-commit-bottles.yml@refs/heads/main](#)



vercel-cli--44.5.0.arm64_linux.bottle.tar.gz and 6 others

#8831631 · 7 subjects · <https://slsa.dev/provenance/v1> · 8 minutes ago by [publish-commit-bottles.yml@refs/heads/main](#)



spacer--0.4.1.arm64_linux.bottle.tar.gz and 6 others

#8831421 · 7 subjects · <https://slsa.dev/provenance/v1> · 14 minutes ago by [publish-commit-bottles.yml@refs/heads/main](#)



lakekeeper--0.9.3.arm64_linux.bottle.tar.gz and 6 others

#8831397 · 7 subjects · <https://slsa.dev/provenance/v1> · 16 minutes ago by [publish-commit-bottles.yml@refs/heads/main](#)



stylelint--16.22.0.arm64_linux.bottle.tar.gz and 6 others

#8831395 · 7 subjects · <https://slsa.dev/provenance/v1> · 16 minutes ago by [publish-commit-bottles.yml@refs/heads/main](#)



rio-terminal--0.2.22.arm64_sequoia.bottle.tar.gz and 4 others

#8831225 · 5 subjects · <https://slsa.dev/provenance/v1> · 24 minutes ago by [publish-commit-bottles.yml@refs/heads/main](#)



mycli--1.35.0.arm64_linux.bottle.tar.gz and 6 others

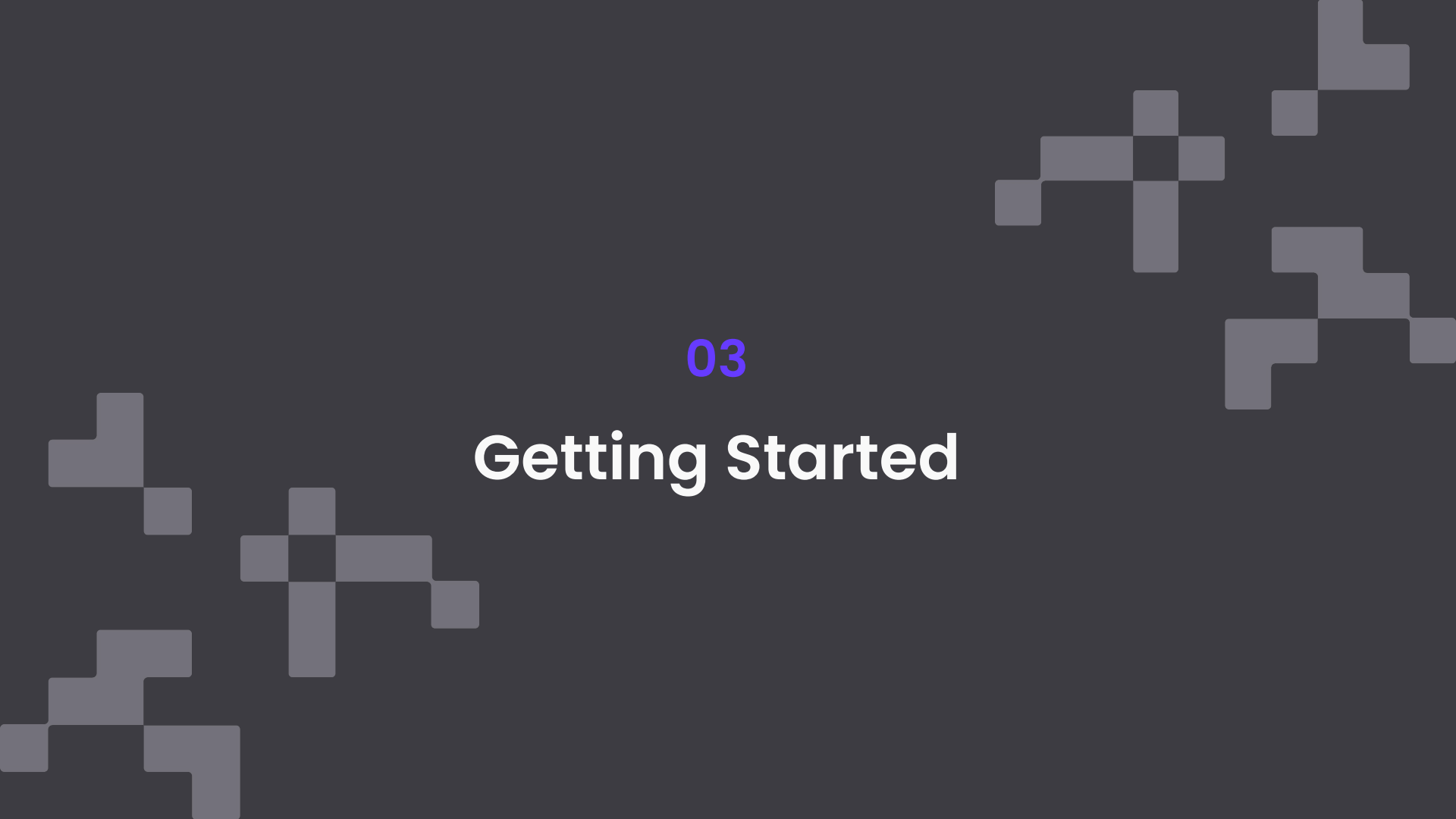
#8831086 · 7 subjects · <https://slsa.dev/provenance/v1> · 30 minutes ago by [publish-commit-bottles.yml@refs/heads/main](#)





LAZYWEB

None of Us is as Dumb as All of Us

The background is a dark gray with decorative pixel art patterns in the corners. These patterns consist of various shades of gray squares arranged in abstract, geometric shapes, resembling a digital or retro aesthetic.

03

Getting Started

GETTING STARTED

Install Homebrew

**Install Homebrew on all developer
Macs through your MDM.**

Options:

- Official Homebrew .pkg installer
- Workbrew installer .pkg



GETTING STARTED

Install Packages

Install software on your Macs through your MDM.

```
$ brew install <package>
```

...

```
$ brew bundle --file=Brewfile
```

Put these commands in self-service?

```
1 # brew bundle --file=Brewfile
2
3 cask_args appdir: "/Applications"
4
5 cask "1password"
6 cask "aerial"
7 cask "alfred"
8 cask "ankermake"
9 cask "bartender"
10 cask "cleanmymac"
11 cask "cloudapp"
12 cask "cyberduck"
13 cask "docker"
14 cask "google-chrome"
15 cask "oracle-jdk"
16 cask "keybase"
17 cask "microsoft-remote-desktop"
18 cask "microsoft-teams"
19 cask "moom"
20 cask "paparazzi"
21 cask "plex"
22 cask "tenor"
23 cask "whatsapp"
24 cask "xquartz"
25 cask "zoom"
```


GETTING STARTED

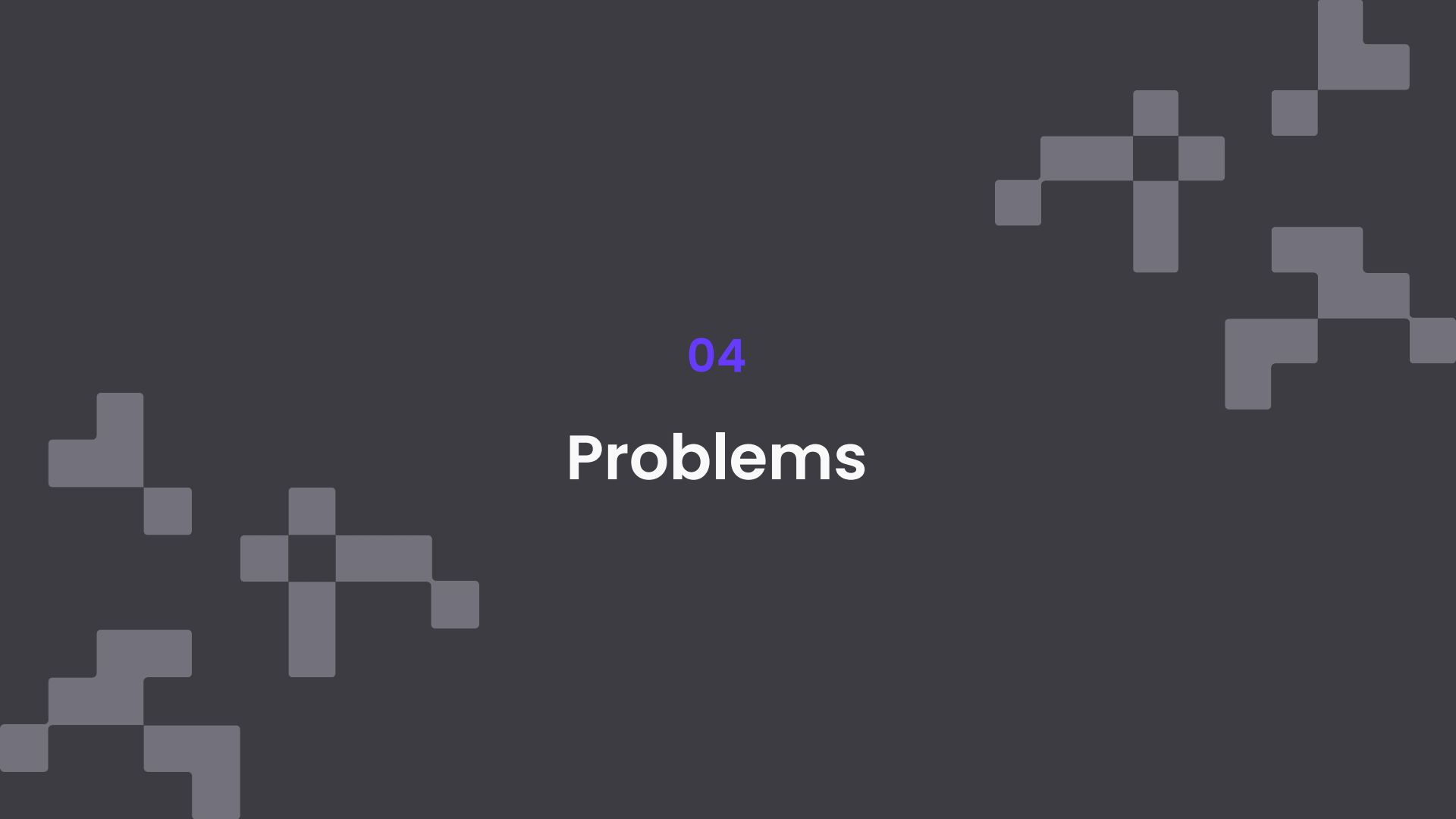
Upgrade and Patch Packages

\$ brew upgrade

Seriously, that's it.

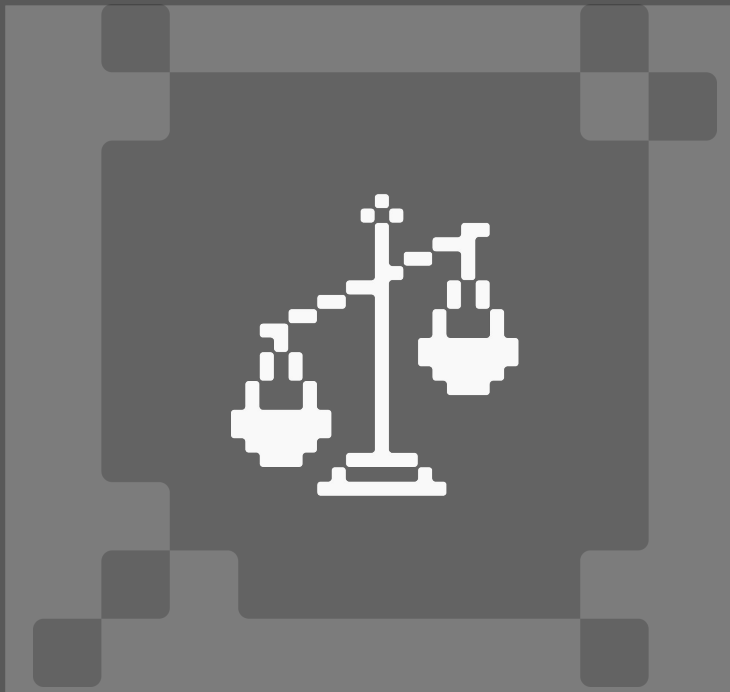
Add an MDM policy around it and you'll never get behind.



The image features a dark gray background with four decorative pixel art patterns in the corners. Each pattern consists of a central cross-like shape made of light gray squares, with additional squares extending outwards in a stepped, staircase-like fashion. The patterns are located in the top-left, top-right, bottom-left, and bottom-right corners.

04

Problems



PROBLEMS

What is Homebrew missing?

Single-player design.

No central visibility – data about what's installed lives on device, not where you can see it easily.

No guardrails means anyone can install anything on any device at any time.

PROBLEMS

Homebrew is an attack vector

Bad actors have targeted Homebrew as a way to install malware.



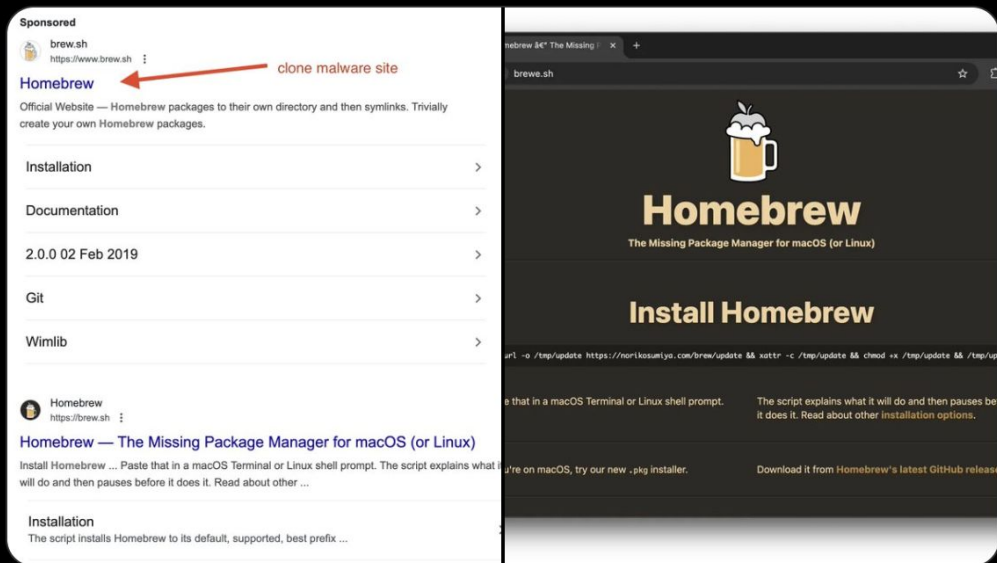
Ryan Chenkie

@ryanchenkie



Developers, please be careful when installing Homebrew.

Google is serving sponsored links to a Homebrew site clone that has a cURL command to malware. The URL for this site is one letter different than the official site.



4:33 PM · Jan 18, 2025 · 1.3M Views



259



2.9K



11K



2.1K



PROBLEMS

Third-party taps are unregulated

\$ brew tap risky/business

Without work on your part,
Homebrew can ingest software
from any git URL provided.



05

Locking Things Down

LOCKING THINGS DOWN

Provide Homebrew

Provide Homebrew: ``brew`` is officially supported and installed on every new Mac out of the box.

No chance of anyone downloading the wrong, malware-infested version.

You're in control of where and how it's installed.



LOCKING THINGS DOWN

Configure Homebrew

`/etc/homebrew/brew.env`

Config options:

- `HOMEBREW_FORBIDDEN_FORMULAE`
- `HOMEBREW_FORBIDDEN_CASKS`
- `ALLOWED_TAPS`

If users have sudo – they can override this.



06

Lessons Learned (mostly the hard way)

LESSONS LEARNED

~~Life Finds A Way~~

Developers Find A Way – you might not be ready to embrace Homebrew, but your developers already are. It's in your fleet, whether you know it or not. If you can't beat 'em, join 'em.

Make the Right Thing the Easy Thing

The Power of Consistency – this helps everyone. Embrace it and be able to say with confidence where software is installed, when, and at what version.





LESSONS LEARNED

Developers Find A Way

First page on Google.

(Mac pentest series) Install Homebrew without sudo privilege



Chenny Ren

Follow

3 min read · Jun 5, 2023

LESSONS LEARNED

Make the Right Thing the Easy Thing

If you give developers an easy button, we'll use it.



homebrew_packages		
The installed homebrew package database.		
Improve this Description on Github		
COLUMN	TYPE	DESCRIPTION
name	TEXT	Package name
path	TEXT	Package install path
version	TEXT	Current 'linked' version
prefix	TEXT	Homebrew install prefix

LESSONS LEARNED

The Power of Consistency

- Normalization
- Reporting
- Vulnerability remediation

07

Workbrew

WORKBREW

Enterprise- Ready Homebrew

Loved by **developers**, approved by **security**.

Deploy, manage, and secure
Homebrew at scale.



WORKBREW

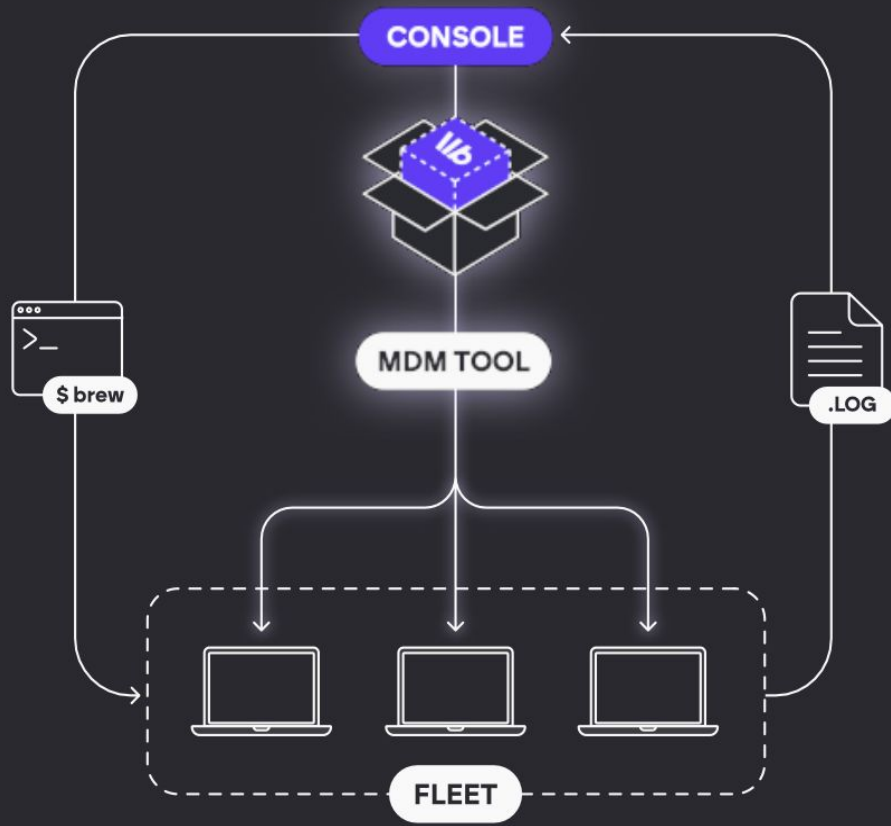
How it works

Deployment

Analytics & Observability

Remote Management

Security & Compliance



WORKBREW

Deployment

Workbrew

workbrew

Dashboard

Vulnerabilities

Devices

Device Groups

Default Packages

Policies

Brew Commands

Brew Configurations

Packages

Taps

Analytics

Licenses

Bootstrap

Settings

Subscription

Contact

Documentation

Changelog

workbrew.com

Devices

☐	DEVICE	GROUP	WORKBREW
☐	Brandon's MacBook Air ↗ 🍏 MacBook Air	Default	1.3.3
☐	John's MacBook Pro ↗ 🍏 MacBook Pro	Default	1.3.3
☐	Kristján's MacBook Pro ↗ 🍏 MacBook Pro	Engineers Just Kristján	1.3.3
☐	Bo's MacBook Pro ↗ 🍏 MacBook Pro	Engineers	1.3.3
☐	Emil's MacBook Pro ↗ 🍏 MacBook Pro	Engineers	1.3.3
☐	Luke's MacBook Pro ↗ 🍏 MacBook Pro	Default	1.3.3
☐	Vanessa's MacBook Pro ↗ 🍏 MacBook Pro	Default	1.3.3
☐	Workbrews-Virtual-Machine.local 🍏 Apple Virtual Machine 1	Quarantine	1.3.2-7-g6c35d64
☐	Joes-MacBook-Pro.local 🍏 MacBook Pro		1.3.3
☐	Anup's MacBook Pro ↗ 🍏 MacBook Pro	Engineers	1.3.3

WORKBREW

Analytics & observability

Workbrew

workbrew

Dashboard

Vulnerabilities

Devices

Device Groups

Default Packages

Policies

Brew Commands

Brew Configurations

Packages

Taps

Analytics

Licenses

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Contact

Documentation

Changelog

workbrew.com

0

Policy
Violations

8

Vulnerable
Formulae
3 devices

2

Outdated
Devices
Latest 1.3.3

1

Access Mode
Violation

22

Failed Brew
Commands

Formulae

Total 514

Unique 514

Vulnerable 8

Outdated

514 Formulae installed across 13 devices

Casks

Total 163

Unique 163

Outdated

163 Casks installed across 13 devices

Devices

Total 13

Policy Violations 0

Access Mode Violations 1

Missing 1

Outdated

13 Devices

Brew Commands

Total 62

Failed

62 Brew Commands

WORKBREW

Remote management

 **Workbrew**

 workbrew ▾

 Dashboard

 Vulnerabilities

 Devices

 Device Groups

 **Default Packages**

 Policies

 Brew Commands

 Brew Configurations

 Packages

 Taps

 Analytics

 Licenses

 Bootstrap

 Settings

 Subscription

 Contact

Edit Brewfile

 **Brewfile**

⋮

Cask ▾

1password

⋮

Formula ▾

actionlint

⋮

Cask ▾

visual-studio-code

+ Add more

Label

Brewfile-Workbrew-Dogfo

Run on Devices

All Current Devices

☒ Run on new Devices added

Run after

Input a time in UTC below to

mm/dd/yyyy, --:-- --

Schedule

visual-studio-code

Open-source

visual-studio-code@insiders

Open-source

open-in-code

Finder toolbar app to open current

visual-studio

Integrated development

valentina-studio

Visual

understand

Code visualization and

prisma-studio

Visual database editor for

mono-mdk-for-visual-studio

Open source implementation of M

foxglove-studio

Visualisation and debugging t

serial-studio

Data visualisation software for en

WORKBREW

Security & Compliance

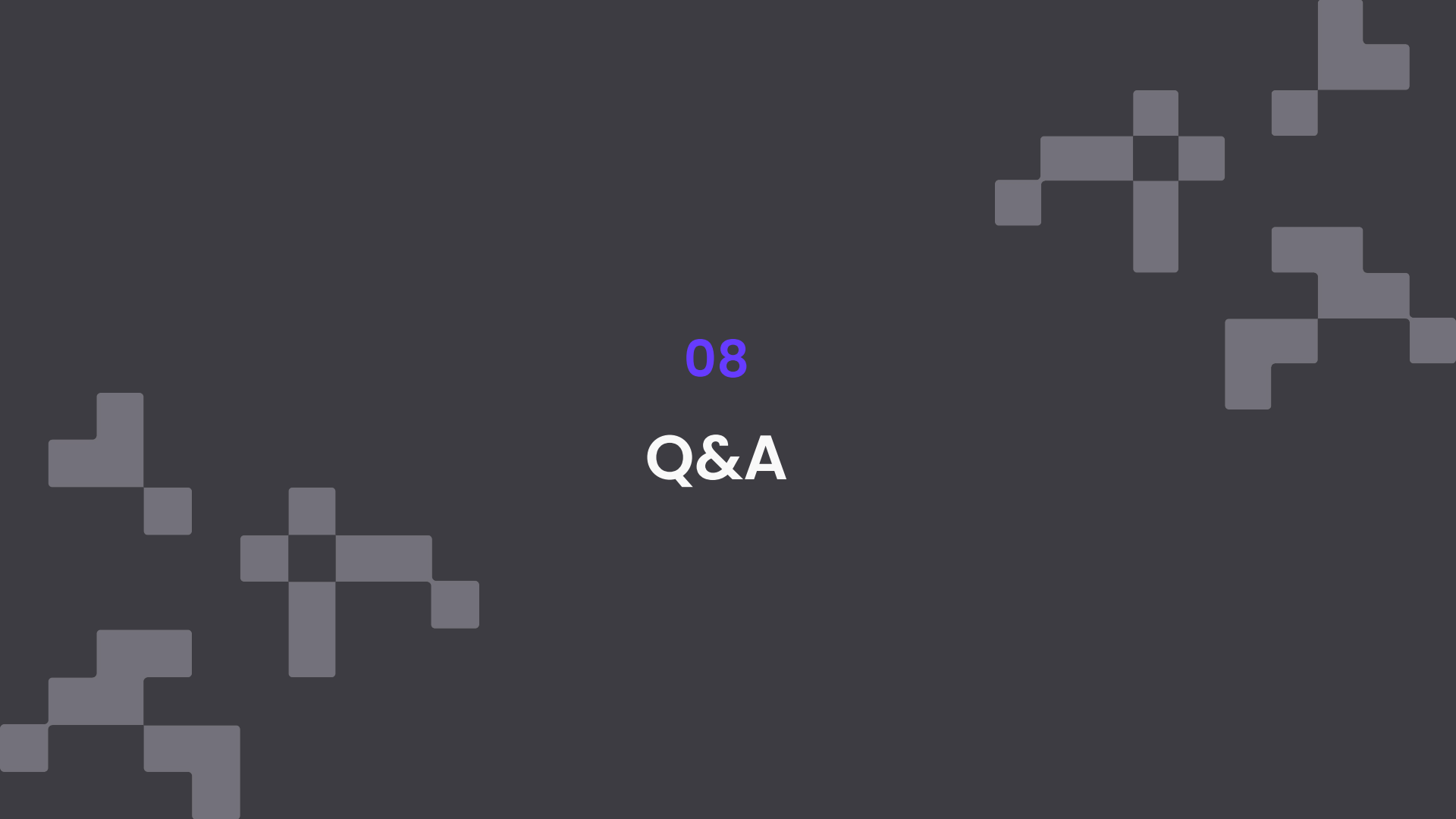
Home > workbrew > Vulnerabilities

VULNERABILITIES	FORMULA	OUTDATED DEVICES	UPGRADE	SUPPORTED?	H
CVE-2024-6232 7.5 CVE-2024-6923 CVE-2024-7592 7.5 CVE-2024-8088	python@3.12	3 Devices	▶		3
CVE-2024-47611	xz	2 Devices	▶		5
CVE-2024-4032 CVE-2024-6232 7.5 CVE-2024-6923 CVE-2024-7592 7.5 CVE-2024-8088	python@3.9	2 Devices	▶		3
CVE-2024-6345	python-setuptools	2 Devices	▶		7
CVE-2015-2104 CVE-2023-27043 5.3 CVE-2024-4032 CVE-2024-6232 7.5 CVE-2024-6923 CVE-2024-7592 7.5 CVE-2024-8088	python@3.10	2 Devices	▶		3

THANK YOU

Workbrew

workbrew.com/demo

The background is a solid dark gray. In the four corners, there are decorative patterns made of light gray squares. These squares are arranged in a way that suggests larger, pixelated shapes, possibly representing the letters 'A' and 'E' in a stylized font. The patterns are more dense in the top-right and bottom-left corners and more sparse in the top-left and bottom-right corners.

08

Q&A

Homebrew

→ CHEATSHEET

workbrew.com/homebrew/cheat-sheet

