Install Homebridge on Windows 10

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This guide provides step-by-step instructions to show you how to install Homebridge on Windows 10 as a service so it will automatically start on boot.

- Prerequisites
- Install Homebridge
  - Step 1: Install Node.js
  - Step 2: Install Homebridge
  - Step 3: Setup Homebridge as a Service
- Manage and Configure Homebridge
  - With the Homebridge Config UI X plugin
  - Using the command line
- How To Uninstall Homebridge
- Multiple Instances
- Additional Utilities
- Configuration Reference

Prerequisites

Before you get started, make sure you have the following ready:

- A computer running an update-to-date version of Windows 10 (this guide is based on 1903).
- An account with Administrator Privileges.

Install Homebridge

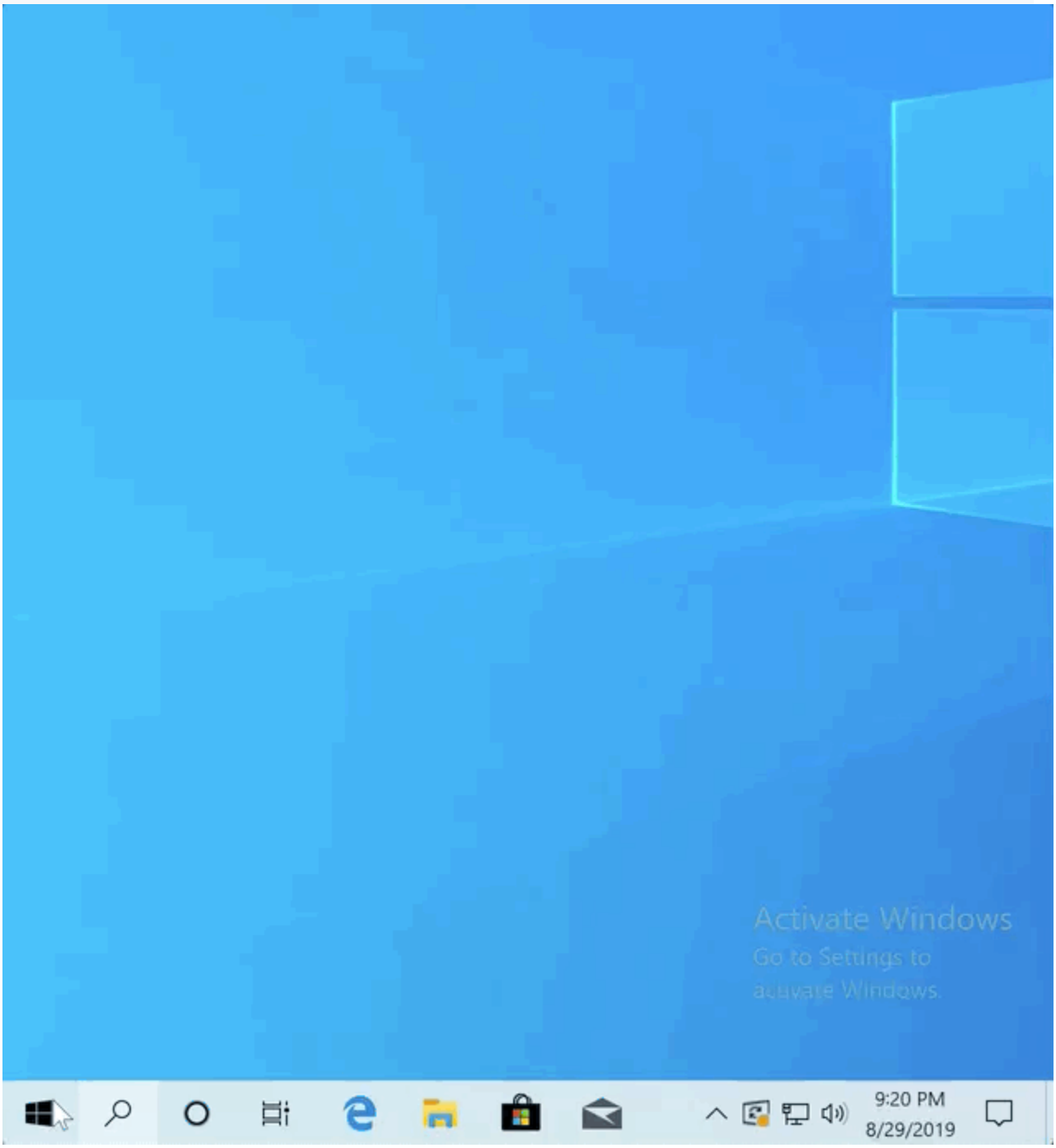
Step 1: Install Node.js

Download Node.js from https://nodejs.org/en/download/ and run the installer with all the default options selected.

Open a new **Node.js Command Prompt** window as administrator, then check that Node.js and NPM have installed correctly by running the following commands:

```
# test node.js is working
node -v

# test npm is working
npm -v
```



Step 2: Install Homebridge

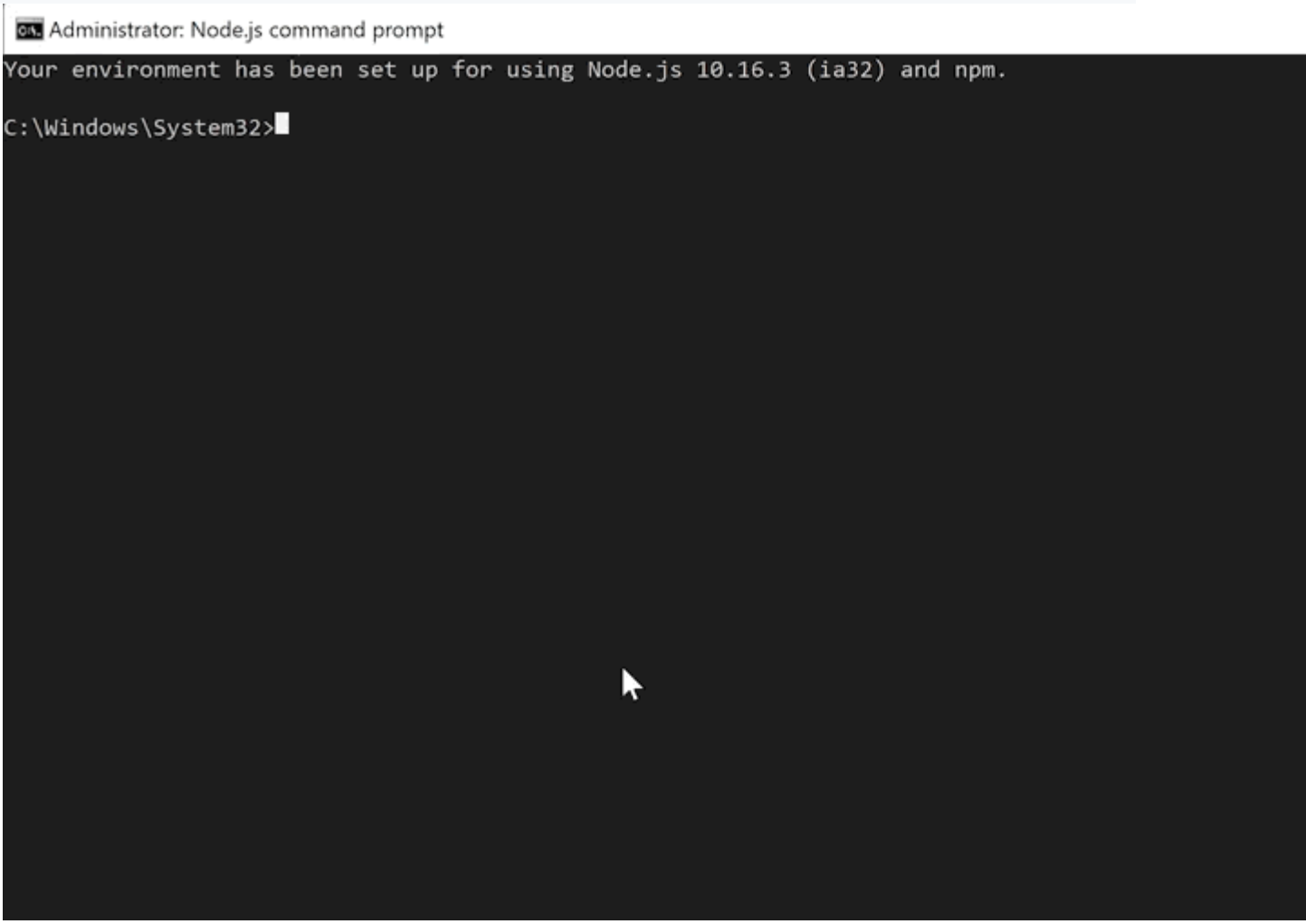
From the administrator Node.js command prompt, run the following command to install Homebridge and Homebridge Config UI X:

```
npm install -g --unsafe-perm homebridge homebridge-config-ui-x
```

Step 3: Setup Homebridge as a Service

To install Homebridge as a service we use the `hb-service` command provided by the Homebridge Config UI X plugin:

```
hb-service install
```

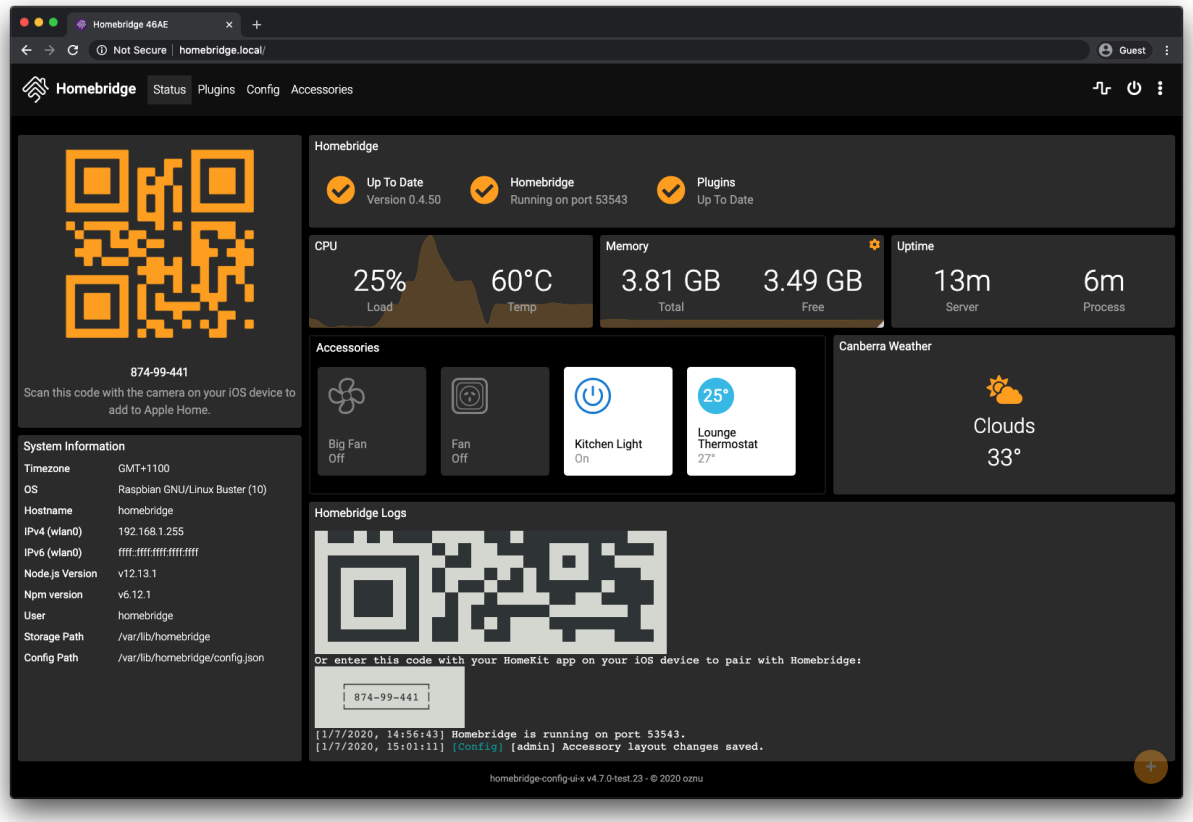


If you see a Windows Firewall warning, make sure you grant Node.js permissions to access your private network.

Manage and Configure Homebridge

With the Homebridge Config UI X plugin

The Homebridge Config UI X will allow you to install, remove and update plugins, and modify the Homebridge `config.json`.
To access the UI go to `http://localhost:8581` in your browser.
The default username is **admin** with password **admin**.



Review the Configuration Reference at the bottom of this guide.

Using the command line

To view your pairing QR code, you'll need to view the logs which are stored in the `$HOME\.homebridge\homebridge.log` file. You can view the from a Node.js command prompt with this command:

```
hb-service logs
```

To edit your `config.json` file you can open the `$HOME\.homebridge\config.json` file in a code editor of your choosing (VS Code is a good option with syntax checking).
Do not edit the `config.json` file using the a word processor that does text formatting as this will corrupt the file.
After making any changes to your `config.json` you need to restart Homebridge using by stopping and starting the service in Task Manager. You can also run this command from a Node.js command prompt:

```
hb-service stop
hb-service start
```

How To Uninstall Homebridge

Delete the service run the following command from a Node.js administrator command prompt:

```
hb-service uninstall
```

Remove Homebridge and Homebridge Config UI X:

```
npm uninstall -g homebridge homebridge-config-ui-x
```

You can optionally delete all Homebridge data stored in `$HOME\.homebridge` and uninstall Node.js.

Multiple Instances

Some users like to run multiple instances of Homebridge.

The `hb-service` command makes this easy to do via the `--service-name` flag.
See the `hb-service` documentation for instructions.

Additional Utilities

Some plugins may require you to have `git` installed, or the `windows-build-tools` to compile native modules.

git

While installing certain plugins you may encounter the `spawn git ENOENT` or `ENOGIT` error. To resolve this issue you need to install the `git` utility. You can download the installer from https://git-scm.com/downloads.

windows-build-tools

The `windows-build-tools` allow Homebridge plugins to compile native code for your platform. While increasingly rare, some plugins will require this. To install the `windows-build-tools` open a **Node.js command prompt as an Administrator** and run:

```
npm install --global windows-build-tools
```

This command can take a very long time to run. Be patient.

Configuration Reference

This table contains important information about your setup. You can use the information provided here as a reference when configuring or troubleshooting your environment after setting up Homebridge using the instructions below.

	File Location / Command
Config File Path	`%HOMEPATH%\.homebridge\config.json`
Storage Path	`%HOMEPATH%\.homebridge`
Restart Command	`hb-service restart`
Stop Command	`hb-service stop`
Start Command	`hb-service start`
View Logs Command	`hb-sericce logs`