

Install Homebridge on macOS

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

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Prerequisites

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

- A computer running a recent version of macOS.
- Access to the terminal. You can find the **Terminal** app using launch pad. You will need the ability to copy and paste commands from this guide into the terminal.
- This guide is intended to be used on machines that do not yet have Homebridge installed. Please make sure you remove any existing installations of Homebridge before you get started.

Installing 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.

From a Terminal window test that Node.js is working:

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

# test npm is working
npm -v
```

Step 2: Install Homebridge and Homebridge Config UI X

Install Homebridge and Homebridge Config UI X using the following command:

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

To setup Homebridge as a service that will start on boot you can use the provided `hb-service` command.

```
sudo hb-service install
```

This command will do everything that is required to setup Homebridge and the Homebridge UI as a service.

The Homebridge service will be setup using the user account you are currently logged in as and does not require sudo/root privileges once setup.

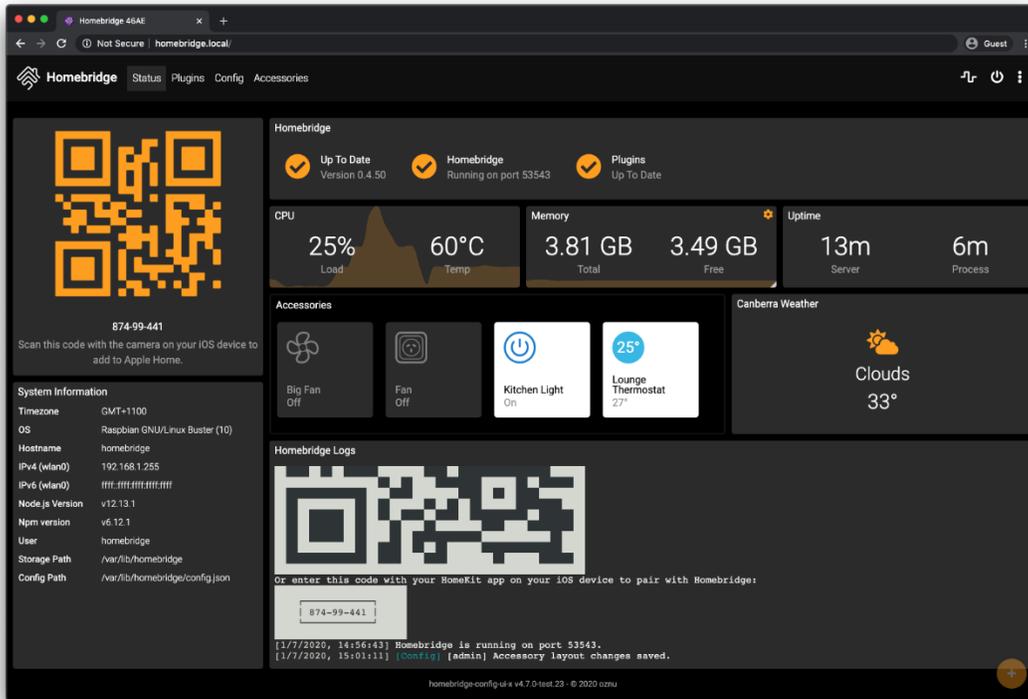
The Homebridge `config.json` can be found under `~/.homebridge` and will be created automatically if it does not already exist.

Step 3: Login to Homebridge Config UI X

The [Homebridge Config UI X](#) web interface will allow you to install, remove and update plugins, and modify the Homebridge `config.json` and manage other aspects of your Homebridge service.

Login to the web interface by going to `http://localhost:8581`.

The default user is `admin` with password `admin`.



Review the [Configuration Reference](#) at the bottom of this guide.

How To Uninstall Homebridge

To remove the Homebridge service run:

```
sudo hb-service uninstall
```

To remove Homebridge and Homebridge Config UI X run:

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

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.](#)

Major Node.js Version Updates

You can upgrade Node.js using the same method you used to install it initially in [Step 1](#).

After doing a major update to Node.js you may need to rebuild certain plugins:

```
sudo hb-service rebuild
```

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	~/.homebridge/config.json
Storage Path	~/.homebridge
Restart Command	sudo hb-service restart
Stop Command	sudo hb-service stop
Start Command	sudo hb-service start
View Logs Command	hb-service logs
Launchctl Service File	/Library/LaunchDaemons/com.homebridge.server.plist