

# Semantic versioning

There are 2 stages of app development

1. 0 — Pre-MVP/Alpha
2. Major.Minor.Patch — Alpha/Beta

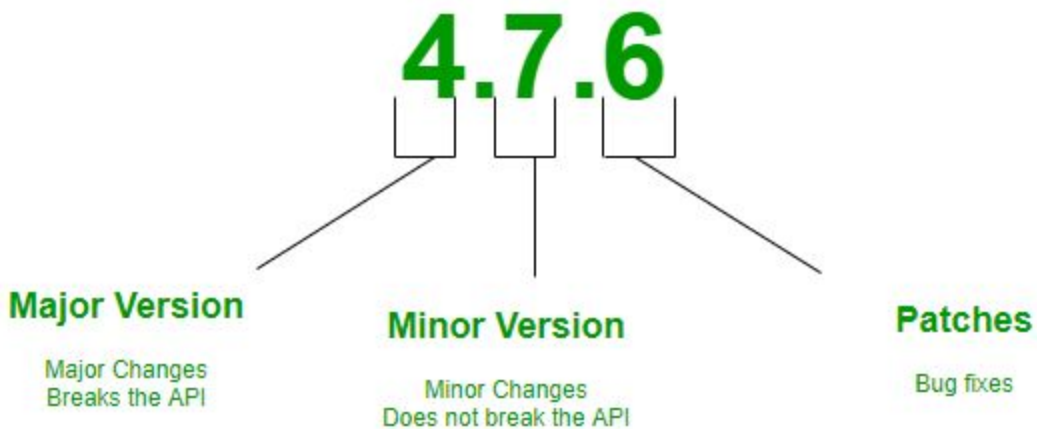
## 0 — Pre-MVP/Alpha

At this stage, you're developing your app and still building towards an MVP.

## Major.Minor.Patch — Alpha/Beta

1. Once you reach your **MVP**, you might iterate over this and create **Alpha/Beta** releases for users **to test and supply feedback on**.
2. When creating your first release, you'll want to start versioning.
3. **A pre-release version may be denoted by appending a hyphen and a series of dot separated identifiers immediately following the patch version.** A pre-release version indicates that the version is unstable and might not satisfy the intended compatibility requirements as denoted by its associated normal version. Examples: 1.0.0-alpha, 1.0.0-alpha.1, 1.0.0-0.3.7

## Semantic versioning specifications



**Major Release** — Increment the first digit by 1 if the new features break backwards compatibility/current features


**Minor Release** — Increment the middle digit by 1 if the new features don't break any existing features and are compatible with the app in its current state.

**Patch Release** — Increment the last digit by 1 if you're publishing bug/patch fixes to your app.

## Key points to remember

1. **The first version starts at 0.1.0** and not at 0.0.1, **as no bug fixes have taken place**, rather we start off with a set of features as first draft of the project.

2. **Before 1.0.0 is only the Development Phase**, where you focus on getting stuff done.
3. **The first stable version is v1.0.0.**
4. It's best to keep track of all these changes in a **CHANGELOG**. This way you can keep track of what's been fixed and any upcoming features that are being released into the next version. **Ref** : <https://keepachangelog.com/en/1.0.0/>



## How do I make a good changelog?

### Guiding Principles

- Changelogs are *for humans*, not machines.
- There should be an entry for every single version.
- The same types of changes should be grouped.
- Versions and sections should be linkable.
- The latest version comes first.
- The release date of each version is displayed.
- Mention whether you follow [Semantic Versioning](#).

### Types of changes

- **Added** for new features.
- **Changed** for changes in existing functionality.
- **Deprecated** for soon-to-be removed features.
- **Removed** for now removed features.
- **Fixed** for any bug fixes.
- **Security** in case of vulnerabilities.