# Versioning Guidelines

## Overview

The format of a version number follows the following convention, where each line is separated from the next by a dot (.) character.

(Note: Omit any parts after the minor version whose value is 0)

                                1 or 2 digit major version

                                1 or 2 digit minor version

                                1 or 2 digit revision version

                                development (d), alpha (a), or beta (b) stage indicator

                                1, 2, or 3 digit pre-release version for development, alpha, or beta stages

## Major version

                When to increment

                                Significant improvements or changes in functionality have occurred

                How to increment

                                Increment the current major version by 1

Example:  9.0, 10.0, 11.0

## Minor version

                When to increment

                                Minor features have been added or significant bug fixes have occurred

                How to increment

                                Increment the current minor version by 1

Example:  1.9, 1.10, 1.11

## Revision version

                When to increment

                                Minor bug fixes have occurred

                How to increment

                                Increment the current revision version by 1

Example:  1.0.9, 1.0.10, 1.0.11

## Stage Indicator

                Releases move through a series of 4 stages: development, alpha, beta, and final.

                When to increment

                                Development (d) - builds for development purposes only (e.g. nightly builds)

                                Alpha (a) - builds released to internal software testers

                                Beta (b) - builds that have passed the alpha testing stage and have been released to end-users for testing

                                Final - builds that have passed the beta testing stage and have been released to end-users for production use

                How to increment

                                Modify the stage abbreviation to reflect the current stage

Example:  1.0d1, 1.0a1, 1.0b1, 1.0

## Pre-Release version

                The pre-release version is only used for alpha and beta stages.

                When to increment

                                A new build of the current development build has occurred.

                                OR...

                                A new version of the current alpha or beta release is available for testing.

                How to increment

                                Increment the pre-release version number by 1

Example:  2.0.12a9, 2.0.12a10, 2.0.12a11