Install MiKTeX on macOS

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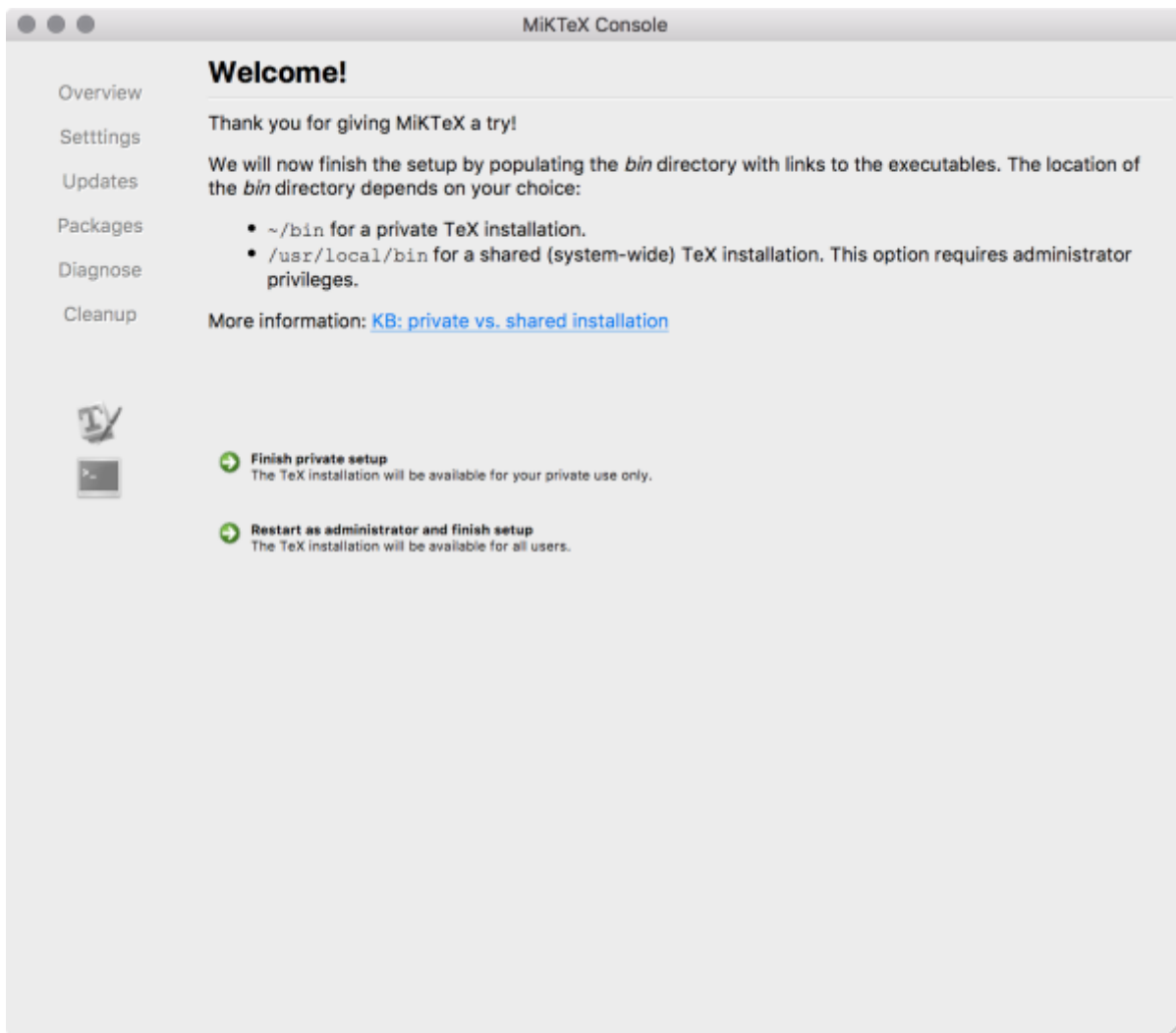
MiKTeX for Mac is distributed as a disk image (`.dmg`) file. If you double click the disk image file, you will see a Finder window:

To install MiKTeX, simply drag the MiKTeX icon onto the `Applications` shortcut icon. This will install the `MiKTeX Console` application and essential support files (executables, frameworks, configuration files).

Finishing the setup

Before you can use MiKTeX, you have to finish the setup. Click the `MiKTeX Console` icon in Launchpad to start MiKTeX Console:

Now is the time to make a decision:

Do you want to set up a private (for you only) TeX installation, or do you want to set up a shared (system-wide) TeX installation?

You probably want to choose the first option.

The second option makes sense if you are the administrator of a multi-user system. If this is the case and if you expect that some of your users would like to work with MiKTeX, then you should install MiKTeX system-wide.

Click one of the two buttons if you have made your decision.

Upgrade option

If you have just installed MiKTeX, then you have the option to upgrade your installation to a standard TeX system. Just click the `Upgrade` button. Please be aware that this starts a ~200MB download.

Alternatively, you can turn on the auto-install feature and let MiKTeX install missing packages on-the-fly. This will help you to keep your TeX installation as minimal as possible ("Just enough TeX" (/kb/just-enough-tex)).

Fixing `PATH` issues

Executables like `luatex` have been installed in `~/bin`. This folder is usually not in the search path for executables, i.e., two additional steps might be necessary:

1. Add the `~/bin` directory to the environment variable `PATH` (see here (/howto/modify-path), for details).
2. If you use TeXshop, you have to set some preferences (see here (/howto/texshop), for details).

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