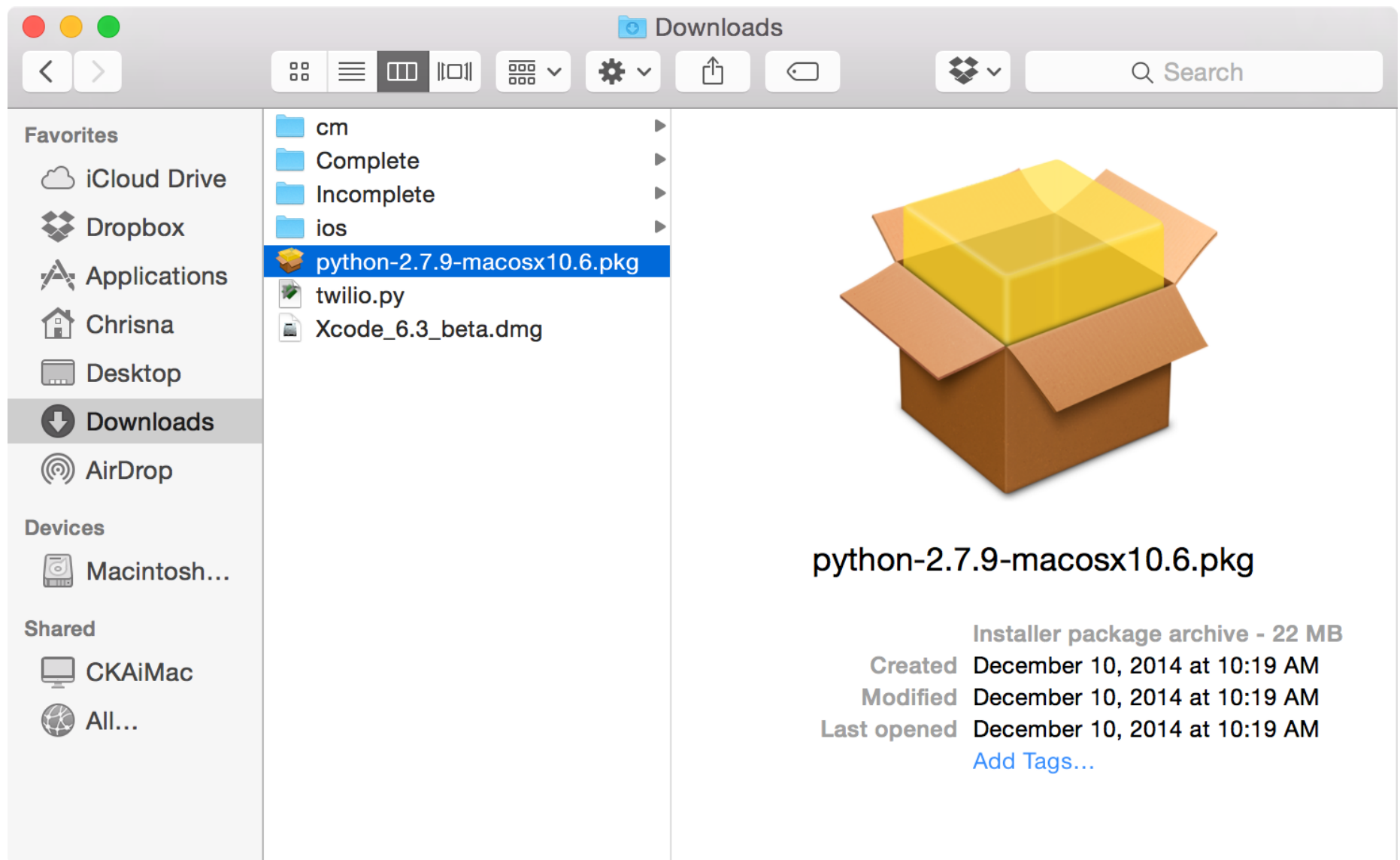# Installing Python

Hi there! These instructions will walk you through all of the steps needed to install Python onto your computer. This particular page contains instructions for Mac OS X.

NOTE: If you have a Windows PC, please click Previous or otherwise navigate to the previous page in order to find instructions for your particular platform! If you already have Python installed, proceed to the next lesson by clicking on Next.

To install Python on your Mac, you have two options: via the command line using Homebrew, or via the normal Python installer from their website.

Method 1: Package Installer

1. Go to the **Python downloads page** that contains downloads for the most recent versions of Python. This course was designed with Python 2 in mind, so choose that installer instead of Python 3.
2. If you are using Mac OS X 10.6 or later, download **the installer linked from that page**. If you are using 10.5, you will need an alternate installer, the **32-bit i386/PPC installer**.
3. Open the file that you downloaded. It should either be called `python-2.7.12-macosx10.6.pkg` or `python-2.7.12-macosx10.5.pkg`. *Note:* The images below show Python 2.7.9, but the process is unchanged in more recent versions.

cm

Complete

Incomplete

ios

python-2.7.9-macosx10.6.pkg

twilio.py

Xcode_6.3_beta.dmg

python-2.7.9-macosx10.6.pkg

Installer package archive - 22 MB

Created December 10, 2014 at 10:19 AM

Modified December 10, 2014 at 10:19 AM

Last opened December 10, 2014 at 10:19 AM

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4. Follow the steps in the Python Installer to successfully install Python.

Welcome to the Python Installer

This package will install **Python 2.7.9** for **Mac OS X 10.6 or later**.

Python for Mac OS X consists of the Python programming language interpreter, plus a set of programs to allow easy access to it for Mac OS X users including an integrated development environment **IDLE**.

NEW for Python 2.7.9: This package installs a version of `pip`, the recommended tool for installing and managing Python packages. Type

```
pip2.7 --help
```

for an overview. 2.7.9 also includes a number of network security enhancements that may require changes to your Python applications. See the `ReadMe` file and the Python documentation for more information.

IMPORTANT: IDLE and other programs using the **tkinter** graphical user interface toolkit require specific versions of the **Tcl/Tk** platform independent windowing toolkit. Visit https://www.python.org/download/mac/tcltk/ for current information on supported and recommended versions of Tcl/Tk for this version of Python and Mac OS X.

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- Installation
- Summary

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5. To confirm that your installation was successful, open IDLE, a program installed by Python that makes it easy to edit and run Python code.

a) It should be in your Applications folder.
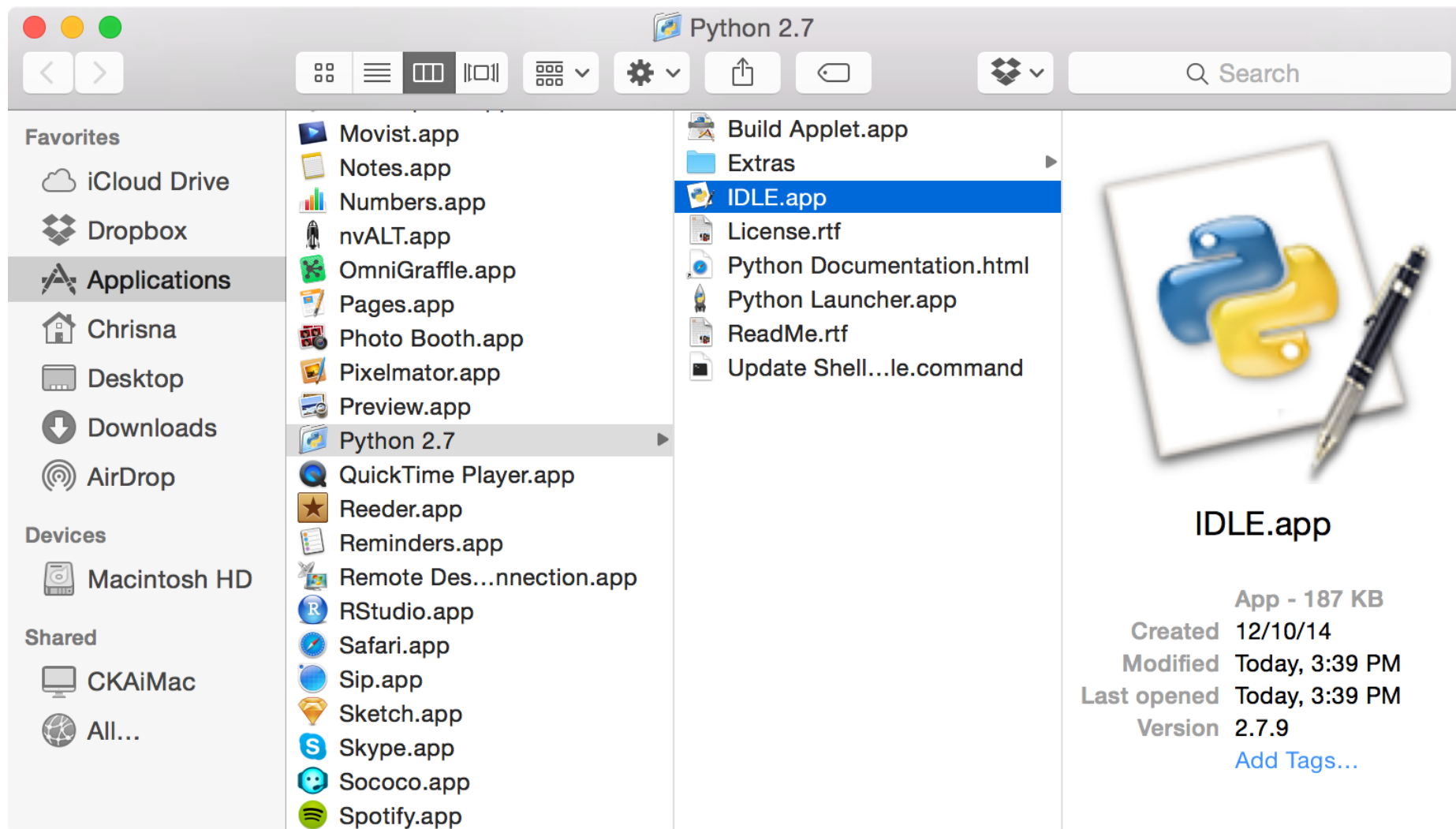
b) You can also use Spotlight by pressing ⌘+Space and typing in "idle" to find it.

6. Here's a picture of it running on our computer!


```
Python 2.7.9 (v2.7.9:648dcafa7e5f, Dec 10 2014, 10:10:46)
[GCC 4.2.1 (Apple Inc. build 5666) (dot 3)] on darwin
Type "copyright", "credits" or "license()" for more information.
>>> WARNING: The version of Tcl/Tk (8.5.9) in use may be unstable.
Visit http://www.python.org/download/mac/tcltk/ for current information.
```

Ln: 4 Col: 4

Method 2: Homebrew

To install Python via Homebrew, there are only two steps:

1. Open up your terminal and enter the following command: `/usr/bin/ruby -e "$(curl -fsSL https://raw.githubusercontent.com/Homebrew/install/master/install)"`. You will be prompted several times during the installation process.
2. When you're done installing Homebrew, you can verify everything worked by typing the `brew help`command at the command line. Now, just type `brew install python` to get the latest version of Python 2. That's all there is to it!

Verify that Python installed correctly by simply typing `python` at the command line. You should be greeted by the Python Shell.

1. Hooray, you're done! You can also use homebrew to conveniently install other software.