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Installing MongoDB on Mac (Catalina and non-Catalina)

14TH FEB 2020

I had to reconfigure my Macbook after sending it for repairs. During the reconfiguration period, I noticed the instructions I linked to in "Setting up a local MongoDB connection" were outdated.

Here's an updated version on how to install MongoDB on a Mac.

There are a few steps:

First, you install Homebrew. If you're curious about what Homebrew is, read this article.

```
# Installs Homebrew
/usr/bin/ruby -e "$(curl -fsSL
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/Homebrew/install/master/i
nstall)"
```

Second, find the MongoDB tap.

```
brew tap mongodb/brew
```

Third, install MongoDB.

```
brew install mongodb-community
```

MongoDB is now installed on your computer.

Preparations (Before MacOS Catalina)

Before you can use MongoDB, you need to create a `/data/db` folder on your computer to use MongoDB. You can create this

folder with the following command:

```
sudo mkdir -p /data/db
```

You also need to give permissions to use it:

```
sudo chown -R `id -un` /data/db
```

Now you can follow the rest of the article to set up your MongoDB connection.

Preparations (MacOS Catalina onwards)

Apple created a new Volume in Catalina for security purposes. If you're on Catalina, you need to create the `/data/db` folder in `System/Volumes/Data` .

Use this command:

```
sudo mkdir -p /System/Volumes/Data/data/db
```

Then, use this command to give permissions:

```
sudo chown -R `id -un` /System/Volumes/Data/data/db
```

Using MongoDB

In the past, I can run the `mongod` command to start MongoDB. This no longer works out for the box from MongoDB v4.2.3 onwards.

The best way to start MongoDB now is via `brew services`.

STARTING MONGODB

Use this command:

```
brew services run mongodb-community
```

MongoDB will start as a background service. Here's what you'll see:

```
projects/temp/test
▶ brew services start mongodb-community
==> Successfully started `mongodb-community` (label: homebrew.mxcl.mongodb-community)

projects/temp/test
▶ █
```

> **NOTE**
>
> You can use `start` instead of `run`. `start` will start MongoDB automatically when you login into your Macbook. I prefer `run` since I don't want MongoDB to be running all the time.

CHECKING IF MONGODB IS RUNNING
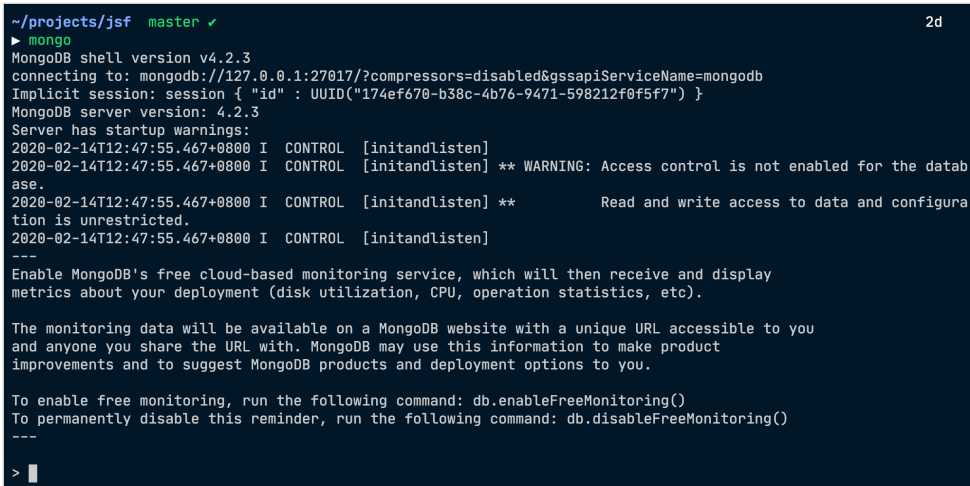
Use this command:

```
brew services list
```

Homebrew will list all running services. If MongoDB is running, `mongodb-community` will have a status set to `started`.

```
projects/temp/test
▶ brew services list
Name              Status  User   Plist
mongodb-community started zellwk /Users/zellwk/Library/LaunchAgents/homebrew.mxcl.mongodb-community.plist
unbound           stopped
```

THE MONGO SHELL

If MongoDB is running, you should be able to access the Mongo shell with the `mongo` command.

```
mongo
```

```
~/projects/jsf  master ✓                                                          2d
▶ mongo
MongoDB shell version v4.2.3
connecting to: mongodb://127.0.0.1:27017/?compressors=disabled&gssapiServiceName=mongodb
Implicit session: session { "id" : UUID("174ef670-b38c-4b76-9471-598212f0f5f7") }
MongoDB server version: 4.2.3
Server has startup warnings:
2020-02-14T12:47:55.467+0800 I  CONTROL  [initandlisten]
2020-02-14T12:47:55.467+0800 I  CONTROL  [initandlisten] ** WARNING: Access control is not enabled for the datab
ase.
2020-02-14T12:47:55.467+0800 I  CONTROL  [initandlisten] **          Read and write access to data and configura
tion is unrestricted.
2020-02-14T12:47:55.467+0800 I  CONTROL  [initandlisten]
---
Enable MongoDB's free cloud-based monitoring service, which will then receive and display
metrics about your deployment (disk utilization, CPU, operation statistics, etc).

The monitoring data will be available on a MongoDB website with a unique URL accessible to you
and anyone you share the URL with. MongoDB may use this information to make product
improvements and to suggest MongoDB products and deployment options to you.

To enable free monitoring, run the following command: db.enableFreeMonitoring()
To permanently disable this reminder, run the following command: db.disableFreeMonitoring()
---

> ▮
```
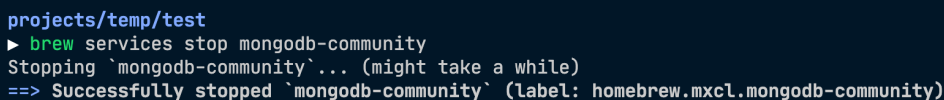
STOPPING MONGODB

Use this command:

```
brew services stop mongodb-community
```

Homebrew will stop MongoDB and let you know.

```
projects/temp/test
▶ brew services stop mongodb-community
Stopping `mongodb-community`... (might take a while)
==> Successfully stopped `mongodb-community` (label: homebrew.mxcl.mongodb-community)
```

Aliases to make these easier

It's a chore typing `brew services run mongodb-community` every time I want to start MongoDB.

I created some aliases to make things easier for me. Here are my aliases:

```
alias mongod='brew services run mongodb-community'
alias mongod-status='brew services list'
alias mongod-stop='brew services stop mongodb-community'
```

What's next?

If you haven't already, you should learn how to set up a local MongoDB connection.

If you enjoyed this article, please tell a friend about it! Share it on Twitter. If you spot a typo, I'd appreciate if you can correct it on GitHub. Thank you!

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