

Semantic Versioning

Computing

What each number means, and what the range operators actually allow.

MAJOR.MINOR.PATCH — breaking, feature, fix.

$\wedge 1.2.3$ allows $< 2.0.0$ · $\sim 1.2.3$ allows $< 1.3.0$

A bug fix

Patch.

$1.2.3 \rightarrow 1.2.4$

A new, backwards-compatible feature

Minor. Patch resets.

$1.2.3 \rightarrow 1.3.0$

A breaking change

Major. Both others reset.

$1.2.3 \rightarrow 2.0.0$

THE COMMON MISTAKE

✗ **Treating $\wedge 0.2.3$ like $\wedge 1.2.3$**

✓ **Below 1.0.0, $\wedge$ only allows patch updates**

0.x is declared unstable, so $\wedge 0.2.3$ allows $< 0.3.0$ — the minor is treated as breaking.

1.0.0 is a promise, not a milestone. It says the public API is stable enough to break only deliberately.