

pipx behave different than pip if package already exists

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I decided to put as much as possible of my local config into an Ansible Playbook. Makes it easier to track what I install and change, also to setup from scratch should it necessary.

In the past I mainly used *pip* in combination with *venv* to install Python stuff. Changing for most of it to *pipx* seems logical, it will take care about the necessary *venvs* on it's own.

Just had to learn that the return code of *pip* is **0** but from *pipx* it's **1** in case a package already exists.

Why does it matter? Not the most elegant solution but I decided to just use *command* to trigger *pip* / *pipx* from my Playbook:

```
- name: Python Package Installation (pip)
  command: "python3 -m pip install --user {{ item }}"
  changed_when: false
  loop:
    - pipx
    - nox

- name: Python Package Installation (pipx)
  command: "pipx install {{ item }}"
  changed_when: false
  loop:
    - poetry
    - duplicity
    - pre-commit
```

No problem with *pip*, but *pipx* failed after the first run.

There was an older [GitHub Issue](#), based on the comments, *pipx* was supposed to behave similar as *pip* and also use return code 0 since v0.13 already. After some research I found the [Pull Request](#) that reverted the earlier change during some re-factoring.

Thanks to the great improvements in that PR, it was just a very small change necessary to restore the functionality introduced in [Commit 11b853e](#):

```
diff --git a/docs/changelog.md b/docs/changelog.md
index 0a95ce15..67d14929 100644
--- a/docs/changelog.md
+++ b/docs/changelog.md
@@ -1,6 +1,7 @@
 dev
```

```

- Fixed `pipx list` output phrasing to convey that python version displayed is the one with which package was installed.
+- Fixed `pipx install` to provide return code 0 if venv already exists, similar to pip's behavior. (#736)

0.16.4

diff --git a/src/pipx/constants.py b/src/pipx/constants.py
index 4fe2d58b..11fc013f 100644
--- a/src/pipx/constants.py
+++ b/src/pipx/constants.py
@@ -21,7 +21,7 @@
# pipx shell exit codes
EXIT_CODE_OK = ExitCode(0)
EXIT_CODE_INJECT_ERROR = ExitCode(1)
-EXIT_CODE_INSTALL_VENV_EXISTS = ExitCode(1)
+EXIT_CODE_INSTALL_VENV_EXISTS = ExitCode(0)
EXIT_CODE_LIST_PROBLEM = ExitCode(1)
EXIT_CODE_UNINSTALL_VENV_NONEXISTENT = ExitCode(1)
EXIT_CODE_UNINSTALL_ERROR = ExitCode(1)
diff --git a/tests/test_install.py b/tests/test_install.py
index 941f4c01..0eb2d9cc 100644
--- a/tests/test_install.py
+++ b/tests/test_install.py
@@ -109,7 +109,7 @@ def test_install_no_packages_found(pipx_temp_env, capsys):

def test_install_same_package_twice_no_force(pipx_temp_env, capsys):
    assert not run_pipx_cli(["install", "pycowsay"])
-    assert run_pipx_cli(["install", "pycowsay"])
+    assert not run_pipx_cli(["install", "pycowsay"])
    captured = capsys.readouterr()
    assert (
        "pycowsay' already seems to be installed. Not modifying existing installation"

```

Related Pull Request: <https://github.com/pypa/pipx/pull/736>

Merged into *pipx/main* on 25th September 2021

That's a good example why I love and prefer Open Source, I could fix the Problem on my own and share the improvement with the community, within a few days it was already merged and will be part of the next Release.