**✅ Simulating Manual Approval in GitHub Actions**

**🛠️ Step 1: Create an Environment with Required Reviewers**

1. Go to your **GitHub repository**.
2. Click on **Settings > Environments**.
3. Click **New Environment** (e.g., production or manual-approval).
4. Under **Deployment protection rules**, add **required reviewers** (team members or individuals).

**📝 Step 2: Reference the Environment in Your Workflow**

Define a job that deploys to the environment. When that job runs, GitHub will pause and wait for reviewers to approve it.

jobs:

deploy:

name: Deploy to Production

runs-on: ubuntu-latest

environment:

name: production # 👈 Must match the environment you set up

url: https://your-app.com # Optional

steps:

- name: Checkout code

uses: actions/checkout@v4

- name: Deploy

run: echo "Deploying to production..."

**🔒 What Happens?**

* When the deploy job starts, **GitHub will pause**.
* It will show a **“Review required”** prompt in the **Actions** tab.
* A reviewer must **approve it manually**.
* Once approved, the job **proceeds automatically**.

**🗑️ Bonus: Approval-Only Step (Optional)**

You can have multiple jobs and only require approval on a specific one:

jobs:

build:

runs-on: ubuntu-latest

steps:

- run: echo "Build and test"

deploy:

needs: build

runs-on: ubuntu-latest

environment:

name: staging-approval

steps:

- run: echo "Deploying after approval"

**🚦 Tips for Best Use**

* Use **branch protections** + **environments** for secure release pipelines.
* Combine with workflow\_dispatch to make **manual deployments fully gated**.
* You can also use **custom GitHub Apps or Actions** for more flexibility (e.g., Slack approvals or external API calls).