

Make Your Projects Open Source

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Prerequisites

Participants should already be comfortable with:

- Git basics (clone, commit, push)
- GitHub fundamentals (repos, forks, issues)
- Open Source concepts (I know, just a little bit)

Agenda

1. What is Open Source?
2. Why Open Source?
3. Today's Workflow Overview
4. Choosing a License
5. Crafting a Great README
6. Setting Up Contribution Guidelines
7. Issue & PR Templates
8. Community & Maintainer Best Practices
9. Hands-On Demo

1. What is Open Source?

- **Definition:** Source code made freely available
- **Key aspect:** Permission to use, modify, and share

2. Why Open Source?

- **Collaboration:** Tap into diverse expertise
- **Innovation:** Faster iteration and feature growth
- **Reputation:** Showcase skills and build portfolio
- **Sustainability:** Shared maintenance responsibility

3. Today's Workflow Overview

We will:

1. Initialize a public repo
2. Add licensing and documentation
3. Define contribution process
4. Create templates for issues & PRs
5. Configure community settings
6. Run a live demo to tie it all together

4. Choosing a License

Tool: [GitHub license picker](#)

In simple terms:

- **MIT:** Permissive, minimal restrictions
- **Apache 2.0:** Similar to MIT, but includes patent rights
- **GPL:** Copyleft, requires derivative works to be open source
- **BSD:** Similar to MIT, but with clauses on advertising and liability
- **Creative Commons:** For non-software projects (art, writing)
- **Unlicense:** Public domain dedication
- **No License:** All rights reserved, no permissions granted

5. Crafting a Great README

Key Sections:

- Project Title & Description
- Installation & Usage
- Contribution
- Code of Conduct
- License

Tip: Add markdown badges (build status, license, npm version)

6. Contribution Guidelines

- **CONTRIBUTING.md:**
 - How to report bugs
 - How to propose features
 - PR process steps
- **Code of Conduct:** set community expectations

Source: <https://opensource.guide/setting-up-contribution-guidelines>

7. Issue & PR Templates

- **Issue Templates:** Standardize bug reports and feature requests
- **PR Templates:** Guide contributors on what to include in their pull requests
- **Bug Report Template:** Steps to reproduce, expected vs. actual behavior
- **Feature Request Template:** Description, use case, and benefits

See: <https://docs.github.com/en/github/building-a-strong-community/about-issue-and-pull-request-templates>

8. Community & Maintainer Best Practices

- Enable GitHub Discussions for Q&A
- Label issues: `good first issue`, `help wanted`
- Automate with GitHub Actions & Dependabot
- Respond promptly and kindly

Source: <https://opensource.guide/building-community>

9. 🚀 Hands-On Demo

1. Fork template repo and adjust it to your needs
2. Feel free to contribute to this template
3. Interact with the community

10. 📖 References

- Open Source Guides — <https://opensource.guide/>
- GitHub Docs — <https://docs.github.com/>

Thank You!

Questions & Discussion