

2021 - All about



Easy Hacks to get involved

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What are the Easy Hacks

Small tasks that help you to get familiar with Collabora Online hacking

- “Hacking” as in “programming”, not as in “trying to break into Collabora Online” ;-)
- Could also mean any other work improving Collabora Online
 - Icon design, UI rework, writing new tests, ...
- “Easy Hacks” are meant for new contributors to learn the codebase

Will present few of them here

- And also encourage you to create new Easy Hacks!

Why to create new Easy Hacks

Please do create new Easy Hacks!

- There is never enough of them
- Also if you are a more experienced developer, don't solve the Easy Hacks in your spare moments
 - It is not really easy to come up with new Easy Hacks
 - Of course – unless the task is blocking you in some larger work
- The ideal is if you see in the codebase something that annoys you some way
 - But it is not crucial
 - Instead of fixing that right away, create an issue for that on GitHub

How to create new Easy Hacks

The Easy Hacks are GitHub issues, that:

- Contain [label "Easy Hack"](#)
- Are well described – so that it is understandable what should be achieved
- Are reasonably easy to sort out (ideally touch one specific place, or if they touch multiple places, the pattern is ~obvious)
- Contain code pointers where to hack (file XY, function AB)
- Contain contact info of a developer who can help if stuck

Examples of Easy Hacks

Copy documentation into source code as comments

- <https://github.com/CollaboraOnline/online/issues/2160>
- There is a HTML file with old documentation, parts of that should rather become code comments
- Contains about 30 small tasks, easy to start with

Examples of Easy Hacks

Poco::Time* replacement with std::chrono

- <https://github.com/CollaboraOnline/online/issues/115>
- Suitable for somebody with a bit of C++ knowledge
- We want to reduce the amount of POCO usage in the codebase, this is one of the tasks to do so

Examples of Easy Hacks

Improvement of the Word count dialog on mobile devices

- <https://github.com/CollaboraOnline/online/issues/2811>
- UX Easy Hack, improves the visual appearance
- Should be a matter of CSS

Examples of Easy Hacks

Use make's -C argument instead of cd cypress_test in the "a test failed" message

- <https://github.com/CollaboraOnline/online/issues/2720>
- Improvement in the build system

Many more out there

Check them out!

- <https://github.com/CollaboraOnline/online/labels/Easy%20Hack>
- From documentation via CSS and JavaScript to C++
- And please do create more – there is never enough of them

What to do when you choose one?

Try to sort it out

- No need to “book” it in any way in the issue, just start right away
- If stuck → ask the mentor
 - <https://collaboraonline.github.io/post/communicate/> lists the possibilities
- When finished → create a PR (Pull Request)
 - The normal GitHub way works
 - Use the issue number in the commit message
 - To connect the commit and the issue

More info:

- <https://collaboraonline.github.io/post/easyhacks/>

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Thanks!



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