

# Creating your GitHub Pages site

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Dan Kerchner and Laura Wrubel  
GW Libraries & Academic Innovation

**You will need a GitHub account for this workshop.  
Create one at [github.com](https://github.com)**



# My Data Science Project Page

Predictive Analytics for predicting tomorrow's winning  
lottery numbers.

# Many options for your project site

GWU WordPress Blogs: [blogs.gwu.edu](https://blogs.gwu.edu)

Commercial:

- Wordpress
- Squarespace
- Tumblr
- Wix
- LinkedIn
- Medium

# GitHub Pages

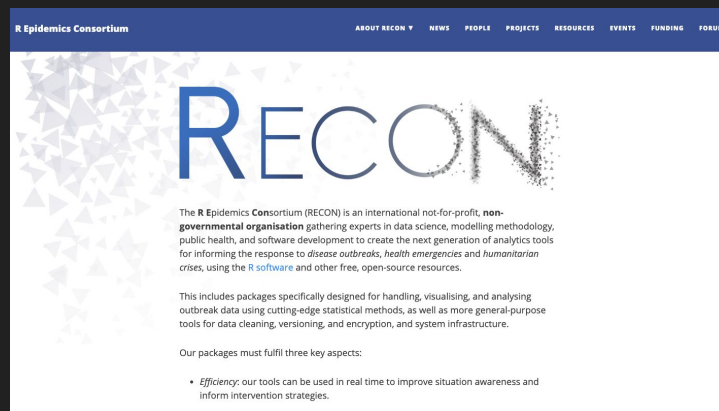
- Free and includes hosting
- No programming required
  - Update .yml configuration files
  - Write pages in Markdown (or HTML)
- Uses Jekyll, a static site builder, on the back end
  - Builds from a set of files you place in a GitHub repository
  - You can do everything via the browser (or not, if you want)
  - Rebuilds automatically when you change things
- Personal or project site
  - 1 personal site per account: ***myname.github.io***
  - project site (for every repository): ***myname.github.io/myproject***
  - (optionally) Connect to "mycustomurl.org"

# Example project sites

## Social Feed Manager



## R Epidemics Consortium



# Jekyll Templates: Lots of choices...

Officially supported by Github

\* Instructions at [pages.github.com](https://pages.github.com) (select "Project Site", then "Choose a Theme")



Open-source but not officially supported:

<https://github.com/topics/jekyll-theme>

<http://themes.jekyllrc.org/>

<https://jekyllthemes.io/github-pages-templates>

# "Beautiful Jekyll" theme

- Widely used and reasonably simple
- Looks good on mobile
- Navigation bar
- Can create pages and/or blog posts:
  - page
  - post

## Step 0: GitHub Account

Sign up for a GitHub account: [github.com](https://github.com)

Log in

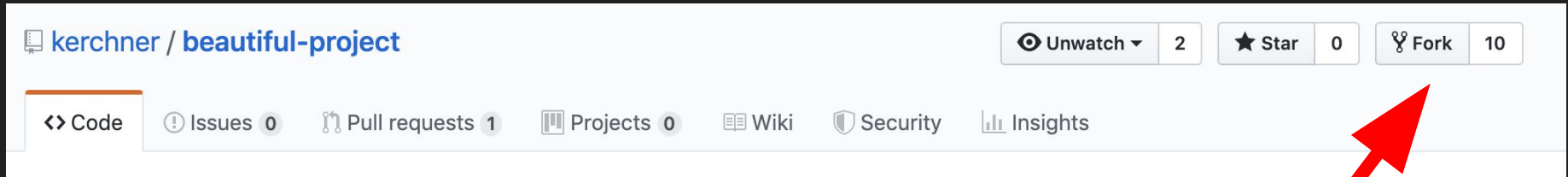


# Step 1: Fork the template repository

Go to

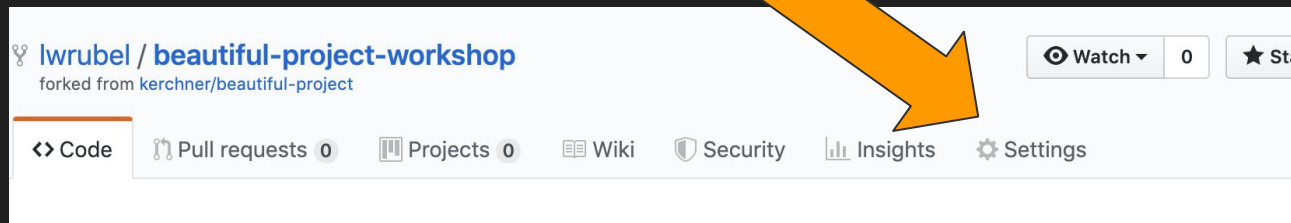
<https://github.com/kerchner/beautiful-project>

Press "Fork"

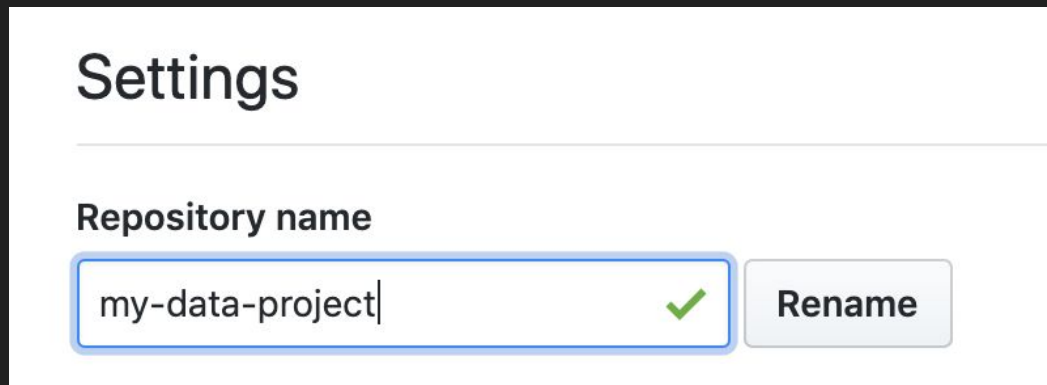


# Step 2: Rename your repository

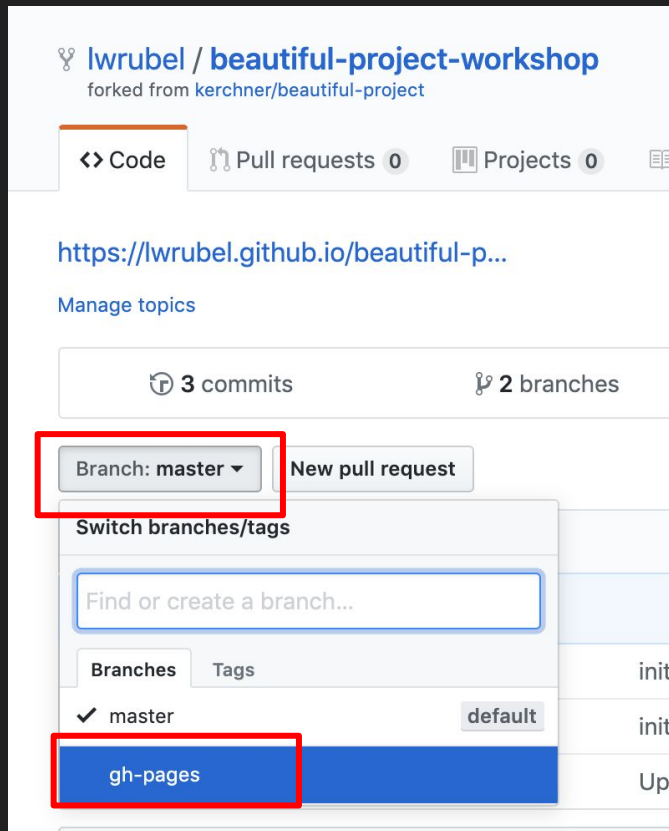
Go to your repository settings



Rename your repository

A screenshot of the 'Settings' page for a GitHub repository. The 'Repository name' section is visible, showing a text input field containing 'my-data-project' with a green checkmark icon to its right. A 'Rename' button is located to the right of the input field.

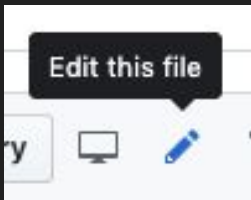
# Switch to the gh-pages branch



# Customizing the template

# Editing files on GitHub

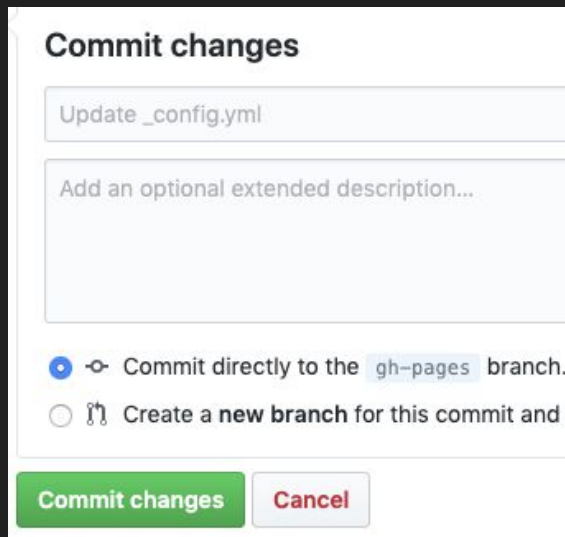
1. Click



2. Make your changes.

3. When finished,

- add a note
- press "Commit changes"

A screenshot of the GitHub 'Commit changes' dialog box. The title is 'Commit changes'. Below the title is a text input field containing 'Update \_config.yml'. Underneath is a larger text area with the placeholder 'Add an optional extended description...'. At the bottom, there are two radio button options: the first is selected and labeled 'Commit directly to the gh-pages branch.', and the second is labeled 'Create a new branch for this commit and...'. At the very bottom are two buttons: a green 'Commit changes' button and a grey 'Cancel' button.

# Types of files: `.yaml` ("YAML")

Contains data (often for configuration)

Comment out lines with `#`

```
# options
key: value
list:
  - key: value
  - key: value
```

Be careful to use **spaces, not tabs**.

Always put a space after the colon in `key: value` pairs

## Types of files: .md ("Markdown")







"Plain text" way of writing web pages

Basic Markdown:

[guides.github.com/features/mastering-markdown/](https://guides.github.com/features/mastering-markdown/)

Markdown tutorial: [www.markdowntutorial.com/](http://www.markdowntutorial.com/)

# Files

-  `_includes` - pieces of pages that are included in other pages
-  `_layouts` - HTML for layout templates ('page', 'post', etc.)
-  `_posts` - Blog posts go here as .md files
-  `css` - stylesheets, if you'd like to adjust the appearance
-  `img` - image files go here
-  `js` - Javascript (for advanced users)
- `_config.yml` - site configuration file
- `index.html` - main page
- other `.md` and `.html` pages - other site pages
- `README.md` - README that shows on your site's github page



**Edit `_config.yml` with your name, project info, etc.**

Then....




approx. 1-2 minutes  
as GitHub rebuilds your site.

# Now try viewing your site

<https://myname.github.io/myproject>

## Try creating a new page

View `md-example.md` and click . Copy the page text.

On the main page of your github repository, press   
Call it `newpage.md` (or a name you choose). Paste the  
copied page content into the new page. Change something.

Now, edit `_config.yml` in the `navbar-links:` section,  
and add a menu link to your new page.

# Try adding an image to your page

Browse to the **img** folder.

Click "Upload files".

Add a reference to the image in one of the pages.

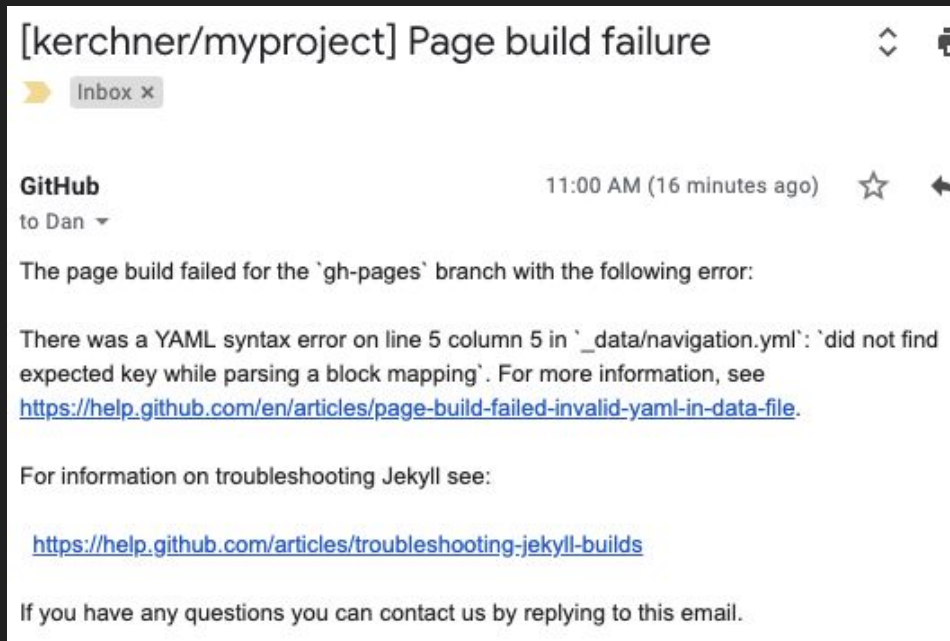
# Embedding HTML

- Upload your HTML file to the **\_includes** folder
- Add the following to one of your pages where you'd like to embed the visualization. The page can be either Markdown or HTML (substitute the name of your HTML file):

```
{% include my_plot.html %}
```

# Troubleshooting

- Check your email for build failure messages
- YAML file syntax can be sensitive!



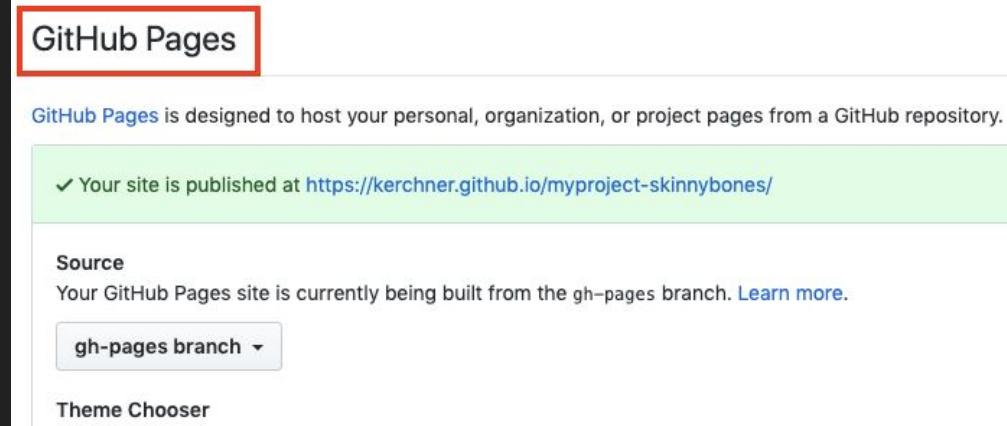
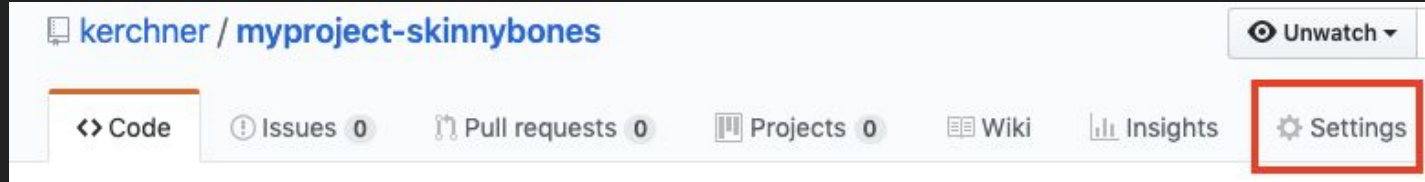
- <https://help.github.com/en/articles/troubleshooting-github-pages-builds>

# Troubleshooting

Repository  
settings

---> Options

---> Github Pages



# Troubleshooting

- Are you making changes in the **gh-pages** branch?

