Github Special Files

Usually placed in repository’s root, docs, or .github folder.

* [README.md](https://opensource.guide/starting-a-project/#writing-a-readme)

You can add a README file to your repository to tell other people why your project is useful, what they can do with your project, and how they can use it.

* [CONTRIBUTING.md](https://help.github.com/en/github/building-a-strong-community/setting-guidelines-for-repository-contributors)

A CONTRIBUTING file communicates how people should contribute to your project.

* [LICENCE.md](https://help.github.com/en/github/creating-cloning-and-archiving-repositories/licensing-a-repository)

Public repositories on GitHub are often used to share open source software. For your repository to truly be open source, you’ll need to license it so that others are free to use, change, and distribute the software.

* [CODE\_OF\_CONDUCT.md](https://opensource.guide/code-of-conduct/)

A CODE\_OF\_CONDUCT file defines standards for how to engage in a community.

* [SECURITY.md](https://help.github.com/en/github/managing-security-vulnerabilities/adding-a-security-policy-to-your-repository)

A SECURITY file gives instructions for how to responsibly report a security vulnerability in your project.

* [FUNDING.yml](https://help.github.com/en/github/building-a-strong-community/displaying-a-sponsor-button-in-your-repository)

A FUNDING file displays a sponsor button in your repository to increase the visibility of funding options for your open source project.

* [SUPPORT.md](https://help.github.com/en/github/building-a-strong-community/adding-support-resources-to-your-project)

A SUPPORT file lets people know about ways to get help with your project.

* [CODEOWNERS](https://help.github.com/en/github/creating-cloning-and-archiving-repositories/about-code-owners)

You can use a CODEOWNERS file to define individuals or teams that are responsible for code in a repository.

**What is a changelog?**

A changelog is a file which contains a curated, chronologically ordered list of notable changes for each version of a project.

**Why keep a changelog?**

To make it easier for users and contributors to see precisely what notable changes have been made between each release (or version) of the project.

**Who needs a changelog?**

People do. Whether consumers or developers, the end users of software are human beings who care about what's in the software. When the software changes, people want to know why and how.