

INFO202

Tool/service review


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 **gitee** is a code hosting platform based on git developed by OSCHINA community in 2013.

1. Tool/service's intended purpose, and fitness for that purpose or others

The intended purpose of Gitee is providing high quality and stable code hosting services for domestic developers. Furthermore, Gitee also serves as a collaboration platform for software development.

To achieve this purpose, Gitee supports Git which is a distributed version control system to provide the most basic code hosting function. In addition, it also provides online code view, historical version view, Issue, Wiki, code quality detection, PAAS project demonstration and other functions to help developers manage and share their code.

2. Tool/service's intended user base, and fitness for that user base or others

Although Gitee is similar to Github, most of the intended user base of Gitee is Chinese customer. For these domestic developers, the difference between Gitee and Github as follow:

	Github	Gitee
Speed	Slow	Fast
Capabilities	Abroad	Localization
Language	English	Chinese

Table 1 The difference between Gitee and Github for Chinese customer

Specifically, the intended user base of Gitee can also be divided into three parts:

Users	Editions	Fitness
Individual developers	Community Edition	Manage and share code
Companies & Organizations	Enterprise Edition	Enterprise-level project development management
Colleges & Universities	Education Edition	Programming teaching practice environment

Table 2 The three parts of user base of Gitee

3. Features and limitations

1) Features:

Full Lifecycle	Problem	Does
Creation	Code upload	Git version control Write & submit code anywhere, anytime
Integration	Hard integration with other platform	Integrate account login, task assignment, PR, etc.
Visualization	Bad graph interface	Simple and friendly design of GUIs
Curation	Data losing	Restricted force push to protect code

Table 3 The Features of Gitee

2) Limitation

Full Lifecycle	Limitation
Creation	Limitation of speed and code size
Disambiguation	Language limitation (Hard to use for foreign developers)

Table 4 The Limitations of Gitee

4. State of development and future prospects

- 1) The state of development is mature and usable. Gitee is the largest code hosting platform in China and it has 5 million registered members and 10 million projects.
- 2) The future prospects greatly. The version of Gitee is updating stably and frequently. The development group is from OSCHINA which is the largest open source community website in China. Moreover, the maintenance is excellent for Gitee. It has official blog to report update and fix information.

5. Cost to users?

Gitee provides different Editions for different users. The cost to different users is different:

Editions	Costs	
Community Edition	Free	
Enterprise Edition	Free Edition	Free
	Basic Edition	¥ 1280 / year
	Standard Edition	¥ 1998 / year
	Advanced Edition	¥ 3998 / year
	Exclusive Edition	¥ 6998 / year
Education Edition	Free Certification required	

Table 5 The cost of different Editions of Gitee

6. Software/hardware prerequisites

Software prerequisites	Hardware prerequisites
Valid Git environment	Valid Computer
Valid Network	
Can assess website validly	

Table 6 Software/hardware prerequisites

7. Ease of installation

- 1) Gitee is an online website. There is no need to download any clients or plugins. Users can set and manage cloud repositories online.
- 2) Users could use git commands to connect local git repositories and cloud repositories.
- 3) Data interaction with GitHub. Users can log in to Gitee directly with GitHub account. At the same time, it is easy to import git repositories from GitHub.

8. Ease of use

At the homepage of Gitee, users' comments state that it has a friendly Chinese interactive interface, quick response and high expansibility. Therefore, it is convenient for domestic developers to manage their code using gitee because of the Chinese statement and help documents. Besides, the concise pages and menu bar ensure that important features such as view the repository list are accessible from anywhere without too many clicks. And all screens share a common organization and styles to create familiarity for users. However, on BBS such as Zhihu or Baidu, some users say that there are still some problems when using, such as there isn't any English statements which makes it not easy to use for foreigners.