

✓ Day 5: Star ★ vs Watch 👁 – What's the Deal?

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📌 What Is It?

When you're browsing GitHub, you've probably seen two familiar buttons on a repository:

- ★ Star
- 👁 Watch

They look simple — but understanding **what they actually do** (and when to use them) can level up your GitHub experience and help you stay updated effectively.

💡 Why It's Useful

- Keep track of important or interesting repositories
- Get notifications about updates, releases, or discussions
- Help open-source maintainers by showing appreciation (stars = support ★)
- Stay in the loop when you're collaborating or learning from a project

🟠 What's the Difference?

Action	Meaning	When to Use
★ Star	Bookmark or show appreciation	Save useful/favorite projects
👁 Watch	Subscribe to notifications about repo activity	Stay updated or follow development




Watch Settings (3 Modes):

When you click "Watch", you get three options:

1. **Watching** – Get notifications for all conversations
2. **Releases Only** – Only get notified about new releases (default for starred repos)
3. **Ignore** – No notifications at all




 You can customize this anytime by clicking the "Watch" dropdown in the repo.

Use Cases

-  *Star* cool UI libraries, dev tools, and portfolios for reference later
-  *Watch* actively developed tools or repos you've contributed to
-  *Ignore* if you don't want to be flooded with updates but still like the repo

Bonus Tip: Stars Matter in Open Source

Starring a repo doesn't just help *you* — it helps the **creator** too!

-  Increases the repo's visibility
-  Acts as social proof
-  Encourages the maintainer to keep updating

So if you like a project — star it. It costs nothing, but means everything 🙌

Resources to Explore

- GitHub Help: [About Watching and Starring Repositories](#)
- GitHub Notifications Settings: <https://github.com/settings/notifications>

Final Thought

"Star what you love. Watch what you want to grow with."