

GitHub Setup

We'll use GitHub to share assignments for the majority of this course. Git is a powerful tool that we'll cover in more depth later. For now, we just need to get your account set up and clone a repository.

1. Install Git

- Go to <https://git-scm.com/downloads>.
- Download the installer for your OS and run it.
- Stick with the default settings unless you know what you're doing.

On macOS:

- Open Terminal (Applications > Utilities > Terminal).
- Type **git** and press Enter.
- Check that it's installed with **git --version**.

2. Create a GitHub account

- Head over to github.com and click Sign up (top right).
- Follow the instructions to create your account.
- Choose the free plan (it's all you'll need for now).
- Check your email and click on the verification link.

3. Generate an SSH key

This key lets your computer talk to GitHub securely without asking for your password every time.

- Open a terminal (Command Prompt on Windows, Terminal on Mac).
- Enter this command (replace the email with your own):

```
ssh-keygen -t ed25519 -C "your_email@example.com"
```

- Hit Enter to accept the default save location.
- Pick a password (optional but recommended). You won't see what you type; don't worry, that's normal.

Your key will be saved in **C:\Users\username\.ssh\id_ed25519.pub** (Windows) or **~/.ssh/id_ed25519.pub** (Linux/Mac).

4. Add your SSH key to your GitHub account

- In GitHub, click your profile picture > Settings.
- Go to SSH and GPG keys > click New SSH key.
- Give it a title like "My Laptop."
- Open **id_ed25519.pub** in a text editor like Notepad, copy everything inside, and paste it into GitHub's "Key" box.
- Click Add SSH key.

Now your computer will be recognized by GitHub.

5. Configure Git

Tell Git who you are so your commits show up with your name.

- Open a terminal and enter these commands, replacing "Your Name" and "your_email@example.com" with your actual name and email address:

```
git config --global user.name "Your Name"
git config --global user.email "your_email@example.com"
```

These settings will be applied to all repositories on your computer.

6. Clone the Git repository

Finally, let's grab a copy of the code you'll be using for this class.

- Go to the GitHub page for the repository you want to clone. For example:
<https://github.com/Hjhawley/NeuroDev-Tech-Class-Python1>
- Click the green **Code** button > **SSH** > **copy URL to clipboard**.
- In your terminal, navigate to the folder where you want the repo to live and then run **git clone** followed by the URL you copied, like this:

```
git clone git@github.com:Hjhawley/NeuroDev-Tech-Class-Python1.git
```

Once that's done, you'll see a new folder with all of the repository code. You can open it in an editor like VS Code.