

# Contributing to collections

If you want to add functionality to an existing collection, modify a collection you are using to fix a bug, or change the behavior of a module in a collection, clone the git repository for that collection and make changes on a branch. You can combine changes to a collection with a local checkout of Ansible (`source hacking/env-setup`). You should first check the collection repository to see if it has specific contribution guidelines. These are typically listed in the `README.md` or `CONTRIBUTING.md` files within the repository.

## Contributing to a collection: `community.general`

These instructions apply to collections hosted in the [ansible\\_collections GitHub organization](#). For other collections, especially for collections not hosted on GitHub, check the `README.md` of the collection for information on contributing to it.

This example uses the [community.general](#) collection. To contribute to other collections in the same GitHub org, replace the folder names `community` and `general` with the namespace and collection name of a different collection.

### Prerequisites

- Include `~/dev/ansible/collections/` in `ref: COLLECTIONS_PATHS`

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- If that path mentions multiple directories, make sure that no other directory earlier in the search path contains a copy of `community.general`.

### Creating a PR

- Create the directory `~/dev/ansible/collections/ansible_collections/community:`

```
mkdir -p ~/dev/ansible/collections/ansible_collections/community
```

- Clone [the community.general Git repository](#) or a fork of it into the directory `general`:

```
cd ~/dev/ansible/collections/ansible_collections/community
git clone git@github.com:ansible-collections/community.general.git general
```

- If you clone from a fork, add the original repository as a remote upstream:

```
cd ~/dev/ansible/collections/ansible_collections/community/general
git remote add upstream git@github.com:ansible-collections/community.general.git
```

- Create a branch and commit your changes on the branch.
- Remember to add tests for your changes, see `ref: testing_collections`.

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- Push your changes to your fork of the collection and create a Pull Request.

You can test your changes by using this checkout of `community.general` in playbooks and roles with whichever version of Ansible you have installed locally, including a local checkout of `ansible/ansible`'s `devel` branch.

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```
.. seealso::

   :ref:`collections`
   Learn how to install and use collections.
```

:ref:`contributing\_maintained\_collections`  
Guidelines for contributing to selected collections  
`Mailing List <<https://groups.google.com/group/ansible-devel>>`\_  
The development mailing list  
:ref:`communication\_irc`  
How to join Ansible chat channels