Electron Dev on Codespaces

Welcome to the Codespaces Electron Developer Environment.

Quick Start

Upon creation of your codespace you should have [build tools](#) installed and an initialized gclient checkout of Electron. In order to build electron you'll need to run the following commands.

```
e sync -vv
e build
```

The initial sync will take approximately ~30 minutes and the build will take ~8 minutes. Incremental syncs and incremental builds are substantially quicker.

Directory Structure

Codespaces doesn't lean very well into gclient based checkouts, the directory structure is slightly strange. There are two locations for the `electron` checkout that both map to the same files under the hood.

```
# Primary gclient checkout container
/workspaces/gclient/*
  └ src/* - # Chromium checkout
      └ electron - # Electron checkout
# Symlinked Electron checkout (identical to the above)
/workspaces/electron
```

Goma

If you are a maintainer [with Goma access](#) it should be automatically configured and authenticated when you spin up a new codespaces instance. You can validate this by checking `e d goma_auth info` or by checking that your build-tools configuration has a goma mode of `cluster`.

Running Electron

You can run Electron in a few ways. If you just want to see if it launches:

```
# Enter an interactive JS prompt headlessly
xvfb-run e start -i
```

But if you want to actually see Electron you will need to use the built-in VNC capability. If you click "Ports" in codespaces and then open the `VNC web client` forwarded port you should see a web based VNC portal in your browser. When you are asked for a password use `builduser`.

Once in the VNC UI you can open `Applications -> System -> XTerm` which will open a VNC based terminal app and then you can run `e start` like normal and Electron will open in your VNC session.

Running Tests

You run tests via build-tools and `xvfb` .

```
# Run all tests
xvfb-run e test

# Run the main process tests
xvfb-run e test --runners=main

# Run the old remote tests
xvfb-run e test --runners=remote
```