How can we help?

Creating a personal access token for the command line

You can create a personal access token and use it in place of a password when performing Git operations over HTTPS with Git on the command line or the API.

A personal access token is required to authenticate to GitHub in the following situations:

> When you're using two-factor authentication

> To access protected content in an organization that uses SAML single sign-on (SSO). Tokens used with organizations that use SAML SSO must be authorized.

Creating a token

1   Verify your email address, if it hasn't been verified yet.

2   In the upper-right corner of any page, click your profile photo, then click **Settings**.

3   In the left sidebar, click **Developer settings**.

4   In the left sidebar, click **Personal access tokens**.

5   Click **Generate new token**.

6   Give your token a descriptive name.

7   Select the scopes, or permissions, you'd like to grant this token. To use your token to access repositories from the command line, select **repo**.

8   Click **Generate token**.

9   Click 📋 to copy the token to your clipboard. For security reasons, after you navigate off the page, you will not be able to see the token again.
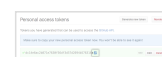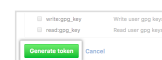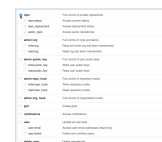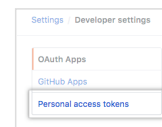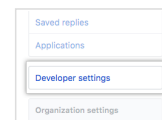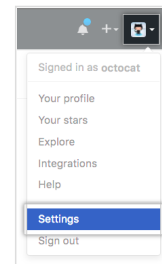
> **Warning:** Treat your tokens like passwords and keep them secret. When working with the API, use tokens as environment variables instead of hardcoding them into your programs.

10 To use your token to authenticate to an organization that uses SAML SSO, authorize the token for use with a SAML single-sign-on organization.

Using a token on the command line

Once you have a token, you can enter it instead of your password when performing Git operations over HTTPS.

For example, on the command line you would enter the following:

```
$ git clone https://github.com/username/repo.git
Username: your_username
Password: your_token
```

Personal access tokens can only be used for HTTPS Git operations. If your repository uses an SSH remote URL, you will need to switch the remote from SSH to HTTPS.

If you are not prompted for your username and password, your credentials may be cached on your computer. You can update your credentials in the Keychain to replace your old password with the token.

💬 Contact a human