

First Contributions – Complete Beginner's Guide

First Contributions

This project aims to simplify and guide the way beginners make their first contribution. If you are looking to make your first contribution, follow the steps below.

If you're not comfortable with command line, [here are tutorials using GUI tools](#).

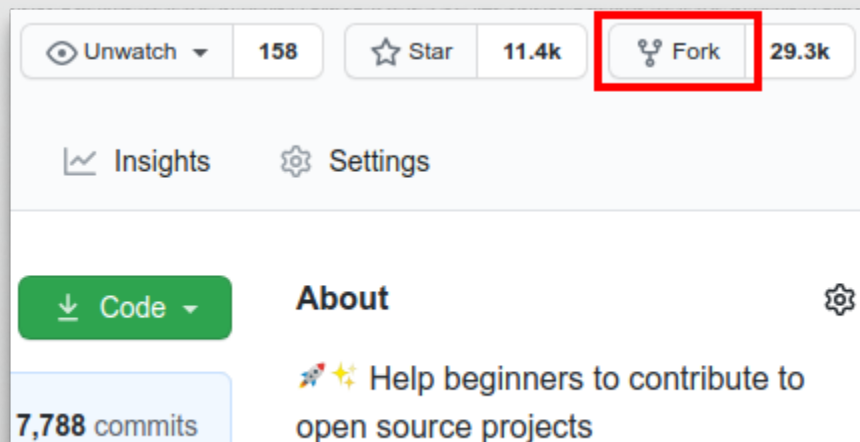
If you don't have git on your machine, [install it](#).

Step 1 – Fork the Repository

What is forking?

Forking creates your own copy of a project's repository under your GitHub account.

• **How to Fork** => clicking on the fork button on the top of this page. This will create a copy of this repository in your account.



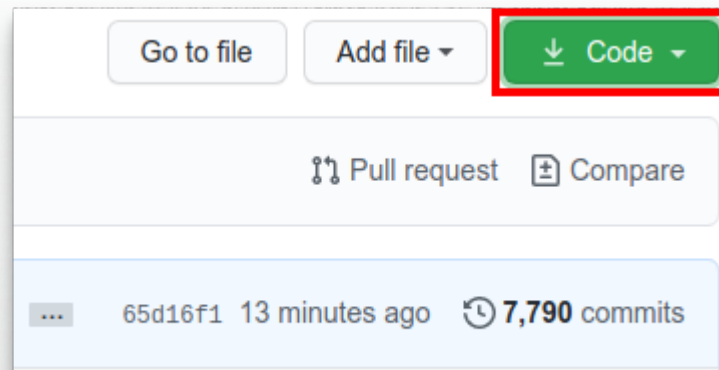
Step 2 – Clone Your Fork

What is cloning?

Cloning downloads the repository from GitHub to your local computer so you can work on it offline.

• **How to clone :**

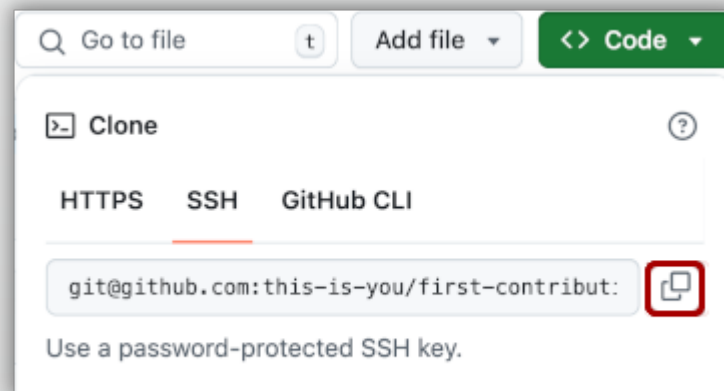
1. Open your fork on GitHub (not the original repo).
2. Click the green Code button.
3. Select either:
 - SSH (recommended if you've set up SSH keys)
 - HTTPS (easier for beginners)



4. Open a terminal and run the following git command:

git clone "url you just copied"

where "url you just copied" (without the quotation marks) is the url to this repository (your fork of this project). See the previous steps to obtain the url.



For example:

gitclone git@github.com:this-is-you/first-contributions.git

where this-is-you is your GitHub username. Here you're copying the contents of the first-contributions repository on GitHub to your computer.

Step 3 – Create a New Branch

What is a branch?

A branch is a separate version of the project where you make changes without affecting the main branch.

- **How to create a branch:**

1. Move into the project folder : (here 'first-contribution' is your branch name ;it can be (feat/fix/add)
cd first-contributions

2. Create and switch to a new branch using command :

git checkout main -b add-your-name

For example: ***git checkout main -b fix***

(Replace add-your-name with something describing your change.)

Step 4 – Make Your Changes

Now open Contributors.md file in a text editor, add your name to it. Don't add it at the beginning or end of the file. Put it anywhere in between. Now, save the file.

```
Changes not staged for commit:
  (use "git add <file>..." to update what will be committed)
  (use "git checkout -- <file>..." to discard changes in working directory)

        modified:   Contributors.md
```

- **How to save your changes:**

1. Save the file.
2. Check what changed:

git status

3. Stage the file:

git add Contributors.md

4. Commit your changes :

git commit -m "Add your name to Contributors list"

Step 5: Push Your Branch to GitHub

What's pushing?

It's like uploading your local changes to your GitHub fork.

- **How to push :**

git push -u origin your-branch-name

Replacing your-branch-name with the name of the branch you created earlier.

Step 6: Submit a Pull Request (PR)

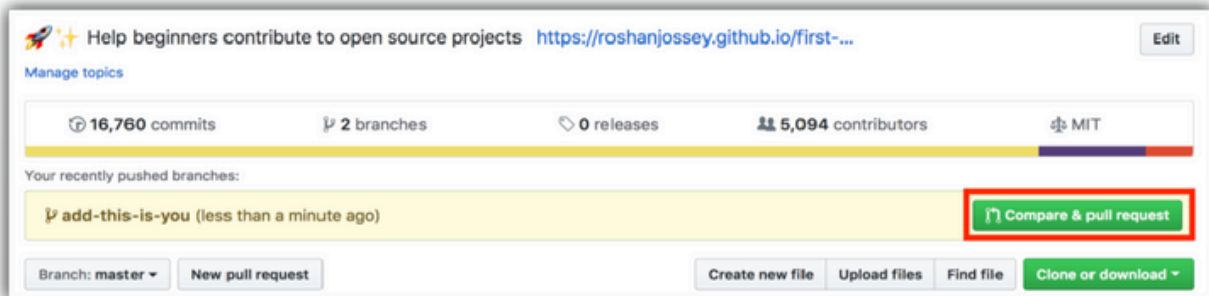
What's a PR?

It's like saying: "Hey, I made this change — can you review and add it to the main project?"

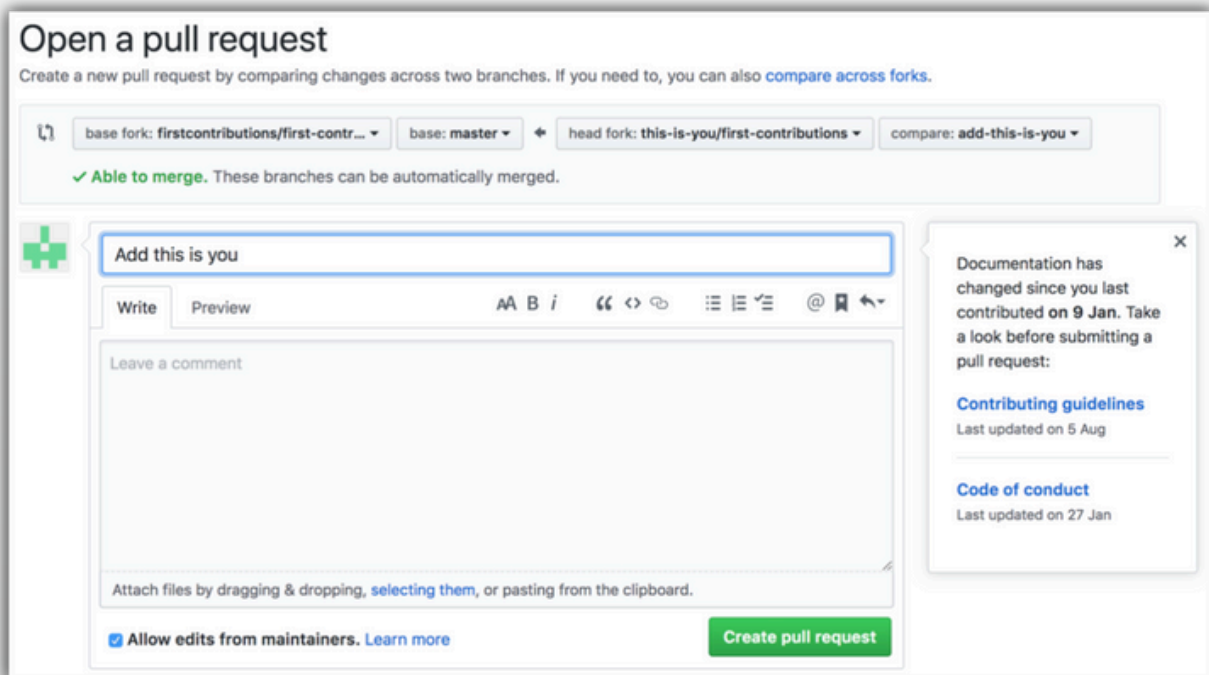
- **How to create a PR :**

1. Go to your fork on GitHub.
2. Click Compare & pull request.
3. Review the changes.

4. Add a title and description.



5. Now submit the pull request.



Soon I'll be merging all your changes into the main branch of this project. You will get a notification email once the changes have been merged.

Where to go from here?

🎉 Congrats! You just completed the standard GitHub workflow:

Fork → Clone → Edit → Pull Request

★ What's Next?







✅ Celebrate your contribution

Share your success with friends and followers — by going to [web app](#).
If you'd like more practice, checkout [code contributions](#).

✅ Now let's get you started with contributing to other projects. We've compiled a list of projects with easy issues you can get started on. Check out [the list of projects in the web app](#).

[Additional material](#)

Tutorials Using Other Tools

					
<u>GitHub Desktop</u>	<u>Visual Studio 2017</u>	<u>GitKraken</u>	<u>Visual Studio Code</u>	<u>Atlassian Sourcetree</u>	<u>IntelliJ IDEA</u>

This project is supported by:

