Getting Started with Web Hosting on GitHub

This guide has been created to help get up and running with web hosting on Github. Prior to June 2014 this was an easy process, however for some reason it now takes a few steps that are not obvious.

The objective of this exercise is to set your GitHub account up with

Step 1 - Setup your account and verify your email

Browse to github.com and sign-up or sign-in to your account. Once signed in, you need to verify your email address. To do this click the account **settings** button in the top right hand corner.


From the menu on the left, click **emails**. From the selection on the right, ensure that your email address is corrent and then click **send verification email**.
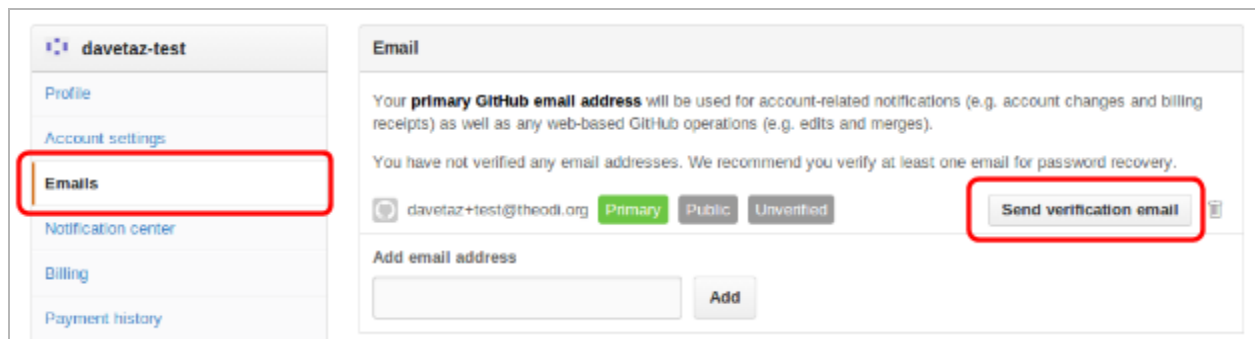
Note: Sometimes the verification email will be marked as SPAM. Once received, follow the instructions you receive in your email.

Step 2 - Create your website repository

To create a new repository, from the top right menu click the add button and select **New Repository**.
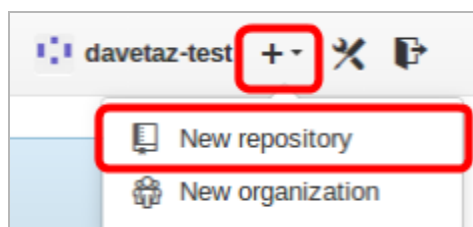
Create a new repository with the repository name *your-username.*github.io, ensure it is **public** and **initialise it with a README** as shown below.

Clicking create repository will take you to your new project, where we can create our website that will appear at **http://***your-username.*github.io

Step 3 - Create your website
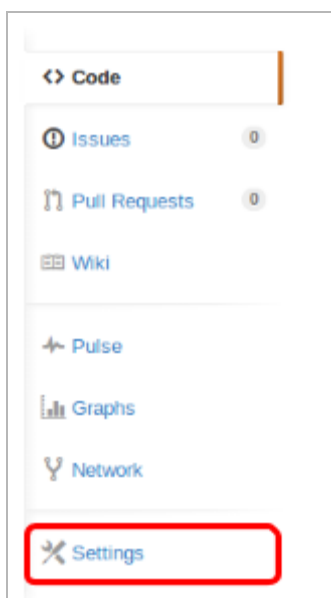
In order to create your website, click the **settings** option from the right hand menu.

From the next screen, scroll down to find the **github pages** section and select the **automatic page generator**.

On the next screen you can fill in a title and some content of your web page.

Finally, click **continue to layouts** and click the publish button.
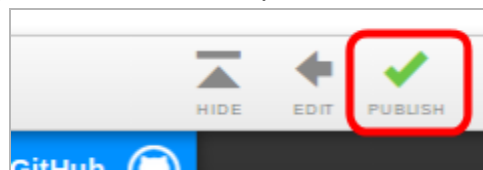
Once done you should now be able to view your website, hosted by GitHub, in a web browser by typing in the address.

http://*your-username*.github.io

Note: It might take up to 10 minutes to generate the page and you will need to make sure that your browser does not cache refresh. You can force a full refresh by holding down the CTL key on the keyboard when you click refresh.

Step 4 - Making pages generate for forked repositories

If you forked a repository that contains a website you **must** make a change to the forked website before it will generate. Normally this can be done by adding just one word to the index.html page on the website branch.