GitHub Guide for Hackathon Participants

Hackathon Committee

Introduction

GitHub is the standard platform for hosting code and tracking the progress of your project. For this hackathon, submitting your GitHub repository link is mandatory for evaluation. This guide covers the essentials of setting up and submitting your work.

1 Step 1: Create a GitHub Account

If you do not have an account yet, follow these steps:

1. Go to github.com.
2. Click on **Sign Up** in the top right corner.
3. Enter your email address, create a password, and choose a username.
4. Solve the verification puzzle to prove you are human.
5. Check your email for a launch code or verification link to activate your account.

2 Step 2: Create a Repository

A "repository" (or "repo") is where your project files live.

1. Log in to your GitHub account.
2. Click the **+** icon in the top-right corner of any page.
3. Select **New repository**.
4. **Repository name:** Use a clear name (e.g., `TeamName-ProjectName`).
5. **Visibility:** Select **Public** (Required for evaluators to see your code).
6. **Initialize this repository with:** Check "Add a README file" (This creates a landing page for your code).
7. Click **Create repository**.

3 Step 3: Uploading Code

You can upload code using the command line, VS Code, or directly via the browser. The browser method is the simplest for beginners.

Method A: Web Browser (Easiest)

1. Navigate to your newly created repository main page.

2. Click the **Add file** button dropdown.

3. Select **Upload files**.

4. Drag and drop your project folder or files into the box.

5. In the "Commit changes" box at the bottom:

   - Write a brief description (e.g., "Initial code upload").
   - Click the green **Commit changes** button.

Method B: Visual Studio Code (Recommended for Devs)

1. Open your project folder in VS Code.

2. Click the **Source Control** icon (branch icon) in the left sidebar.

3. Click **Publish to GitHub**.

4. Select **Publish to GitHub public repository**.

5. Select the files you want to include and confirm.

4 Step 4: Submission

Once your code is uploaded:

1. Go to your repository's main page.

2. Copy the URL from your browser address bar (e.g., `https://github.com/username/repo-name`).

3. Paste this link into the Hackathon Submission Platform.

Best Practices

- **Commit Often:** Upload changes after every major feature (e.g., "Added login page", "Fixed database bug"). This shows your progress timeline to evaluators.

- **README.md:** Edit your README file to explain what your project does and how to run it.

- **Clean Code:** Do not upload massive files like `node_modules` or compiled binaries. Use a `.gitignore` file if possible.