

Code Review

Code review in GitHub centres around a feature called a “Pull Request”. Before one can create a pull request there are a few requirements. First, a repository needs to be cloned to someone’s local system. Then this person needs to create a new branch of the repository for them to write new code in. Once this person considers this code ready to be pushed to the “main” branch then they will create a pull request in GitHub. The pull request is a request to merge the code in the new branch with the code in the main branch.

This workflow can be beneficial in many ways. This workflow allows a team to have a “main” or “production” version of their software which they can deploy, as well as being able to work on and test new things in other branches. Creating pull requests also encourage collaboration as the rest of the team will typically have to approve the pull request before it is merged. This often results in team members finding errors that the original writer of the code may have overlooked or suggestions for how to improve the code. On top of the approval of teammates, a team can also set up testing pipelines for pull requests. In this case, when a pull request is created, the new branches code will be run through tests to assure that the new code is properly functional and the pull request will not be able to be completed until the test pass.

Below is a diagram of the general workflow of code production using Github’s code review.



