

Publishing

The basics of web hosting

Files are real

TheVerge

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File not found

A generation that grew up with Google is forcing professors to rethink their lesson plans

by + Monica Chin
Illustrations by Micha Huigen
Sep 22, 2021, 8:00 AM EDT

 0 Comments



Monica Chin, "File not found," *The Verge*, September 22, 2021

Files live on computers



Websites are files



```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
  <title>Page title</title>
</head>
<body>
  <h1>A heading</h1>
  <p>Some text</p>
</body>
</html>
```



```
h1 {
  color: "red";
  text-align: center;
  margin-bottom: 10px;
}
```



Other files



```
const listItems = document.querySelectorAll('ul li');

function toggleDone(e) {
  if (!e.target.classList.contains('done')) {
    e.target.classList.add('done');
  } else {
    e.target.classList.remove('done');
  }
}

listItems.forEach((item) => {
  item.addEventListener("click", toggleDone);
});
```

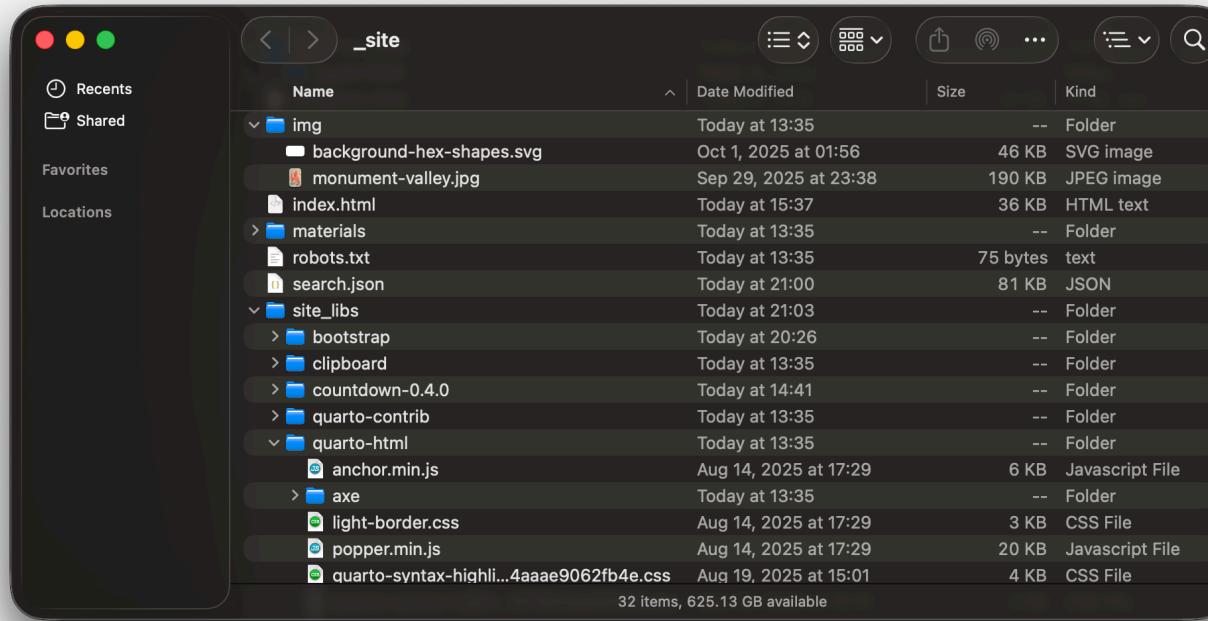
(Some are databases + files)

The screenshot shows the WordPress dashboard interface. The left sidebar contains navigation links: Home, Updates, Posts, Media, Pages, Comments, Appearance, Plugins, Users, Tools, Settings, and a Collapse menu. The main content area includes:

- Site Health Status**: Shows a green "Good" status icon and a message about site health.
- At a Glance**: Displays 1 Post, 1 Page, and 1 Comment.
- Activity**: Shows a recent publication of "Hello world!" at 10:11 am today.
- Recent Comments**: A comment from "A WordPress Commenter" on "Hello world!". It includes a link to the Comments screen for moderation.
- Quick Draft**: A form for creating a new post, with fields for Title and Content, and a "Save Draft" button.
- WordPress Events and News**: A list of upcoming events:
 - WordPress 6.5 Brighton Launch Party (Tuesday, Mar 26, 2024, 8:00 pm GMT+1)
 - Online WordPress Portsmouth Meetup - My Favourite Contact Form (Wednesday, Mar 27, 2024, 8:00 pm GMT+1)
 - Secure Your Site: Join Cambridge WordPress Backups & Security Meetup Apr8th 7pm (Monday, Apr 8, 2024, 8:00 pm GMT+2)
- WordPress 6.5 Release Candidate 3**: Includes links to "WP Briefing: Episode 75: WordCamp Asia 2024 Unwrapped" and "Gutenberg Times: Dev hours on Block Hooks, building better patterns, customizing your store, a new book and more — Weekend Edition 288".

Quarto websites are *static*

There's no need for fancy web servers—
Quarto puts the whole rendered website in `_site/`



Your job is to put that `_site/` on a server.

Servers

Web servers are computers that (1) store files and (2) show those files as websites to web browsers.

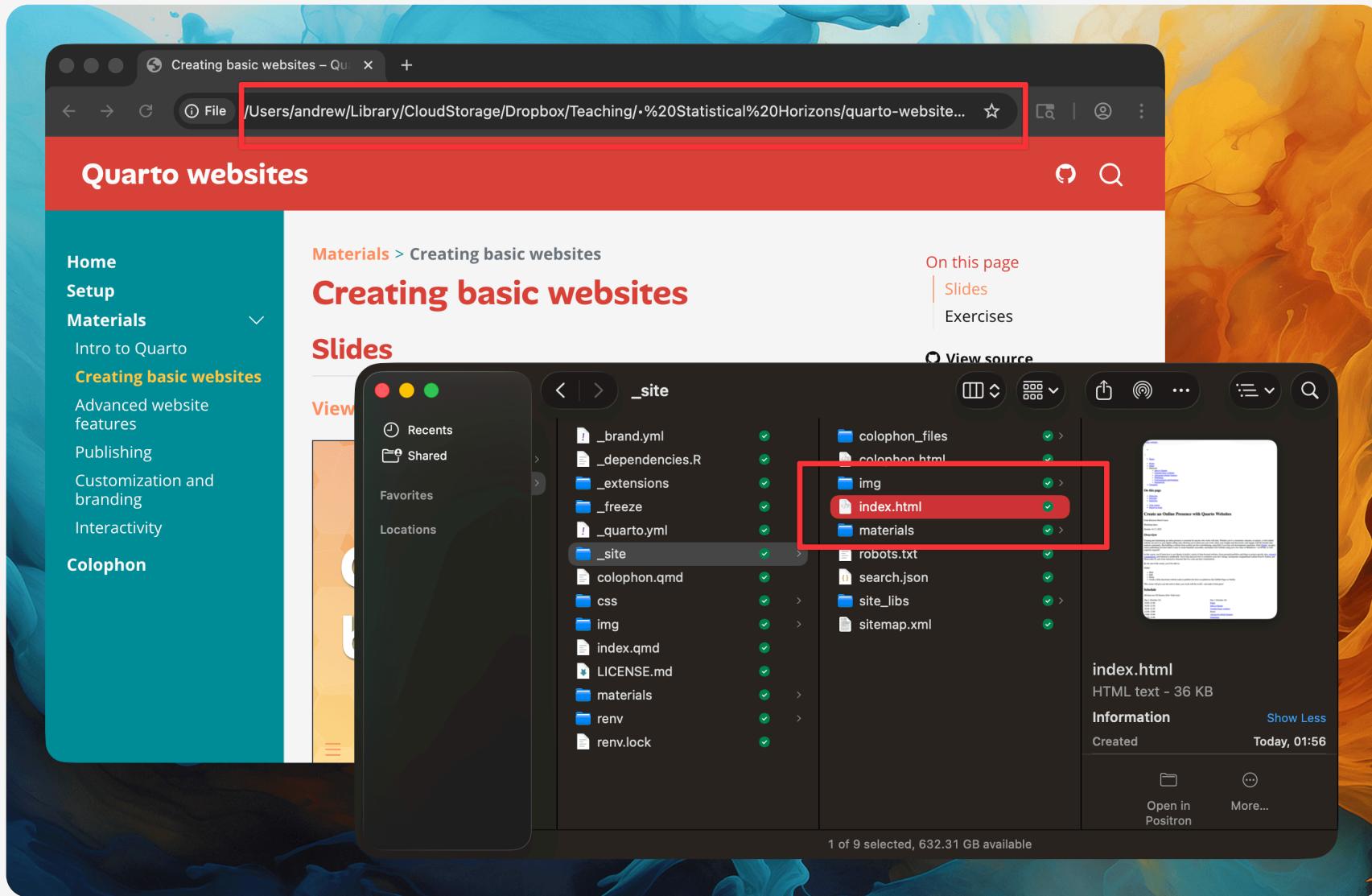


Local files

file:///Users/andrew/Desktop/example/index.html

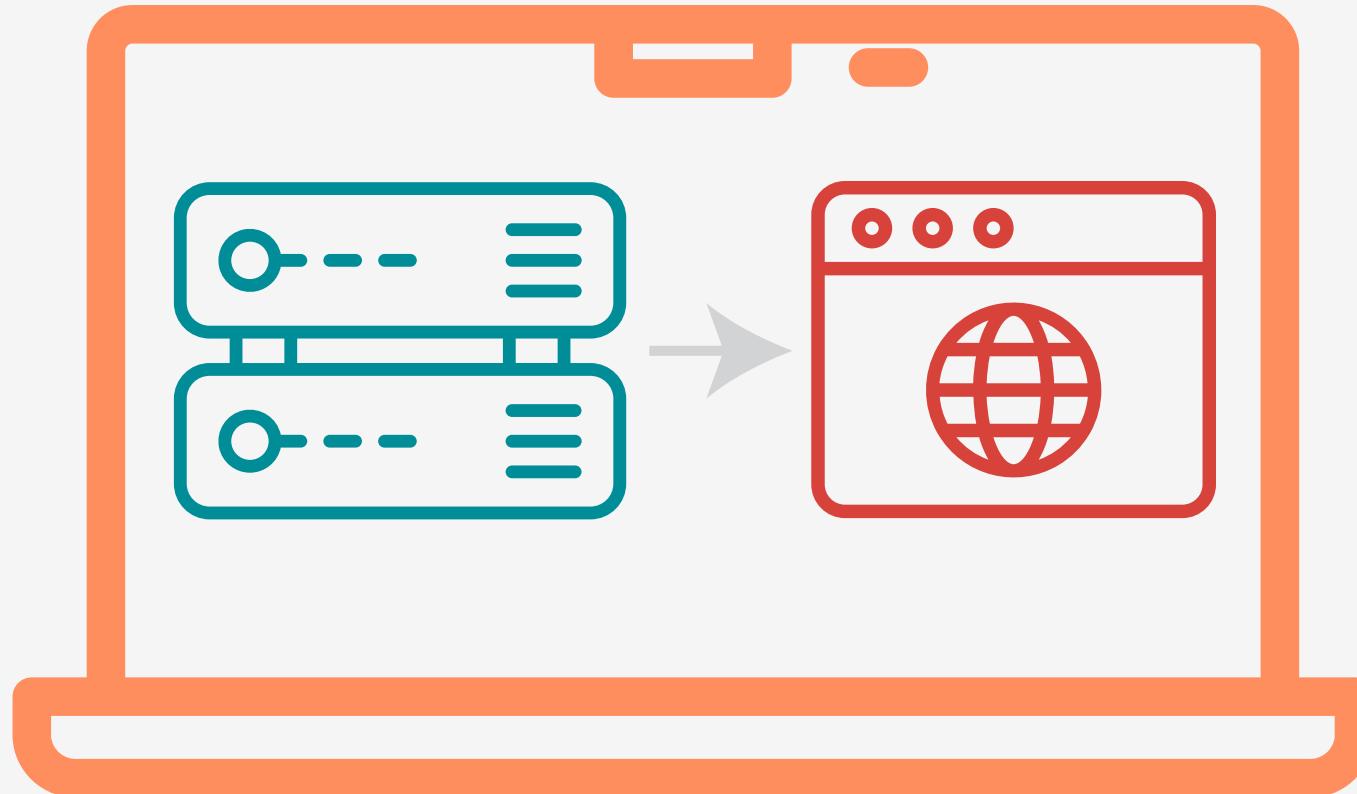


Local files



Local server

`http://localhost:3333/`



Local server





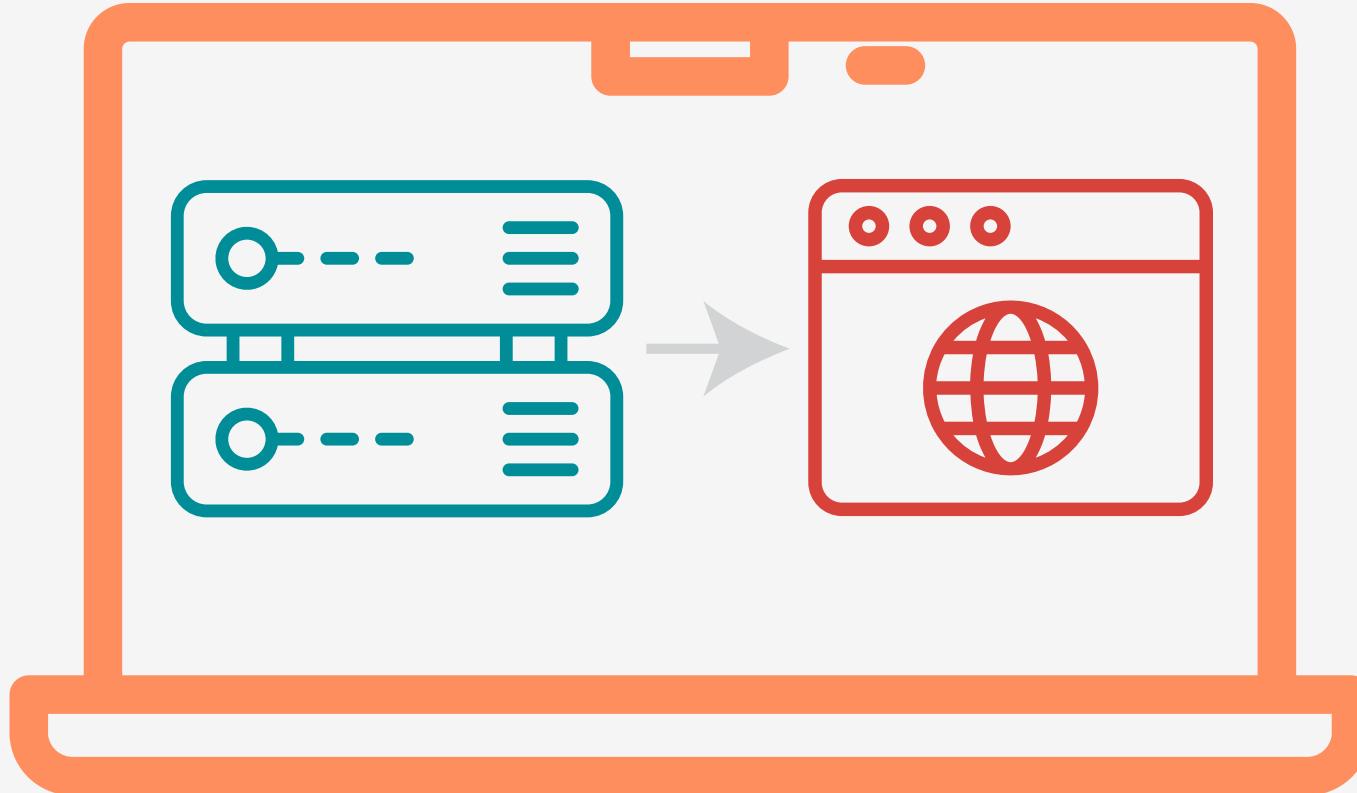
Stephen A Smith @stephenasmith

TAke a look, y'all: IMG_4346.jpeg

10:15 PM · May 26, 2015 · Twitter for iPhone

86.8K Retweets **4,939** Quote Tweets **121K** Likes

Local server



Remote server



Remote server

Creating basic websites – Quarto website · andrewheiss.github.io/quarto-websites_2025-10/materials/basic-websites/

Quarto websites

Home
Setup
Materials
Intro to Quarto
Creating basic websites
Advanced website features
Publishing
Customization and branding
Interactivity
Colophon

Materials > Creating basic websites

Creating basic websites

Slides

[View slides in full screen](#)



On this page

- Slides
- Exercises

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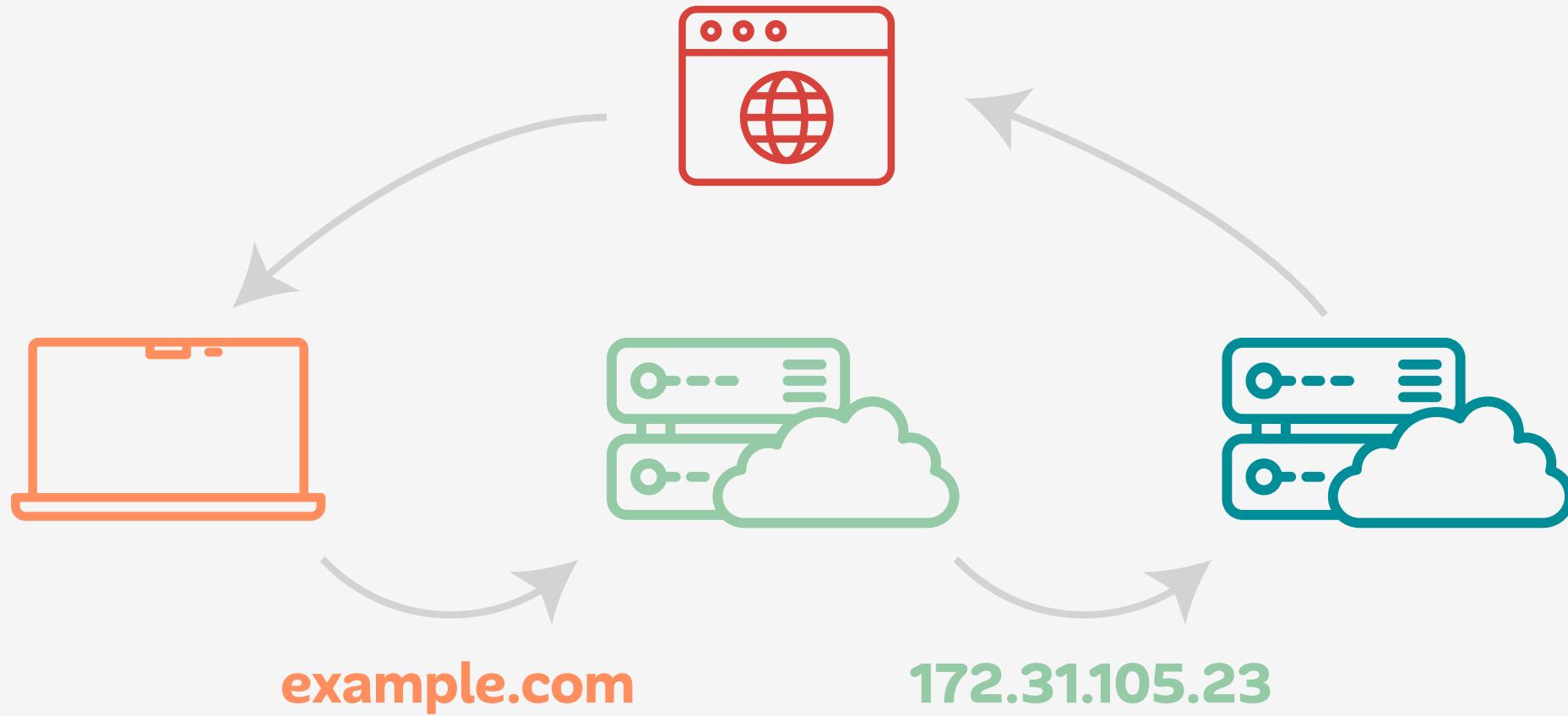
Domain names

All computers on the internet have IP addresses

`http://8.8.8.8`

Domain names map IP addresses to memorable,
human-readable names

Domain names



Costs

Server space

Can be free!

Typically \$5+/month

Domain name

Not free!

\$10-20+/year

iwantmyname		
Domains	Transfer	Plugins
Affiliate	About	Support
andrewheiss.christmas	😊 \$39.00 1st yr	
andrewheiss.compare	😊 \$78.01 1st yr	
andrewheiss.club.tw	😊 \$30.99 1st yr	
andrewheiss.contact	😊 \$26.99 1st yr	
andrewheiss.cooking	😊 \$64.03 1st yr	
andrewheiss.co.at	😊 \$14.99 1st yr	
andrewheiss.courses	😊 \$72.25 1st yr	
andrewheiss.co.gg	😊 \$0.00 1st yr	
andrewheiss.co.je	😊 \$0.00 1st yr	
andrewheiss.co.nl	😊 \$10.99 1st yr	
andrewheiss.co.no	😊 \$29.99 1st yr	
andrewheiss.day	😊 \$29.99 1st yr	

Quarto hosting options

Deployment services

Quarto has built-in support for several different hosting services for publishing documents, presentations, dashboards, and websites

The screenshot shows the Quarto documentation website. The top navigation bar includes links for Overview, Get Started, Guide, Extensions, Reference, Gallery, Blog, and Help. The main content area is titled "Publishing Basics" under the "Guide > Publishing > Publishing Basics" path. The left sidebar contains a navigation tree with categories like Guide, Authoring, Computations, Tools, Documents, Presentations, Dashboards, Websites, Books, Manuscripts, Interactivity, and Publishing, with "Publishing Basics" expanded to show sub-links for Quarto Pub, GitHub Pages, Posit Connect, Posit Cloud, Netlify, Confluence, Hugging Face Spaces, Other Services, and Publishing with CI. The main content section starts with an "Overview" heading, followed by a paragraph about the variety of publishing methods available. Below this is a "Getting Started" section with a table comparing three publishing services: Quarto Pub, GitHub Pages, and Posit Connect. The right sidebar provides links for "On this page" (Overview, Getting Started), "Edit this page", and "Report an issue". The footer features social media icons and a "supported by posit" logo.

Destination	Description
Quarto Pub	Publishing service for Quarto documents, websites, and books. Use Quarto Pub when you want a free, easy to use service for publicly available content.
GitHub Pages	Publish content based on source code managed within a GitHub repository. Use GitHub Pages when the source code for your document or site is hosted on GitHub.
Posit Connect	Publishing platform for secure sharing of data products within an organization. Use Posit Connect when you want to publish

<https://quarto.org/docs/publishing/>

Easy

- **Quarto Pub**: Free!; everything's public; no custom domains
- **Posit Connect**: \$\$; public and private; custom domains

Medium

- **GitHub Pages**: Free!; everything's public; custom domains
- **Netlify**: Free and paid; public and private; custom domains

Advanced

- **DIY**: Set up a server yourself and do whatever you want

What I use

- **Quarto Pub:** [example](#) + [example](#)
- **GitHub Pages:** [example](#) + [example](#) + this very course website!
- **DIY:** [example](#) + [example](#)

What we'll do together

- Quarto Pub
- GitHub Pages

Deploying with Quarto Pub

Quarto Pub

<https://quartopub.com/>

- **What:** Free hosting service for all types of Quarto documents, run by Posit
- **When to use:** When you want to publish something on the internet quickly and you don't really care about (1) privacy or (2) the domain name
- **Difficulty level:** The easiest!

[Complete documentation](#)



sort by: Newest ▾

≡ pinr resources

pinr resources

AUTHOR
Andrew Heiss
Because this is better than an ephemeral Zoom chat...

pinr resources

Last updated 3 days ago

Website

<h1>ARNOVA 2025 proposal</h1>	Table of contents
AUTHORS	Title
Suparna Chaudhry  	Track
Andrew Heiss  	What is your research question or thesis statement?
PUBLISHED	Abstract
May 29, 2025	Narrative description
Title	References
(15-word limit)	Other Formats
Civil Society Crackdowns and the Spatial Redistribution of Foreign Aid	 GitHub (GFM)
Track	
Global Civil Society, Social Movements, and Grassroots Associations	
What is your research question or thesis statement?	
Existing research explores the effect of civil society restrictions on overall	

ARNOVA 2025 proposal

Last updated 2 weeks ago

[contents](#)

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[etition or thesis](#)

[ement?](#)

[tract](#)

[ative description](#)

[erences](#)

[Formats](#)

[hub \(GFM\)](#)

Escaping inline R chunks

↳ Code

New Quarto-style inline chunks

[Quarto uses this syntax for inline chunks](#), with the language name wrapped in curly braces

```
The value of π is `{{r}} round(pi, 2)`
```

↑ that renders to this ↓

```
The value of π is 3.14
```

To show the inline code verbatim, either wrap the `(r)` in double braces:

```
`{{(r)}} round(pi, 2)` → {{r}} round(pi, 2)
```

Or wrap the expression in an extra set of backticks:

Document Escaping inline

Last updated 4 weeks ago

<h2>MMs and AMCEs</h2> <p>AUTHOR Andrew Heiss</p> <pre>library(tidyverse) library(logitr) library(marginalizeffects) library(alogit) yogurt <- logitr::yogurt > mutate(feat = feat == 1) > mutate(price_fct = factor(price))</pre>	<p>PUBLISHED August 11, 2025</p> <hr/> <h3>OLS</h3> <p>Model Marginal means AMCEs Multinomial regression with (mlogit) Multinomial regression with (nnet) Recreation of (marginalizeffects) conjoint vignette</p>	<p>Table of contents</p>
--	---	--------------------------

MMs and AMCEs

Last updated last month

Document

Fuzzy rdrobust() stuff

AUTHOR	PUBLISHED
Andrew Heiss	August 28, 2025

So I think the reviewer is misunderstanding what `rdrobust` does. It's a nonparametric approach, so it doesn't follow a standard 2SLS pattern. Your equations 1 and 2 are parametric, though, which maybe is throwing the reviewer off too.

I didn't go into the details for nonparametric RDD in my class because they're complicated and, as a result, most people don't put the equations in their papers (from what I've seen).

Here's a grossly oversimplified version of the official original version (see p. 2306 at https://rdpackages.github.io/references/Calonico-Cattaneo-Titunik_2014_ECHA.pdf, the original paper for nonparametric RDD and the paper everyone cites).

Basically, the fuzzy RDD LATE is the Wald ratio of two discontinuities:

Fuzzy `rdrobust()` stuff

Last updated last month

	Table of contents
	The general setup
	Model building
	Population-level analysis
	Expedition-specific analysis
	Different group-based flavors of population-level effects
	Additional questions

Document Bayesian {marginaleffects}

Last updated 2 months ago

<h2>Session 13 questions</h2>	PUBLISHED July 29, 2025
AUTHOR Andrew Heiss	
<h3>Sidenotes</h3>	
You don't need to include <code>(magrittr)</code> and <code>(viridis)</code> in your <code>purrr::load()</code> function. <code>(magrittr)</code> gets invisibly loaded by <code>(dplyr)</code> , and <code>(dplyr)</code> gets loaded when you use <code>(tidyverse)</code> , so it's already there. <code>(viridis)</code> gets invisibly loaded by <code>(ggplot2)</code> , and <code>(ggplot2)</code> gets loaded when you use <code>(tidyverse)</code> , so it's also already there.	
<h2>Removing legends</h2>	
<p>I notice that to remove guides we have used 3 types of code so far:</p>	

Removing legends

The figure consists of three separate charts. The top chart is a scatter plot with points colored according to their value, showing a clear positive correlation. The bottom-left chart is a histogram of a single variable, displaying a symmetric bell-shaped distribution. The bottom-right chart is a bar chart with two bars of equal height.

A dashboard that's not a dashboard

Row

```
library(tidyverse)  
ggplot(mpg, aes(x = displ, y = hwy)) +  
  geom_point()
```

The image shows a scatter plot with a light gray background and a white grid. The x-axis is labeled "displ" and has tick marks at 1.6, 2.8, 4.0, 5.2, 6.4, and 8.0. The y-axis is labeled "hwy" and has tick marks at 10, 20, 30, 40, and 50. Three black dots represent data points at approximately (1.8, 18), (2.8, 18), and (3.8, 18).

How to publish

1. Go to quartopub.com and create a free account.
Make sure you're logged in.
2. In the terminal, run this:

```
Terminal
```

```
quarto publish
```

3. Select Quarto Pub and press enter. Answer all the other questions.
4. Wait for the site to render and upload.
5. Done!

Other details

- To update the site later, run `quarto publish` in the terminal again.
- Manage other site settings at your quartopub.com dashboard.

Your turn

Publish your playground website to Quarto Pub.

1. Go to quartopub.com and create a free account.
Make sure you're logged in.
2. In the terminal, run this:

Terminal

```
quarto publish
```

3. Select Quarto Pub and press enter. Answer all the other questions.
4. Wait for the site to render and upload.

07 : 00

Deploying with GitHub Pages

GitHub Pages

- **What:** Free hosting service for repositories hosted on GitHub
- **When to use:** When you want a (free) longer term hosting solution (with a custom domain if you want) and you're already using GitHub for version control
- **Difficulty level:** Medium

[Complete documentation](#)

Three ways; three difficulties

1. **Easy:** Render your site to `docs/` and include that folder in your git repository.
2. **Medium:** Use the `quarto publish` terminal command to render the site and push it to a `gh-pages` branch.
3. **Hard:** Use GitHub Actions to build an on-the-fly virtual computer that remotely rebuilds and publishes your site every time you commit to your repository.

We're going to do Option 1!

Some git knowledge required



General version control



Remote version control
hosting + collaboration

Helpful resources:

- [GitHub's Hello World tutorial](#)
- [Happy Git with R](#)

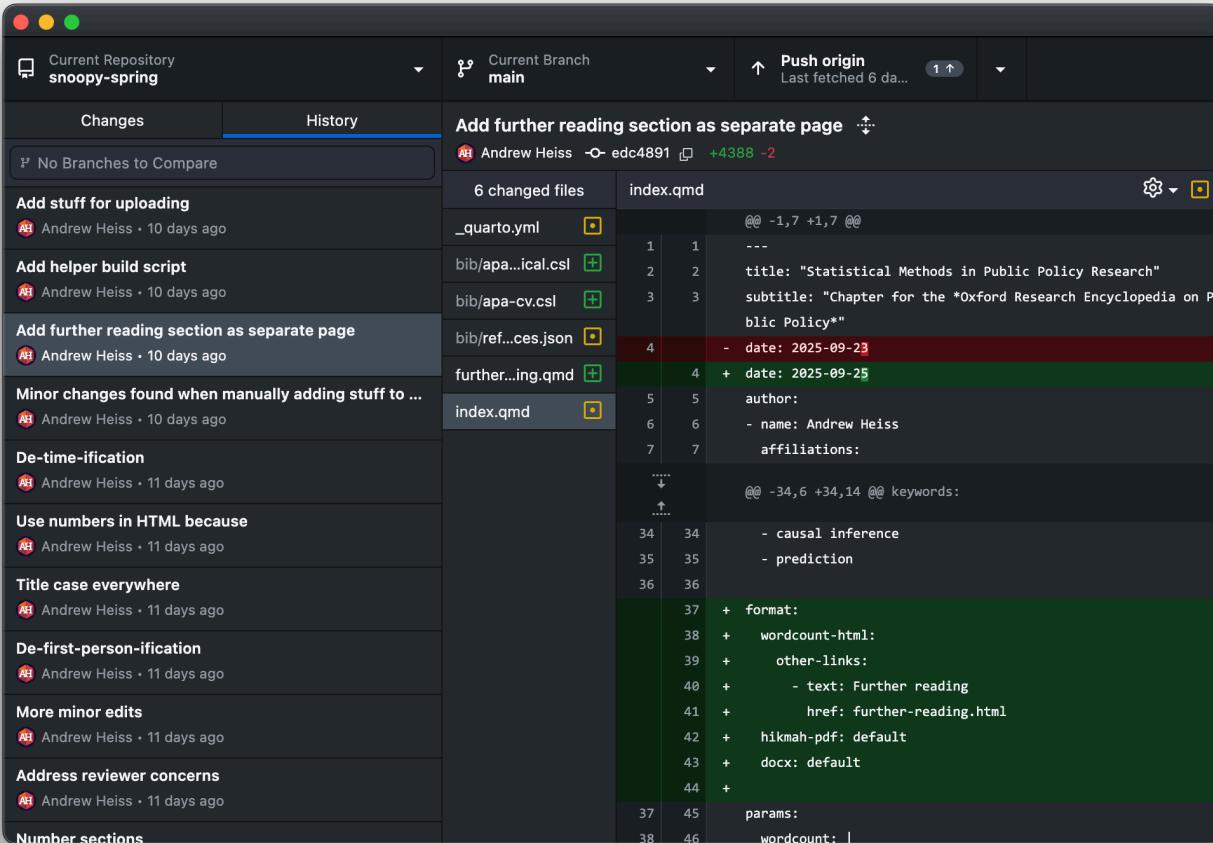
Interacting with git

GitHub Desktop

RStudio

Positron / VS Code

Terminal



The screenshot shows the GitHub Desktop application interface. At the top, there are dropdown menus for 'Current Repository' (set to 'snoopy-spring'), 'Current Branch' (set to 'main'), and 'Push origin' (status: 'Last fetched 6 da...'). Below the header, there are tabs for 'Changes' (selected) and 'History'. The main pane displays a list of commits from 'Andrew Heiss' over the last 11 days, each with a title and date. A specific commit titled 'Add further reading section as separate page' is selected. On the right side, a detailed diff view is shown for the file 'index.qmd'. The diff highlights changes made to the file, specifically changing the date from '2025-09-23' to '2025-09-25'. The code editor shows the JSON-like structure of the file, with lines 4 through 46 visible.

```
@@ -1,7 +1,7 @@
 1 1 ---
 2 2   title: "Statistical Methods in Public Policy Research"
 3 3     subtitle: "Chapter for the *Oxford Research Encyclopedia on Pu
 4 4     blic Policy*"
 5 5     - date: 2025-09-23
 6 6     + date: 2025-09-25
 7 7       author:
 8 8         - name: Andrew Heiss
 9 9           affiliations:
 10 10          @@ -34,6 +34,14 @@ keywords:
 11 11            - causal inference
 12 12            - prediction
 13 13
 14 14
 15 15
 16 16
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 18 18
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 21 21
 22 22
 23 23
 24 24
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 26 26
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 29 29
 30 30
 31 31
 32 32
 33 33
 34 34
 35 35
 36 36
 37 37
 38 38
 39 39
 40 40
 41 41
 42 42
 43 43
 44 44
 45 45
 46 46
```

Basic workflow

1. Make changes
2. Commit changes to lock them in
3. Push commits to remote server

Advanced stuff you don't have to worry about: branches, collaboration, pull requests, etc.

.gitignore

Use `.gitignore` to hide things from git.



General rules

Commit things that make outputs; don't commit outputs themselves.

Don't commit user-specific things (or passwords!)

.gitignore

```
1 .Rproj.user
2 .Rhistory
3 .RData
4 .Ruserdata
5
6 data/private-data.csv
7 output/*.png
8 all_my_passwords.txt
```

How to publish

Part 1: Get your project code on GitHub

1. Go to github.com and create a free account.
2. Add a `.gitignore` file to your website project with this:

```
.gitignore
1 .Rproj.user
2 .Rhistory
3 .RData
4 .Ruserdata
5
6 /_site/
```

3. Initialize a git repository for your website project.
4. Commit the files and push to GitHub.

How to publish

Part 2: Tell Quarto to use GitHub Pages

5. Change the `output-dir` option in `_quarto.yml` to `docs`.

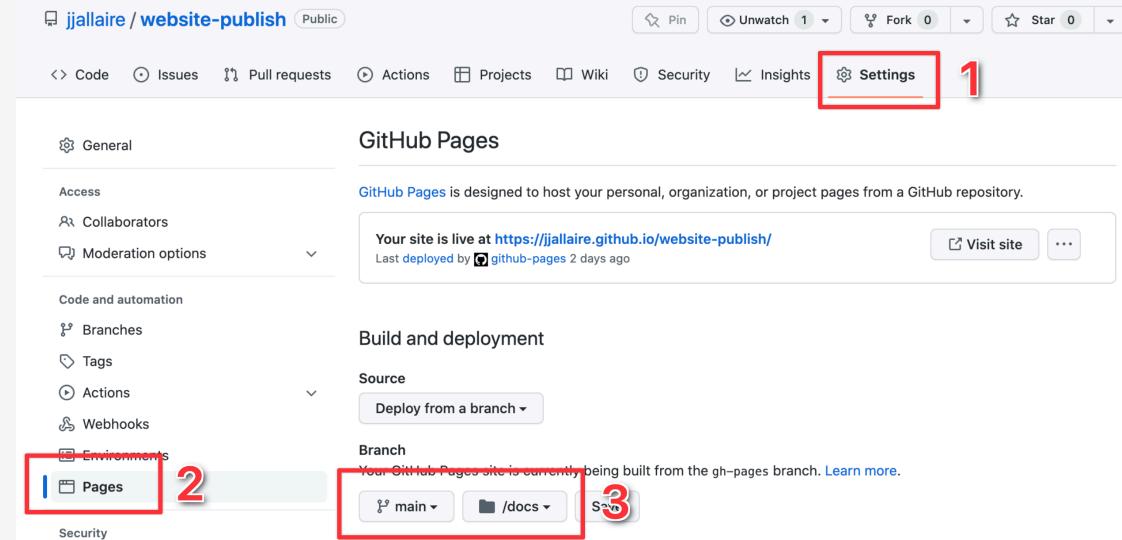
```
_quarto.yml
project:
  type: website
  output-dir: docs
```

6. Add an empty file named `.nojekyll` to the root of your website project (this tells GitHub to not run its own static site generator).
7. Render your site.
8. Commit the newly created `docs/` folder and `.nojekyll` file and push to GitHub.

How to publish

Part 3: Tell GitHub Pages to serve your site

9. From your GitHub repository, go to Settings > Pages and configure the repository to publish from the `docs` directory of your `main` branch.



10. Wait for GitHub to build and deploy the site.

Other details

- To update the site later, render the site, commit to GitHub, and wait for the site to rebuild.
Track the progress under the “Actions” section of your GitHub repository.
- Add a custom domain at Settings > Pages

Your turn, part 1

Get your project code on GitHub

1. Go to github.com and create a free account.
2. Add a `.gitignore` file to your website project with this:

```
.gitignore
1 .Rproj.user
2 .Rhistory
3 .RData
4 .Ruserdata
5
6 /_site/
```

3. Initialize a git repository for your website project.
4. Commit the files and push to GitHub.

10:00

Your turn, part 2

Tell Quarto to use GitHub Pages

5. Change the `output-dir` option in `_quarto.yml` to `docs`.

```
_quarto.yml
project:
  type: website
  output-dir: docs
```

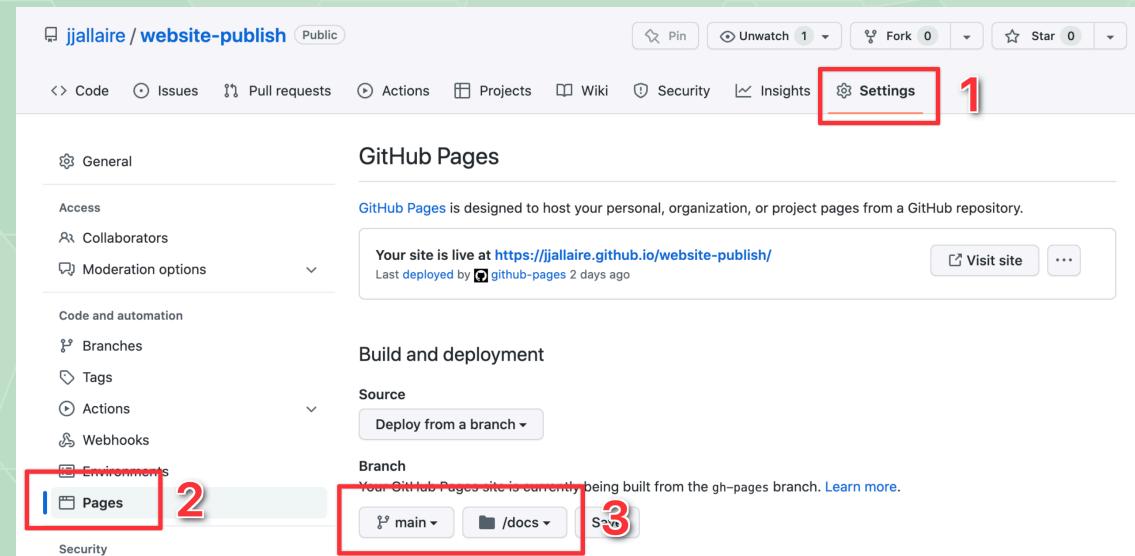
6. Add an empty file named `.nojekyll` to the root of your website project (this tells GitHub to not run its own static site generator).
7. Render your site.
8. Commit the newly created `docs/` folder and `.nojekyll` file and push to GitHub.

10:00

Your turn, part 3

Tell GitHub Pages to serve your site

- From your GitHub repository, go to Settings > Pages and configure the repository to publish from the `docs` directory of your `main` branch.



- Wait for GitHub to build and deploy the site.

10:00

Course outline

-  ~~Intro to Quarto~~
-  ~~Creating basic websites~~
-  ~~Advanced website features~~
-  ~~Publishing~~
- Customization and branding
- Interactivity