**Q. What is GitHub?**

**A.**

* GitHub is a web-based Git repository hosting service.
* GitHub is a code hosting platform for version control and collaboration. It lets you and others work together on projects from anywhere.
* It provides access control and several collaboration features such as bug tracking, feature requests, task management, and wikis for every project.
* As with most other distributed version control systems, and unlike most client–server systems, every Git directory on every computer is a full-fledged repository with complete history and full version-tracking capabilities, independent of network access or a central server.
* In general, GitHub is a combination of, “A Publishing tool, Version Control System, Collaboration Platform”.

**Q. When was it created?**

**A.**

* Development of the GitHub platform began on October 1, 2007.
* It had been made available for a few months prior as a beta release.
* It was finally launched on April 10, 2008.

**Q. Why?**

**A.** GitHub has many advantages, such as,

1. Versioning Project and having Version Control
   * Version Control System (VCS) is used for giving versions to the different release of the projects. VCS also maintains the past history of the code. The codes will be saved and we can look back to check the history of the code. So it’s good for keeping the code clean and well maintained.
2. Publishing projects – After publishing the project, the user can download it, install it, and work with it, and even customize it if anyone wants to.
3. Collaborating projects – If some group of developers are working on a project, even if they are not local, say they are all over the world; they can use it as a sort of a hub and contribute their work, from any place.

**Q. By who?**

**A.** The founders of GitHub are Tom Preston-Werner, Chris Wanstrath, PJ Hyett.

**Q. What similar platforms exist?**

**A.** Similar Platforms are,

* GitLab
* [Bitbucket](http://alternativeto.net/software/bitbucket/)
* SourceForge
* LaunchPad
* Trac
* GitBucket
* CodePlex
* Assembla
* RhodeCode
* CodeBase