First-time set up of GitLab

Use to set up GitLab on a macOS, including adding an SSH key pair.

Summary

Install VS Code and GitLab

1. Install Visual Studio (VS) Code. See Download Visual Studio Code.
2. Install GitLab. See Installing Git.

Configure GitLab

1. Open VS Code and then a Terminal.
   From the top menu, click **Terminal** > **New Terminal**.
2. From the command line (CLI), enter your credentials. **Optional**: Editor

```
git config --global user.name "<first last>"
git config --global user.email "<email>"
git config --global core.editor "<editor>"
```

Example

```
git config --global user.name "John Smith"
git config --global user.email "j.smith@ABC.com"
git config --global core.editor "vim"
```

3. Verify the configuration:

```
git config --global --list
```

Generate an SSH key pair

Steps to complete from the CLI:

1. Run `ssh-keygen -t` followed by the key type and optional comment. Use `2048-bit RSA`:

   ```
   ssh-keygen -t rsa -b 2048 -C "<comment>"
   ```

   Note: The comment is used as the name of the SSH key for **Your SSH keys**.

2. Press Enter. Output similar to the following displays:

   ```
   Generating public/private ed25519 key pair.
   Enter file in which to save the key (/home/user/.ssh/id_ed25519):
   ```

3. Accept the suggested filename and directory:

   ```
   Specify a passphrase
   Enter passphrase (empty for no passphrase):
   Enter same passphrase again:
   ```

   A confirmation displays, including information about where your files are stored.

Add an SSH key to your GitLab account

1. Copy the contents of your public key file:

   ```
   tr -d '\n' < ~/.ssh/id_rsa.pub | pbcopy
   ```

2. To display the key in the CLI (so you do not have to copy/paste from the clipboard), type this command:

   ```
   ~/.ssh/id_rsa.pub
   ```

   The key displays on the next line. It starts with `ssh-rsa`.

3. Paste the contents of your public key in the key box. See step 7: In the Key box, paste the contents of your public key

4. Sign in to GitLab.

5. On the top bar, in the top right corner, select your avatar.

6. Select **Preferences**.

7. On the left sidebar, select **SSH keys**.

8. In the Key box, paste the contents of your public key.
   If you manually copied the key, make sure you copy the entire key, which starts with `ssh-rsa`, and may end with a comment.

9. In the Title box, type a description.

10. **Optional:** In the Expires at box, select an expiration date.
    After the key is key is successfully added, you will receive an email: "SSH key was added to your account."

Verify you can connect

1. From the CLI, run the `ssh -T` command, replacing `gitlab.example.com` with your GitLab instance URL:

   ```
   ssh -T git@gitlab.example.com
   ```

   Example

   ```
   ssh -T git@gitlab.ABCnet.com
   ```

2. If this is the first time you connect, you should verify the authenticity of the GitLab host. If you see a message like:

   ```
   The authenticity of host 'gitlab.example.com (35.231.145.151)' can't be established.
   ECDSA key fingerprint is SHA256:HbW3g8zUjNSksFbqTiUWPWg2Bq1x8xdGUrliXFzSnUw.
   Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no)? yes
   Warning: Permanently added 'gitlab.example.com' (ECDSA) to the list of known hosts.
   ```

   Type `yes` and press Enter.

3. Run the `ssh -T git@gitlab.example.com` command again.

   A "Welcome to GitLab, @username!" message displays.