

PUBLISHING A WEBSITE WITH GITHUB PAGES

COMP 126: Practical Web Design &
Development for Everyone

Already familiar with
git/GitHub/Terminal/bash/the command line?
Just follow [these instructions](#) or [these instructions](#).

If you don't have this experience, follow along with the instructions on the upcoming slides.

IMPORTANT NOTE

GitHub Pages doesn't support the use of back-end/server-side scripting.

If your project requires a back-end connection (server-side scripting or a database), check out one of these free or very-low-cost options:

<https://hostingfacts.com/free-web-hosting-sites/>

Or use whatever hosting option you prefer. The teaching staff is available to help if you need it.

1. Set up a GitHub account, log in, and open up your Profile

1. Create a GitHub account at <https://github.com/> (if you don't have one)
2. Verify your email address
3. Return to <https://github.com/> and log in
4. Click on arrow in the upper right-hand corner of the page to open your account menu
5. Select My Profile

2. Download, install, and log in to GitHub Desktop

1. <https://desktop.github.com/>: download and install
2. Move GitHub Desktop to your Applications (Mac) or Programs (Windows) folder
3. Launch GitHub Desktop
4. GitHub Desktop app -> Preferences -> Accounts -> log in with your GitHub account information

3. Back to github.com: create a "repository" (the project space that will house your website files)

1. Under My Profile, click Your Repositories
2. Click New
3. Enter a name for your new repository in the following format: yourgithubusername.github.io. You must name your first gh-pages site this way to make it work as a website!
4. Click "create".

4. Link your new repository to the Github Desktop app

1. In your new repo page, click Set Up in Desktop
2. Desktop app will launch and prompt you to clone the repo into the app; click Clone
3. A folder called Github will appear somewhere on your computer, with a folder with your repository name inside it
4. Locate that folder and move on to the next slide

5a. Upload your website files to your repository via the Desktop app, part 1

1. Review your project's directory/file structure.
 1. Make sure your home page is called `index.html` (all lower case) and is on the top level of the directory (not nested within a subfolder).
 2. Make sure there are no spaces in any file or folder names. This actually matters a lot.
2. Open the Github folder that was auto-created on your computer. You should find a directory with the name of the repository you just created.
3. Go back to and open your project's directory. Move the files inside it (or copies of the files inside it) into the directory with the name of the repo you just created.

5b. Upload your website files to your repository via the Desktop app, part 2

1. Check for the files to appear under Changes on GitHub Desktop
2. Enter a note ("first commit" is good), then click Commit to Master
3. Click Publish (upper right-hand side of Desktop app)
4. Check your repo on github.com for the changes
5. In your repo on github.com, click Settings -> GitHub Pages -> master branch -> save
6. Copy the URL (yourgithubusername.github.io) that appears there and view your site online!

MORE HELP

- [Github's Pages tutorial](#)
- Select "user or organization site" to create your first personal site
- Select "project site" to create additional sites for specific projects