



# Adding an existing project to GitHub using the command line

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Putting your existing work on GitHub can let you share and collaborate in lots of great ways.

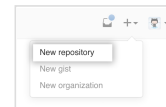
**Tip:** If you're most comfortable with a point-and-click user interface, try adding your project with GitHub Desktop. For more information, see "Adding a repository from your local computer to GitHub Desktop" in the *GitHub Desktop Help*.

**Warning:** Never `git add`, `commit`, or `push` sensitive information to a remote repository. Sensitive information can include, but is not limited to:

- Passwords
- SSH keys
- [AWS access keys](#)
- API keys
- Credit card numbers
- PIN numbers

For more information, see "[Remove sensitive data](#)."

- 1 Create a new repository on GitHub. To avoid errors, do not initialize the new repository with `README`, license, or `gitignore` files. You can add these files after your project has been pushed to GitHub.



- 2 Open Terminal.
- 3 Change the current working directory to your local project.
- 4 Initialize the local directory as a Git repository.


```
$ git init
```

- 5 Add the files in your new local repository. This stages them for the first commit.

```
$ git add .  
# Adds the files in the local repository and stages them for commit. To  
unstage a file, use 'git reset HEAD YOUR-FILE'.
```

- 6 Commit the files that you've staged in your local repository.

```
$ git commit -m "First commit"  
# Commits the tracked changes and prepares them to be pushed to a remote  
repository. To remove this commit and modify the file, use 'git reset --soft  
HEAD~1' and commit and add the file again.
```

- 7 At the top of your GitHub repository's Quick Setup page, click  to copy the remote repository URL.



## Article versions

[GitHub.com](#)

[GitHub Enterprise 2.6](#)

[GitHub Enterprise 2.5](#)

[GitHub Enterprise 2.4](#)

[GitHub Enterprise 2.3](#)

[GitHub Enterprise 2.2](#)

- 8 In Terminal, add the URL for the remote repository where your local repository will be pushed.

```
$ git remote add origin remote repository URL
# Sets the new remote
$ git remote -v
# Verifies the new remote URL
```

- 9 Push the changes in your local repository to GitHub.

```
$ git push origin master
# Pushes the changes in your local repository up to the remote repository you
specified as the origin
```

## Further reading

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"Adding a file to a repository from the command line"

 [Contact a human](#)

