# How to contribute

Please read these guidelines before contributing to Json.NET:

- [Question or Problem?](#question)

- [Issues and Bugs](#issue)

- [Feature Requests](#feature)

- [Submitting a Pull Request](#pullrequest)

- [Contributor License Agreement](#cla)

## <a name="question"></a> Got a Question or Problem?

If you have questions about how to use Json.NET, please read the

[Json.NET documentation][documentation] or ask on [Stack Overflow][stackoverflow]. There are

thousands of Json.NET questions on Stack Overflow with the [json.net][stackoverflow] tag.

GitHub issues are only for [reporting bugs](#issue) and [feature requests](#feature), not

questions or help.

## <a name="issue"></a> Found an Issue?

If you find a bug in the source code or a mistake in the documentation, you can help by

submitting an issue to the [GitHub Repository][github]. Even better you can submit a Pull Request

with a fix.

When submitting an issue please include the following information:

- A description of the issue

- The JSON, classes, and Json.NET code related to the issue

- The exception message and stacktrace if an error was thrown

- If possible, please include code that reproduces the issue. [DropBox][dropbox] or GitHub's

[Gist][gist] can be used to share large code samples, or you could

[submit a pull request](#pullrequest) with the issue reproduced in a new test.

The more information you include about the issue, the more likely it is to be fixed!

## <a name="feature"></a> Want a Feature?

You can request a new feature by submitting an issue to the [GitHub Repository][github]. Before

requesting a feature consider the following:

- Json.NET has many extensibility points, it is possible you can implement your feature today without

modifying Json.NET

- Stability is important. Json.NET is used by thousands of other libraries and features that require

large breaking changes are unlikely to be accepted

## <a name="pullrequest"></a> Submitting a Pull Request

When submitting a pull request to the [GitHub Repository][github] make sure to do the following:

- Check that new and updated code follows Json.NET's existing code formatting and naming standard

- Run Json.NET's unit tests to ensure no existing functionality has been affected

- Write new unit tests to test your changes. All features and fixed bugs must have tests to verify

they work

Read [GitHub Help][pullrequesthelp] for more details about creating pull requests.

## <a name="cla"></a> Contributor License Agreement

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[github]: https://github.com/JamesNK/Newtonsoft.Json

[documentation]: https://www.newtonsoft.com/json/help

[stackoverflow]: https://stackoverflow.com/questions/tagged/json.net

[dropbox]: https://www.dropbox.com

[gist]: https://gist.github.com

[pullrequesthelp]: https://help.github.com/articles/using-pull-requests