# Contributing to GitHub Desktop

:+1: :tada: :sparkling\_heart: Thanks for your interest! :sparkling\_heart: :tada: :+1:

The following is a set of guidelines for contributing to GitHub Desktop and its

related projects, which are hosted in the [Desktop organization](https://github.com/desktop)

on GitHub. These are just guidelines, not rules. Use your best judgment, and

feel free to propose changes to this document in a pull request.

Note that GitHub Desktop is an evolving project, so expect things to change over

time as the team learns, listens and refines how we work with the community.

#### Table Of Contents

- [What should I know before I get started?](#what-should-i-know-before-i-get-started)

\* [Code of Conduct](#code-of-conduct)

\* [The Roadmap](#the-roadmap)

- [How Can I Contribute?](#how-can-i-contribute)

\* [Reporting Bugs](#reporting-bugs)

\* [Suggesting Enhancements](#suggesting-enhancements)

\* [Help Wanted](#help-wanted)

- [Process Documentation](#process-documentation)

## What should I know before I get started?

### Code of Conduct

This project adheres to the Contributor Covenant [code of conduct](../CODE\_OF\_CONDUCT.md).

By participating, you are expected to uphold this code.

Please report unacceptable behavior to [opensource+desktop@github.com](mailto:opensource+desktop@github.com).

### The Roadmap

GitHub Desktop recently announced its

[1.0 release](https://github.com/blog/2437-announcing-github-desktop-1-0) and

are working towards deprecating the classic Mac and Windows applications.

Beyond that, we are working on a roadmap you can read [here](https://github.com/desktop/desktop/blob/development/docs/process/roadmap.md).

The immediate milestones are more detailed, and the latter milestones are more

fuzzy and subject to change.

If you have ideas or suggestions please read the

[Suggesting Enhancements](#suggesting-enhancements) section below to understand

how to contribute your feedback.

## How Can I Contribute?

### Reporting Bugs

This section guides you through submitting a bug report for GitHub Desktop.

Following these guidelines helps maintainers and the community understand your

report :pencil:, reproduce the behavior :computer: :computer:, and find related

reports :mag\_right:.

Before creating bug reports, please check [this list](#before-submitting-a-bug-report)

as you might find out that you don't need to create one. When you are creating

a bug report, please [include as many details as possible](#how-do-i-submit-a-good-bug-report).

Fill out [the required template](ISSUE\_TEMPLATE/bug\_report.md), the information

it asks for helps us resolve issues faster.

#### Before Submitting A Bug Report

\*\*Perform a [cursory search](https://github.com/desktop/desktop/labels/bug)\*\*

to see if the problem has already been reported. If it does exist, add a

:thumbsup: to the issue to indicate this is also an issue for you, and add a

comment to the existing issue if there is extra information you can contribute.

#### How Do I Submit A Bug Report?

Bugs are tracked as [GitHub issues](https://guides.github.com/features/issues/).

Simply create an issue on the [GitHub Desktop issue tracker](https://github.com/desktop/desktop/issues/new?template=bug\_report.md)

and fill out the provided issue template.

The information we are interested in includes:

- details about your environment - which build, which operating system

- details about reproducing the issue - what steps to take, what happens, how

often it happens

- other relevant information - log files, screenshots, etc

### Suggesting Enhancements

This section guides you through submitting an enhancement suggestion for

GitHub Desktop, including completely new features and minor improvements to

existing functionality. Following these guidelines helps maintainers and the

community understand your suggestion :pencil: and find related suggestions

:mag\_right:.

Before creating enhancement suggestions, please check [this list](#before-submitting-an-enhancement-suggestion)

as you might find out that you don't need to create one. When you are creating

an enhancement suggestion, please [include as many details as possible](#how-do-i-submit-a-good-enhancement-suggestion).

Fill in [the template](ISSUE\_TEMPLATE/problem-to-raise.md), including the steps

that you imagine you would take if the feature you're requesting existed.

#### Before Submitting An Enhancement Suggestion

\*\*Perform a [cursory search](https://github.com/desktop/desktop/labels/enhancement)\*\*

to see if the enhancement has already been suggested. If it has, add a

:thumbsup: to indicate your interest in it, or comment if there is additional

information you would like to add.

#### How Do I Submit An Enhancement Suggestion?

Enhancement suggestions are tracked as [GitHub issues](https://guides.github.com/features/issues/).

Simply create an issue on the [GitHub Desktop issue tracker](https://github.com/desktop/desktop/issues/new?template=feature\_request.md)

and fill out the provided issue template.

Some additional advice:

\* \*\*Use a clear and descriptive title\*\* for the feature request

\* \*\*Provide a step-by-step description of the suggested enhancement\*\*

This additional context helps the maintainers understand the enhancement from

your perspective

\* \*\*Explain why this enhancement would be useful\*\* to GitHub Desktop users

\* \*\*Include screenshots and animated GIFs\*\* if relevant to help you demonstrate

the steps or point out the part of GitHub Desktop which the suggestion is

related to. You can use [this tool](http://www.cockos.com/licecap/) to record

GIFs on macOS and Windows

\* \*\*List some other applications where this enhancement exists, if applicable\*\*

### Help Wanted

As part of building GitHub Desktop, we'll identify tasks that are good for

external contributors to pick up. These tasks:

- have low impact, or have a known workaround

- should be addressed

- have a narrow scope and/or easy reproduction steps

- can be worked on independent of other tasks

These issues will be labelled as [`help wanted`](https://github.com/desktop/desktop/labels/help%20wanted)

in the repository. If you are interested in contributing to the project, please

comment on the issue to let the core team (and the community) know you are

interested in the issue.

### Set Up Your Machine

Start [here](https://github.com/desktop/desktop/blob/development/docs/contributing/setup.md).

## Process Documentation

These documents are useful resources for contributors to learn more about the project and how it is run:

- [Teams](https://github.com/desktop/desktop/blob/development/docs/process/teams.md)

- [Release Planning](https://github.com/desktop/desktop/blob/development/docs/process/release-planning.md)

- [Issue Triage](https://github.com/desktop/desktop/blob/development/docs/process/issue-triage.md)

- [Issue and Pull Request Labels](https://github.com/desktop/desktop/blob/development/docs/process/labels.md)

- [Pull Requests](https://github.com/desktop/desktop/blob/development/docs/process/pull-requests.md)