# How to contribute

We'd love to accept your patches and contributions to this project. There are

just a few small guidelines you need to follow.

## Contributor License Agreement

Contributions to any Google project must be accompanied by a Contributor

License Agreement. This is not a copyright \_assignment\_, it simply gives

Google permission to use and redistribute your contributions as part of the

project.

\* If you are an individual writing original source code and you're sure you

own the intellectual property, then you'll need to sign an [individual CLA][].

\* If you work for a company that wants to allow you to contribute your work,

then you'll need to sign a [corporate CLA][].

You generally only need to submit a CLA once, so if you've already submitted

one (even if it was for a different project), you probably don't need to do it

again.

[individual CLA]: https://developers.google.com/open-source/cla/individual

[corporate CLA]: https://developers.google.com/open-source/cla/corporate

## Submitting a patch

1. It's generally best to start by opening a new issue describing the bug or

feature you're intending to fix. Even if you think it's relatively minor,

it's helpful to know what people are working on. Mention in the initial

issue that you are planning to work on that bug or feature so that it can

be assigned to you.

1. Follow the normal process of [forking][] the project, and setup a new

branch to work in. It's important that each group of changes be done in

separate branches in order to ensure that a pull request only includes the

commits related to that bug or feature.

1. We have [style guides] for the languages we use; please follow them.

1. Do your best to have [well-formed commit messages][] for each change.

This provides consistency throughout the project, and ensures that commit

messages are able to be formatted properly by various git tools.

1. Finally, all submissions require review. We use pull requests for this, so

push the commits to your fork and submit a [pull request][].

[forking]: https://help.github.com/articles/fork-a-repo

[style guides]: https://github.com/google/styleguide

[well-formed commit messages]: http://tbaggery.com/2008/04/19/a-note-about-git-commit-messages.html

[pull request]: https://help.github.com/articles/creating-a-pull-request