# Configuring GIT on Windows

## Introduction

I had to do a full reinstall of Windows after my computer was infected with a pretty nasty virus. I ran into a problem after reinstalling GIT: when I tried to clone my archives from GitLab I got the following error:

D:\tmp\GitTests>git clone git@github.com:gbukauskas/BlazorCodeDemo.git

Cloning into 'BlazorCodeDemo'...

git@github.com: **Permission denied (publickey).**

fatal: Could not read from remote repository.

Please make sure you have the correct access rights

and the repository exists

The reason for the error is clear: the standard installation of GIT uses a Windows certificate when the archive is cloned using SSH. After reinstalling Windows, this certificate was lost, so GIT won't let me clone my code.

There are two solutions of the problem:

1. Switch on HTTPS protocol,
2. Configure SSH registering new public key on Github (GitLab):

## SSH

Windows 11 now has native support for OpenSSH, meaning you can use the built-in SSH client instead of a third-party client like Putty. This is a significant change for Windows users, eliminating the need to download and install a standalone SSH client. **Geekrewind.com** provides instructions on how to activate OpenSSH. Follow this site. Verify an installation typing command **ssh** in the terminal. You would get this answer:

>**ssh**

usage: ssh [-46AaCfGgKkMNnqsTtVvXxYy] [-B bind\_interface] [-b bind\_address]

[-c cipher\_spec] [-D [bind\_address:]port] [-E log\_file]

[-e escape\_char] [-F configfile] [-I pkcs11] [-i identity\_file]

[-J destination] [-L address] [-l login\_name] [-m mac\_spec]

[-O ctl\_cmd] [-o option] [-P tag] [-p port] [-Q query\_option]

[-R address] [-S ctl\_path] [-W host:port] [-w local\_tun[:remote\_tun]]

destination [command [argument ...]]

Open services window, start OpenSSH Authentication Agent and change **Startup Type** to **Automatic** or **Manual**. The second startup type preserves RAM but will require to start the Agent before connecting to GitHub or GitLab.