

Adding an existing project to GitHub using the command line

MAC | WINDOWS | LINUX | ALL

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 one of our desktop applications. For more information, see "How do I add repositories?" for Mac, and "Adding repositories with GitHub for Windows" for Windows.

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."

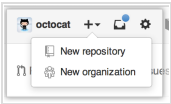
- 1

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 (for Mac users) or the command prompt (for Windows and Linux users).
- 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'.
```

- 1

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

Article versions

- GitHub.com
- GitHub Enterprise 2.1
- GitHub Enterprise 2.0
- GitHub Enterprise 11.10.340

```
$ 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.
```

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



- 2 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
```

- 3 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

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

 [Contact a human](#)

