

# **USEFUL GITHUB FEATURES YOU PROBABLY DON'T KNOW**

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## 1. Drag and Drop Gist Code

[Gist](#) is Github's very own facility that allows you to host code snippets. You can also **browse and find a large number of code snippets of a variety of languages**. Using Gist is downright easy and should be intuitive. But, did you know that **you can add codes directly from files**? Simply drag and drop the files on the Gist, the codes within the files will be immediately copied. It's quick and saves you a lot of time!

## 2. Creating a folder via the Web Interface

While many of us may manage Github repositories through the free Github app, Github has also built what they called WebFlow. It **allows us to manage repositories through Github's web interface**.

And this is how you **create new folders or files in directly in Github**. End each new input with a / to create a new folder. Or, specify a file extension and hit Commit a New File to create a new file.

## 3. Using Git URL Shortener

These days people like sharing things from their photos, statuses, and news in Twitter. If you are a Github user, you might also want to **share your Github repository**. Yet, the repository URL is sometimes too long to be shared in Twitter, which only accepts 140 characters.

Certainly there are plenty of options to shorten the URL like [Bit.ly](#) and [Goo.gl](#), but why not consider using Github's very own facility, [Git.io](#)? Git.io will shorten the URL of your Github repository. There is also [the command line interface for Git.io](#) to shorten the URL through Terminal using the `gitio` command.

## 4. File Finder

Besides creating new files, you can also **navigate through the files in any repository quickly**. This feature is not visibly obvious as it comes in the form of a **keyboard shortcut**.

Hit the `T` key to activate File Finder. Press the `↑` and `↓` jump over files up and down. Or, type the file name to select a specific file you already have in mind.

## 5. Using Github Emoji

Emojis or emoticons are tiny icons that depict an expression of some sort (mostly in the form of faces). In Facebook and Twitter, **people often express their feelings with emojis**.

Actually, **you can also show emojis in Github**. Find all the Emoji characters and codes in [the Emoji Cheat Sheet](#). The emojis can be added in README.md file of the repository, Wiki, and in the Issues thread.

ding off-canvas menu to Bootstrap using [Jasny Bootstrap](#). 😊😄👍

## 6. Using Github Command Line Interface

Whilst most people like working using a GUI, there are still some who prefer using CLI (Command Line Interface). This is where [Github CLI](#) comes in. Github CLI is initiated with `hub`. It **brings extra commands that can be used** along with the `git` commands. The full list of the features can be found in [the Hub repository page](#).

## 7. Linking Lines

Sometimes, you might want to **share and point out specific lines within the file of your repository**. Github allows you to do this by adding `#L` followed by the line number at the end of file URL (take a look at the example below).

You can also **select a range of lines by specifying the starting and end lines** within the `#L` parameter. The `#L10-15`, as an example, selects line 10 to 15.

## 8. Task Checklist

Github **extends markdown to cater to its own need**. Now you can add a list of checkboxes in Github using `- [ ]` or `- [x]` to denote a checked item. Please note that the checkbox will only appear in a list item; the `[ ]` sign have to be initiated with a dash sign `&dash;`. Here is an example:

- 1- `[x]` create a post.
- 2- `[x]` create a page.
- 3- `[x]` add images.
- 4- `[ ]` published the post.

This code will turn into:

## 9. Map, CSV and 3D Rendering

Gihub supports CSV. If you include a .csv file, Github will **render your CSV file into an interactive tabular data format**. It even allows you to search through it. Aside CSV, Github will also automatically render Map with the [STL extension](#).

## 10. Get Octodex

Last but not least, did you know that Github has **a variety of versions** of its mascot, **Octocat**? Google has its Doodle, while Github has [Octodex](#). Octodex is a collection of creative alternate version of Octocat. There, you can find Labtocat, Femalecodertocat, Octoliberty, Spidertocat, Megacat, and a bunch of other cool Octocats. You can use Octodex as you personal avatar. Refer to the [FAQ page](#) for more on the use policy of Octodex.

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