**Introduction to GitHub**

GitHub is a project hosting service online. It is free to use for Open Source projects, and there are also paid plans available for private projects. Currently, GitHub is the most popular code-hosting service among open source developers and programmers. It uses Git version control system, hence the name GitHub.

**Things You Should Know**

* GitHub is a project hosting service online.
  + allows for repositories to be hosted – making them available to teams to collaborate using one centralized repository
* GitHub is free to use for Open Source projects, and there are also paid plans available for private projects.
* GitHub is the most popular code-hosting service among open source developers and programmers.
* GitHub uses Git version control system, hence the name GitHub.
* Any one can signup for an account on [GitHub](https://github.com/) and create their own repositories.
* Github users can add other users to their project for collaboration.
* GitHub allows for collaborative development efforts to be managed and maintained effectively.
* For Open Source projects, GitHub allows users to fork other open source projects as a new repository and work on it on their own.
  + Open Source developers use this to submit patches and contribute their own code to other open source projects.
  + The project owner or user with the capability to accept those changes can then accept those patches.
* Many WordPress developers use GitHub to host their projects.
  + There are currently many WordPress plugins and themes developed using GitHub as the code hosting platform.
  + This allows WordPress developers to collaborate in teams, get feedback, allow others to review their code, and even download and use it.
* Apart from being just a project hosting service, GitHub is also a large social networking site for developers and programmers.
* GitHub allows users to follow each other, subscribe to updates from projects, like them by giving them a star rating, etc.
  + These features allow users to receive updates for the projects they are interested in or stay in touch with coworkers and collaborators.
* GitHub is not just used for programming and software development.
* GitHub free services require all your repositories are public, but you can pay to have them private.
* GitHub is also used by many other types of projects.
  + For example, open source manuals, documentation projects, learning resources and other projects where users can collaborate online and work together.
* Understand how to push a local repository to GitHub to make it available for others.
  + create a repository on your computer
  + create that repository on GitHub
  + connect your local repository and your remote repository
  + push your local repository to your GitHub repository
  + consider adding an alias in Git so you do not have to remember/type the repository url over and over
* Understand how to create a repository on GitHub and then clone it to your local computer.
  + create a repository on GitHub
  + create that repository on your computer
  + connect your local repository and your remote repository
  + clone your GitHub repository to your local repository