**Step 1: Generate an SSH Key**

1. Open your terminal or command prompt.
2. Run the following command to generate an SSH key pair:

***ssh-keygen -t ed25519 -C "your\_email@example.com"***

1. Press **Enter** to accept the default file location (~/.ssh/id\_ed25519).
2. Set a passphrase (optional but recommended) or press **Enter** to skip.

**Step 2: Copy the SSH Key**

1. Display your public key by running:

cat ~/.ssh/id\_ed25519.pub

1. Copy the output of the command.

**Step 3: Add the SSH Key to GitLab**

1. Go to your GitLab account and navigate to **User Settings > SSH Keys**.
2. Paste the public key into the **Key** field.
3. Add a descriptive title (e.g., "Work Laptop") in the **Title** field.
4. Click **Add key**.

**Step 4: Test the Connection**

Run the following command to ensure the SSH key works:

***ssh -T git@gitlab.com***

If successful, you’ll see a message like:

Welcome to GitLab, <username>!