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GIT TIPS

# How to add SSH to a Github Account on Linux

Simple guide to create SSH keys and add it to your GitHub account



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In this article, I will show you how to add an SSH key to a Github account.

1. Checking existing SSH keys
2. Generate new SSH key
3. Add SSH key to Github account setting

## Why do we need SSH keys?

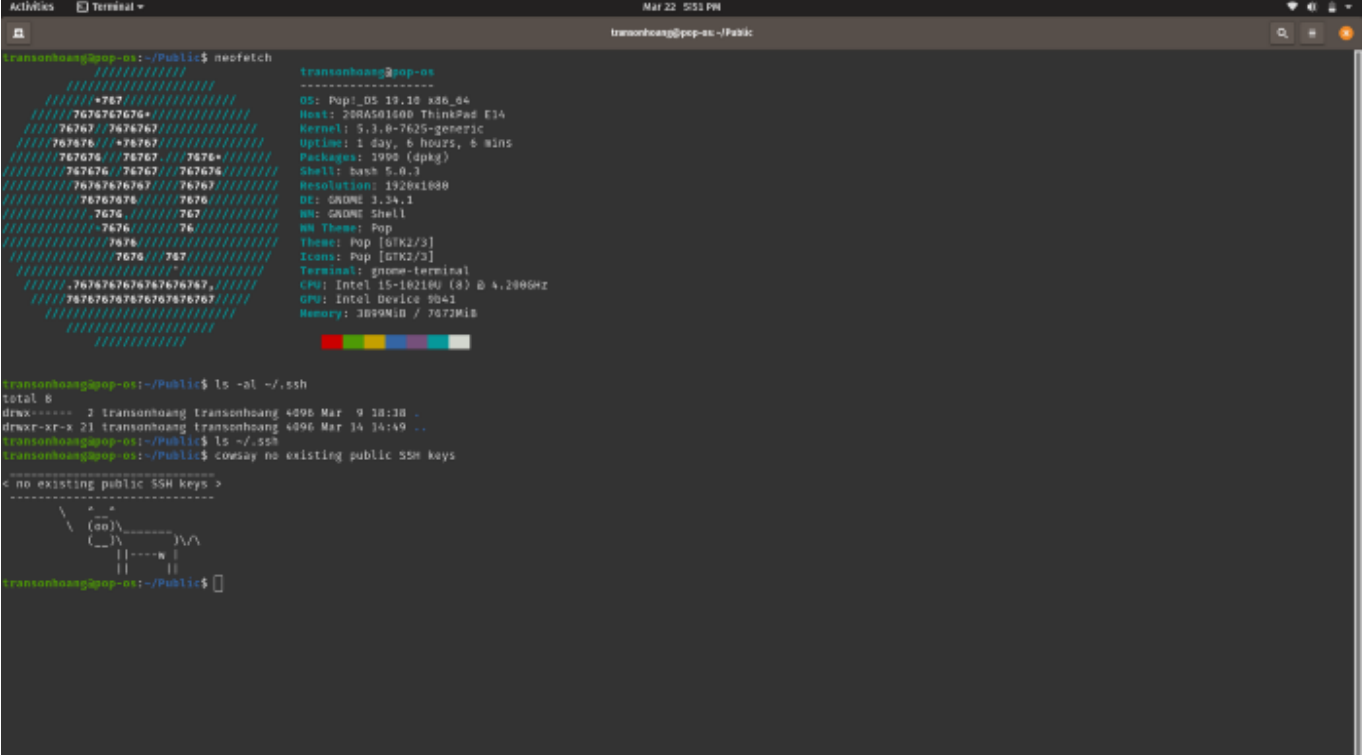
You can understand that SSH keys help you to connect to GitHub **WITHOUT** supplying your username or password at each visit.

So, you do not need to type your username and password in the terminal every time you commit new changes to your Github repository.

For more content like this, check out <https://betterfullstack.com>

## Checking existing SSH keys

Open the terminal and type `ls -al ~/.ssh` or `ls ~/.ssh` to see any existing SSH keys.



```
transonhoang@pop-os: ~/Public$ neofetch
transonhoang@pop-os
OS: Pop!_OS 19.10 x86_64
Host: 20RA501000 ThinkPad E14
Kernel: 5.3.0-7625-generic
Uptime: 1 day, 6 hours, 6 mins
Packages: 1990 (dpkg)
Shell: bash 5.0.3
Resolution: 1920x1080
DE: GNOME 3.34.1
WM: GNOME Shell
WM Theme: Pop
Theme: Pop [GTK2/3]
Icons: Pop [GTK2/3]
Terminal: gnome-terminal
CPU: Intel i5-10210U (8) @ 4.200GHz
GPU: Intel Device 9041
Memory: 3099MiB / 7672MiB

transonhoang@pop-os: ~/Public$ ls -al ~/.ssh
total 8
drwx----- 2 transonhoang transonhoang 4096 Mar  9 20:20 .
drwxr-xr-x 21 transonhoang transonhoang 4096 Mar 14 14:49 ..
transonhoang@pop-os: ~/Public$ ls ~/.ssh
transonhoang@pop-os: ~/Public$ cd ~/.ssh
transonhoang@pop-os: ~/Public$ ls
ls: no existing public SSH keys
```

check existing ssh key or not

## Generate new SSH key

Then, you will input the location for the key and secure passphrase.

[illegible]

## Create new SSH keys

After we have SSH keys, we type `$ eval "$(ssh-agent -s)"` to start the ssh-agent in the background and add your key by `ssh-add ~/.ssh/id_rsa`.

Activities Mar 22 6:09 PM

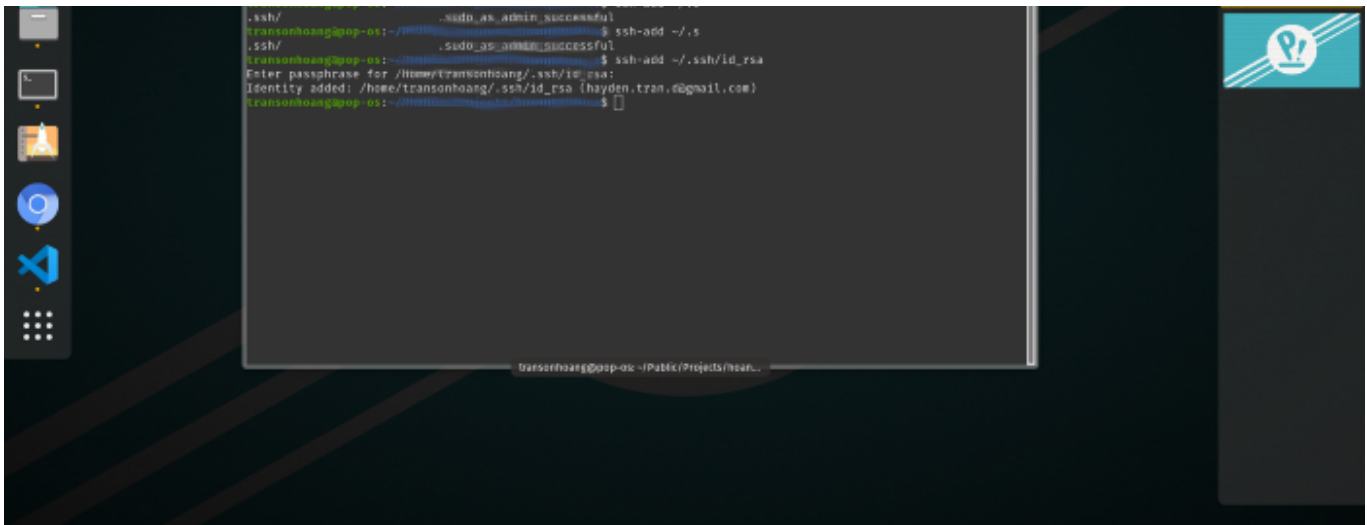
type to search...

terminal@pop-os: ~/Projects/learnlinux\$ eval "\$(ssh-agent -s)"

Agent pid 32690

terminal@pop-os: ~/Projects/learnlinux\$ ssh-add

ssh-add (1) - adds private key identities to the authentication ...



start ssh-agent in the background

Now we go to the final step.

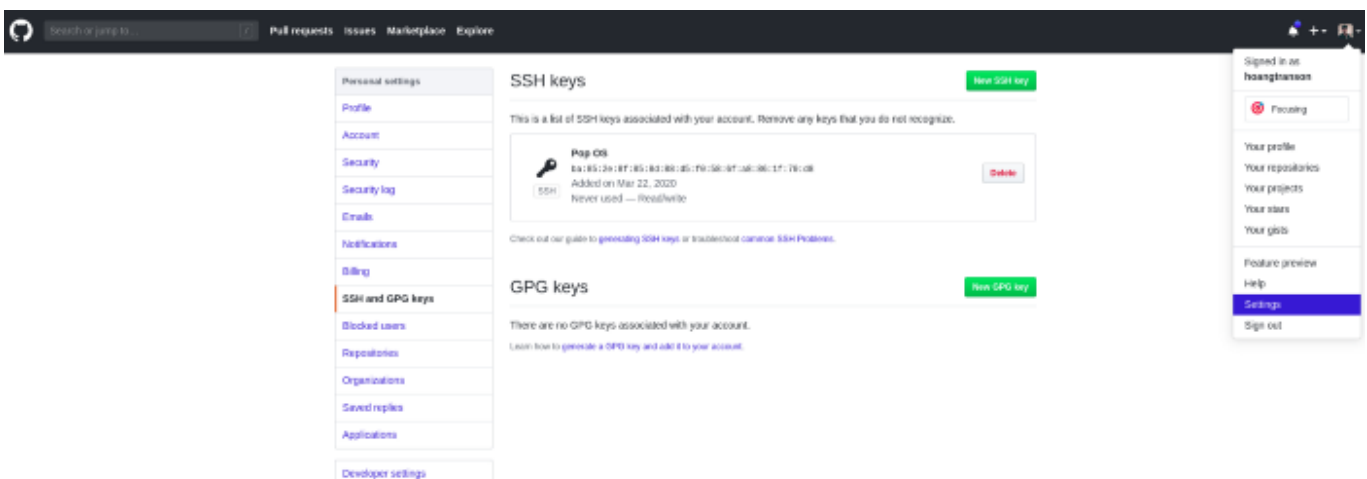
## Add your SSH key to the Github account setting

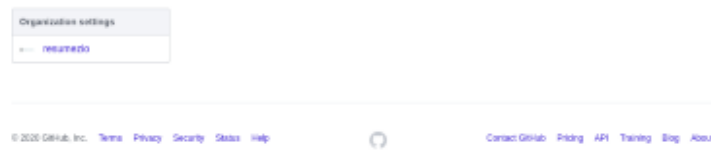
**Note:** You can add this key to any account such as Gitlab, Bitbucket, Github. Not only Github.

Use `xclip` for copy and paste the SSH keys. Install this by `sudo apt-get install xclip`.

Now copy your public keys by `xclip -sel clip < ~/.ssh/id_rsa.pub`.

Then open your account, go to **settings**, and paste your new SSH keys inside **SSH and GPG keys** section.





Paste new SSH keys to github account

DONE!.

Note: If you are using Linux like me, sometimes your computer still keeps asking username and password.

Need to run this **configuration** to make git store your username + password.

```
git config --global credential.helper store
```

## Conclusion

I hope this article is simple enough to help some junior developers that are new to git to learn how to set up SSH keys and add to your Github account.

I hope you found this article useful! You can follow me on [Medium](#). I am also on [Twitter](#). Feel free to leave any questions in the comments below. I'll be glad to help out!

You can read more from the link below:

### Connecting to GitHub with SSH

You can connect to GitHub using SSH. Using the SSH protocol, you can connect and authenticate to remote servers and...

[help.github.com](https://help.github.com)

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