



Managing your company's spending on GitHub Copilot

Learn how to track spending, view usage, and optimize license distribution.

Who can use this feature?

- 👤 Enterprise owners and billing managers
- 📁 GitHub Copilot Business or GitHub Copilot Enterprise

In this article

Understanding who can grant licenses

Managing premium requests

Mapping spending to groups of users

Preventing overspending

Visualizing spending trends

Next steps

When you're adopting GitHub Copilot in an enterprise, you will want to set budgets and track spending to ensure your rollout is sustainable. GitHub offers billing tools to help you visualize your spending patterns, receive alerts when you reach budget thresholds, and optimize your license usage.

Understanding who can grant licenses

To control spending, it's important to understand who can affect your bill by granting licenses to users. These are people with the **organization owner** role in organizations where you enable GitHub Copilot. Organization owners can receive requests for access from members through the GitHub UI.

We recommend that you identify the people with this role and communicate with them about your company's strategy for distributing licenses. For example, you may have a budget or limited pilot program, or you may distribute licenses through an internal website.

For more information, see [Viewing people in your enterprise](#).

Managing premium requests

Each Copilot plan includes a per-user allowance for premium requests. To learn more about premium requests, see [Requests in GitHub Copilot](#). For allowances per plan, see [Plans for GitHub Copilot](#).

Tracking premium request usage

To track premium request usage, download the premium request usage report for your organization or enterprise. See [Monitoring your GitHub Copilot usage and entitlements](#).

This report includes all premium request usage by user, both within and beyond the allowance, so you can use the report to understand general patterns and identify users who would benefit from more premium requests.

Granting more premium requests to members

Your organization or enterprise's policies and budgets determine whether users can use premium requests over their included allowance. See [Managing the premium request allowance for your organization or enterprise](#).

Accounts created **before August 22, 2025** have a default \$0 budget for Copilot premium requests. Premium requests over the allowance are rejected unless you edit or delete this budget.

Important

Beginning November 18, 2025:

Account-level \$0 Copilot premium request budgets for GitHub Enterprise and GitHub Team will be removed. See [Upcoming removal of Copilot premium request \\$0 budgets for enterprise and team accounts](#) in the GitHub changelog.

Mapping spending to groups of users

You can create cost centers to map spending to individual business units or groups of users. Cost centers allow you to track costs tied to different initiatives and charge the costs to specific areas of your business.

For example, if you were running a pilot program for GitHub Copilot Enterprise for a group of employees, you might want to create a cost center to track their spending and set a budget independently of the rest of the company.

For more information, see [Using cost centers to allocate costs to business units](#).

Preventing overspending

You can set a monthly budget on GitHub Copilot spending.


- For Copilot **licenses**, a budget is for monitoring purposes only and will not prevent usage beyond the budgeted amount. However, you will receive notifications by email when spending exceeds certain percentages of the budget you've set.
- For Copilot **premium requests**, you can choose to stop usage once the budget amount is reached.

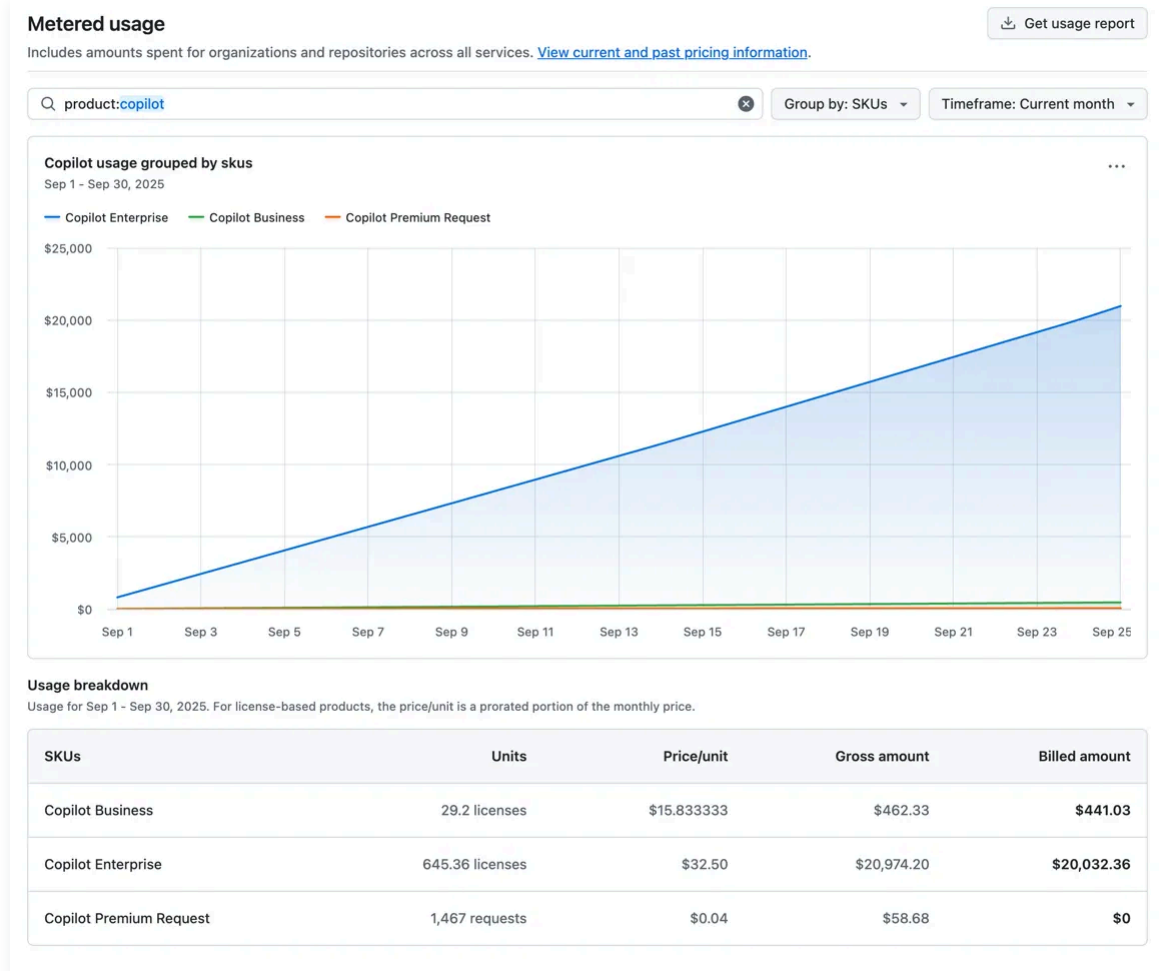
To create a budget, see [Setting up budgets to control spending on metered products](#).

Visualizing spending trends

You can understand your spending trends by viewing graphs of Copilot usage over a certain timeframe. Usage includes costs for Copilot licenses and any additional premium requests beyond the allowance.

For more detailed insights, you can group usage by the type of Copilot plan, and enterprises can filter the results by cost center.

- 1 Go to your enterprise or organization account settings and click  **Billing & Licensing**.
- 2 In the left sidebar, click **Usage** (organizations) or **Usage** and then **Metered usage** (enterprises).
- 3 In the "Metered usage" section, in the search field, enter `product:copilot` . To filter by cost center, add a query like `cost_center:ce-pilot-group` .
- 4 To understand spending differences between Copilot Business and Copilot Enterprise plans, select the **Group: None** dropdown menu and click **Group by: SKU**.



- 5 To visualize the consumption of premium requests in detail, in the left sidebar click **Premium request analytics**.
- 6 By default, the chart and table show use grouped by models. Use the filter, "Group by", and "Timeframe" controls to show the data you want.

i

Note

Premium request analytics data are available from August 1, 2025 onward.



Next steps

As well as managing spending on licenses, it is important to ensure licenses are being used effectively. When you begin rolling out Copilot in a company, you may see low rates of adoption at first. An effective enablement process is essential to drive adoption of Copilot in your company. Tailor this process to your company's needs and goals, and design it to help your teams understand how to use Copilot effectively.

To ensure your licenses are being used effectively, you can use the API to identify inactive users. We recommend sending these users a message with advice and resources for getting started. If a user remains inactive, you can revoke their license and assign it to another user.

If you're not sure how best to distribute licenses, GitHub has found that many successful rollouts offer a fully self-service model where developers can claim a license without approval. This allows people to get started quickly and ensures you're giving licenses to people who plan to use them.

For detailed guidance, see:

- [Driving GitHub Copilot adoption in your company](#)
- [Setting up a self-serve process for GitHub Copilot licenses](#)
- [Reminding inactive users to use their GitHub Copilot license](#)

Legal

