

## **CI/CD Staging Deployment Guide**

Deploy GitHub 'dev' branch to a live Staging Site

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# Unix Training Academy - CI/CD Lesson: Staging Environment Setup

## Lesson Objective

Set up a staging CI/CD pipeline to deploy your GitHub `dev` branch to a separate GitHub Pages site using GitHub Actions.

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## Step 1: Create a Staging Repo

- Go to GitHub and create a new public repo: `richard\_portfolio\_site\_staging`
- Do NOT add README, license, or gitignore

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## Step 2: Create a Personal Access Token (PAT)

1. Go to <https://github.com/settings/tokens> -> Generate new token (classic)
2. Select `repo` scope
3. Copy the token and store it somewhere safe

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## Step 3: Add the PAT to Repo Secrets

In your main repo (`richard\_portfolio\_site`):

- Go to Settings -> Secrets -> Actions -> New repository secret
- Name it: PERSONAL\_TOKEN
- Value: paste the token

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## Step 4: Create `.github/workflows/staging.yml`

name: Deploy to Staging GitHub Pages

on:

push:

branches:

- dev

permissions:

contents: write

jobs:

deploy-staging:

runs-on: ubuntu-latest

steps:

- name: Checkout dev branch

uses: actions/checkout@v3

- name: Deploy to Staging Repo

uses: peaceiris/actions-gh-pages@v3

with:

external\_repository: richardigwegbu1/richard\_portfolio\_site\_staging

publish\_dir: .

personal\_token: \${{ secrets.PERSONAL\_TOKEN }}

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## Step 5: Commit & Push

```
git add .github/workflows/staging.yml
```

```
git commit -m "Add staging CI/CD workflow"
```

```
git push origin dev
```

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## Step 6: Enable GitHub Pages in Staging Repo

In the `richard\_portfolio\_site\_staging` repo:

- Go to Settings -> Pages
- Source: `gh-pages` branch, root folder
- Save



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## Result

Your staging site is now live at:

[https://richardigwegbu1.github.io/richard\\_portfolio\\_site\\_staging/](https://richardigwegbu1.github.io/richard_portfolio_site_staging/)

Every push to your dev branch now updates the staging environment!