GitHub Help

- Contact Support
- Return to GitHub

GitHub Pages Basics / **Creating Project Pages manually**

| How can we help? | Search |

Article last updated on 05-Jun-14

Creating Project Pages manually

- mac
- windows
- linux
- all

If you're familiar with command-line Git, it's straightforward to manually create a Project Pages site.

Make a fresh clone

To set up a Project Pages site, you need to create a new "orphan" branch (a branch that has no common history with an existing branch) in your repository. The safest way to do this is to start with a fresh clone:

```
git clone https://github.com/user/repository.git
# Clone our repository
# Cloning into 'repository'...
# remote: Counting objects: 2791, done.
# remote: Compressing objects: 100% (1225/1225), done.
# remote: Total 2791 (delta 1722), reused 2513 (delta 1493)
# Receiving objects: 100% (2791/2791), 3.77 MiB | 969 KiB/s, done.
# Resolving deltas: 100% (1722/1722), done.
```

Create a gh-pages branch

Once you have a clean repository, you'll need to create the new `gh-pages` branch and remove all content from the working directory and index:

```
cd repository

git checkout --orphan gh-pages
# Creates our branch, without any parents (it's an orphan!)
# Switched to a new branch 'gh-pages'

git rm -rf .
# Remove all files from the old working tree
# rm '.gitignore'
```

Tip: The `gh-pages` branch won't appear in the list of branches generated by `git branch` until you make your first commit.

Add content and push

In order to trigger a build when you push to your Page's repository, you must first [verify your email address](#).

Now you have an empty working directory. You can create some content in this branch and push it to GitHub. For example:

```
echo "My GitHub Page" > index.html
git add index.html
git commit -a -m "First pages commit"
git push origin gh-pages
```

Tip: After the first push, it can take up to ten minutes before your GitHub Pages site is available.

Load your new GitHub Pages site

After your push to the `gh-pages` branch, your Project Pages site will be available at `username.github.io/projectname`. To set up a custom domain for GitHub Pages sites, see [Setting up a custom domain with GitHub Pages](#).

Tip: Enterprise Project Pages sites will be served at a subdirectory (e.g. `http(s)://[hostname]/pages/[user or organization name]/projectname`) instead of a subdomain (e.g. `http://[user or organization name].github.io/projectname`)

- [contact a human](#)

- [Terms of Service](#)
- [Privacy](#)
- [Security](#)