

Configure two-factor authentication for GitHub

Recently, GitHub required you to set up two-factor authentication (2FA) to use Github. Before you configure 2FA, you login to your GitHub account using your username and password. After you configure 2FA, it takes one more step to login to your GitHub account.

There are multiple ways to do it. Today we introduce one way.

Step 1. Install a TOTP app

First, you need to install a time-based one-time password (TOTP) application on your phone or on your desktop.

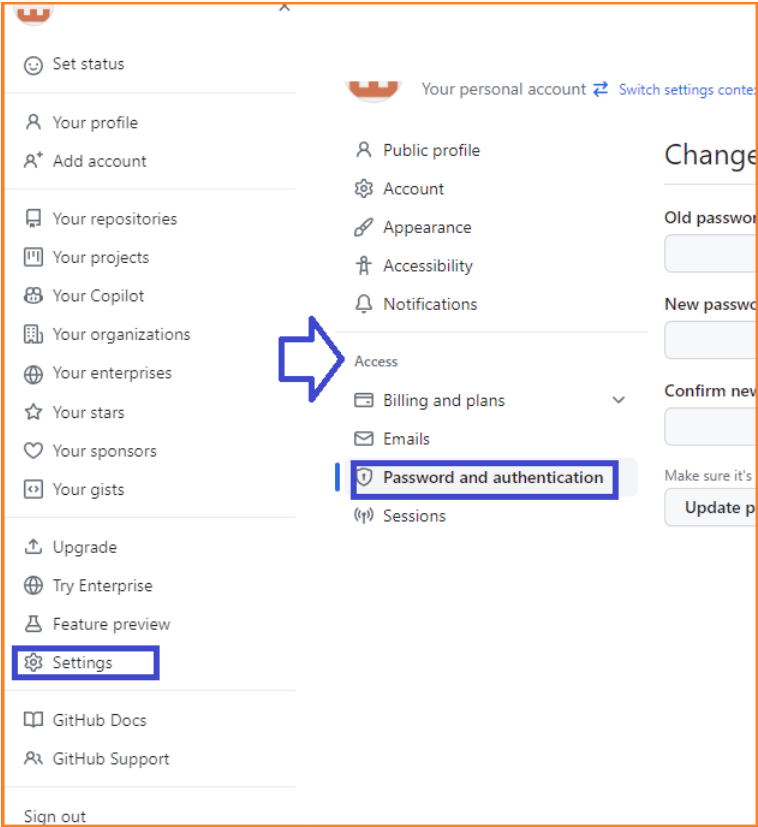
You may choose [Microsoft Authenticator](#) to do it. The software can be found on some app stores. However, we have no requirement on what you use.

Step 2. Set up 2FA on GitHub

After installing a TOTP app, we can configure GitHub to use it.

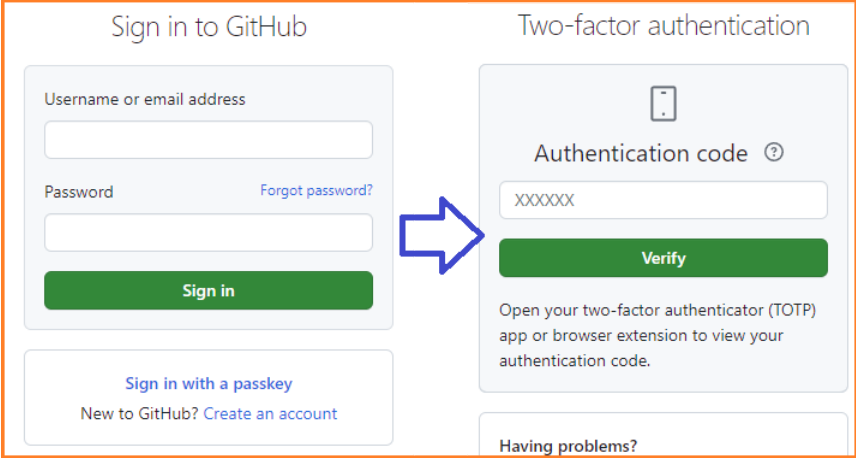
Login to Github using username and password, click "Settings", "Password and authentication", scroll down to "Two-factor authentication", click "Enable two-factor authentication".

Then you will see a QR code. Now open your TOTP app you have just installed to scan the QR code and follow the steps on your app.



Step 3. GitHub Login

In the future, when you need to login to your GitHub account, GitHub will first ask for your username and password as usual. Then GitHub will ask for a 6-digit authentication code. Open your TOTP app, click your GitHub account on the app (it is there because you just scanned that QR code). You will see the 6-digit code. Type this code and you can login.



Step 4. Save Recovery code

Just in case you lost your phone and won't be able to login your GitHub account forever, you may want to download your recovery code.

Reference:

[Configuring two-factor authentication](#)

[Configuring two-factor authentication recovery methods](#)