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Managing files in a repository / Adding a file to a repository using the command line

How can we help? 🔍

Adding a file to a repository using the command line

MAC | **WINDOWS** | **LINUX**

You can upload an existing file to a GitHub repository using the command line.

> **Tip:** You can also add an existing file to a repository from the GitHub website.

This procedure assumes you've already:

Created a repository on GitHub, or have an existing repository owned by someone else you'd like to contribute to

Cloned the repository locally on your computer

> **Warning:** Never `git add`, `commit`, or `push` sensitive information to a remote repository. Sensitive information can include, but is not limited to:
>
> Passwords
> SSH keys
> AWS access keys
> API keys
> Credit card numbers
> PIN numbers
>
> For more information, see "Removing sensitive data from a repository."

1 On your computer, move the file you'd like to upload to GitHub into the local directory that was created when you cloned the repository.

2 Open Terminal.

3 Change the current working directory to your local repository.

4 Stage the file for commit to your local repository.

```
$ git add .
# Adds the file to your local repository and stages it for commit. To unstage
a file, use 'git reset HEAD YOUR-FILE'.
```

5 Commit the file that you've staged in your local repository.

```
$ git commit -m "Add existing file"
# Commits the tracked changes and prepares them to be pushed to a remote
repository. To remove this commit and modify the file, use 'git reset --soft
HEAD~1' and commit and add the file again.
```

6 Push the changes in your local repository to GitHub.

```
$ git push origin your-branch
# Pushes the changes in your local repository up to the remote repository you
```

Article versions

GitHub.com
GitHub Enterprise 2.15
GitHub Enterprise 2.14
GitHub Enterprise 2.13
GitHub Enterprise 2.12

```
specified as the origin
```

Further reading

"Creating new files"

"Adding an existing project to GitHub using the command line"

🗩 Contact a human

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