

Communicating on GitHub

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You can discuss specific projects and changes, as well as broader ideas or team goals, using different types of discussions on GitHub Enterprise Server.

Introduction

GitHub Enterprise Server provides built-in collaborative communication tools allowing you to interact closely with your community. This quickstart guide will show you how to pick the right tool for your needs.

You can create and participate in issues, pull requests, GitHub Discussions, and team discussions, depending on the type of conversation you'd like to have.

GitHub Issues

- are useful for discussing specific details of a project such as bug reports, planned improvements and feedback.
- are specific to a repository, and usually have a clear owner.
- are often referred to as GitHub's bug-tracking system.

Pull requests

- allow you to propose specific changes.
- allow you to comment directly on proposed changes suggested by others.
- are specific to a repository.

Team discussions

- can be started on your team's page for conversations that span across projects and don't belong in a specific issue or pull request. Instead of opening an issue in a repository to discuss an idea, you can include the entire team by having a conversation in a team discussion.
- allow you to hold discussions with your team about planning, analysis, design, user research and general project decision making in one place.
- provide a collaborative experience outside the codebase, allowing the brainstorming of ideas.
- often don't have a clear owner.
- often do not result in an actionable task.

Which discussion tool should I use? [↗](#)

Scenarios for issues [↗](#)

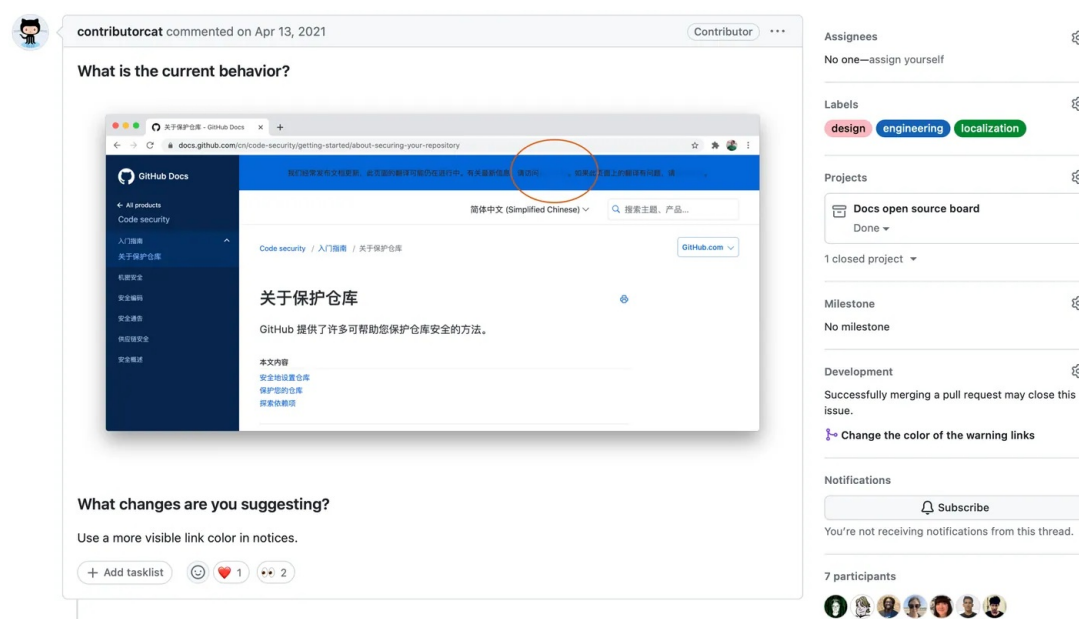
- I want to keep track of tasks, enhancements and bugs.
- I want to file a bug report.
- I want to share feedback about a specific feature.
- I want to ask a question about files in the repository.

Issue example [↗](#)

This example illustrates how a GitHub user created an issue in our documentation open source repository to make us aware of a bug, and discuss a fix.

Blue link text in notices is unreadable due to blue background #5349

[Closed](#) [Tracked by #376](#) zeke opened this issue on Apr 13, 2021 · 16 comments · Fixed by #5781 [Edit](#) [New Issue](#)



- A user noticed that the blue color of the banner at the top of the page in the Chinese version of the GitHub Docs makes the text in the banner unreadable.
- The user created an issue in the repository, stating the problem and suggesting a fix (which is, use a different background color for the banner).
- A discussion ensues, and eventually, a consensus will be reached about the fix to apply.
- A contributor can then create a pull request with the fix.

Scenarios for pull requests [↗](#)

- I want to fix a typo in a repository.
- I want to make changes to a repository.
- I want to make changes to fix an issue.
- I want to comment on changes suggested by others.

Pull request example [↗](#)

This example illustrates how a GitHub user created a pull request in our documentation open source repository to fix a typo.

In the **Conversation** tab of the pull request, the author explains why they created the

pull request.

Fix typo #6891

[Edit](#)[Open with](#) ▼

Merged octocat merged 2 commits into `github:main` from `contributocat:patch-1` 18 days ago

Conversation 4

Commits 2

Checks 31

Files changed 1

+1 -1

contributorcat commented 18 days ago

Contributor

...

Why:

I saw a small typo in the documentation.

What's being changed:

Just fixing a single typo.

Check off the following:

- ☐ I have reviewed my changes in staging. (look for the **deploy-to-heroku** link in your pull request, then click **View deployment**)
- ☒ For content changes, I have reviewed the [localization checklist](#)
- ☒ For content changes, I have reviewed the [Content style guide for GitHub Docs](#).

Fix typo

Verified ✓ 8f3ca61

Reviewers

octocat ✓

Assignees

No one—assign yourself

Labels

ready to merge

Projects

Docs team reviews

Done ▼

Tables

None yet

The **Files changed** tab of the pull request shows the implemented fix.

Fix typo #6891

[Edit](#)[Open with](#) ▼

Merged octocat merged 2 commits into `github:main` from `contributocat:patch-1` 18 days ago

Conversation 4

Commits 2

Checks 31

Files changed 1

+1 -1

File filter

Jump to

0 / 1 files viewed

Review changes

content/actions/reference/context-and-expression-syntax-for-github-actions.md

<>

Viewed

...

@@ -323,7 +323,7 @@ Returns 'true' if 'searchString' ends with 'searchValue'. This function is not c

323

323

324

324

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325

326

326

327

327

- Replaces values in the 'string', with the variable 'replaceValueN'. Variables in the 'string' are specified using the '{N}' syntax, where 'N' is an integer. You must specify at least one 'replaceValue' and 'string'. There is no maximum for the number of variables ('replaceValueN') you can use. Escape curly braces using double braces.

+ Replaces values in the 'string', with the variable 'replaceValueN'. Variables in the 'string' are specified using the '{N}' syntax, where 'N' is an integer. You must specify at least one 'replaceValue' and 'string'. There is no maximum for the number of variables ('replaceValueN') you can use. Escape curly braces using double braces.

- This contributor notices a typo in the repository.
- The user creates a pull request with the fix.
- A repository maintainer reviews the pull request, comments on it, and merges it.

Scenarios for GitHub Discussions

- I have a question that's not necessarily related to specific files in the repository.
- I want to share news with my collaborators, or my team.
- I want to start or participate in an open-ended conversation.
- I want to make an announcement to my community.

GitHub Discussions example

This example shows the GitHub Discussions welcome post for the GitHub Docs open source repository, and illustrates how the team wants to collaborate with their

community.

Welcome to GitHub Docs Discussions! #116

octocat on Oct 6, 2020

Welcome to GitHub Docs Discussions!

We're using Discussions as a place to connect with other members of our community. We hope that you:

- Ask questions you're wondering about.
- Share ideas.
- Get help with a PR you're working on.
- Engage with other community members.
- Build the docs community together! 🙌

To get started, comment below with an introduction of yourself and tell us about what you do with GitHub Docs!

28

46

6

15

43

11

1

26 comments · 50 replies

contributocat on Oct 7, 2020

My name is Contributocat and I haven't yet gotten started using GitHub Docs but I'll see where I can jump in.

1

9

10

4 replies

Category

General

Labels

None yet

34 participants

Notifications

Unsubscribe

You're receiving notifications because you're watching this repository.

Unlock conversation

Pin discussion

Pin discussion to General

Create issue from discussion

Delete discussion

This community maintainer started a discussion to welcome the community, and to ask members to introduce themselves. This post fosters an inviting atmosphere for visitors and contributors. The post also clarifies that the team's happy to help with contributions to the repository.

Scenarios for team discussions

- I have a question that's not necessarily related to specific files in the repository.
- I want to share news with my collaborators, or my team.
- I want to start or participate in an open-ended conversation.
- I want to make an announcement to my team.

Team discussion example

This example shows a team post for the `octo-team` team.

octo-team

@github/octo-repo

28 members

26 are members of child teams

Unwatch

Member statuses

Load more...

Teams

9

Create a team post for @github/octo-repo

Recent Pinned 3

Docs Update for May 3, 2021

octocat

19 hours ago · edited

How can we add delight to our work life and carve out our "home" together? Mona started adding games to our calendars, and we can all follow her lead and do the same. We can also eat ice cream straight out of the carton together. Maybe while playing games?

Docs happenings!

What a great example of collaboration between our two subteams in [this blog post](#) about how we use GitHub Actions in the docs!

We had our April Docs All Hands on Friday. You can check out [the recording](#) and [slides](#).

The `octocat` team member posted a team discussion, informing the team of various

things:

- A team member called Mona started remote game events.
- There is a blog post describing how the teams use GitHub Actions to produce their docs.
- Material about the April All Hands is now available for all team members to view.

Next steps

These examples showed you how to decide which is the best tool for your conversations on GitHub Enterprise Server. But this is only the beginning; there is so much more you can do to tailor these tools to your needs.

For issues, for example, you can tag issues with labels for quicker searching and create issue templates to help contributors open meaningful issues. For more information, see "[About issues](#)" and "[About issue and pull request templates](#)."

For pull requests, you can create draft pull requests if your proposed changes are still a work in progress. Draft pull requests cannot be merged until they're marked as ready for review. For more information, see "[About pull requests](#)."

For GitHub Discussions, you can pin discussions that contain important information for your community. For more information, see "[About discussions](#)."

For team discussions, you can edit or delete discussions on a team's page, and you can configure notifications for team discussions. For more information, see "[About team discussions](#)."

To learn some advanced formatting features that will help you communicate, see "[Quickstart for writing on GitHub](#)."

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