

# Setting up GitHub Desktop

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You can set up GitHub Desktop to suit your needs and contribute to projects.

## Part 1: Installing GitHub Desktop

You can install GitHub Desktop on any supported operating system. For more information, see "[Supported operating systems for GitHub Desktop](#)."

To install GitHub Desktop, navigate to <https://desktop.github.com/> and download the appropriate version of GitHub Desktop for your operating system. Follow the prompts to complete the installation. For more information, see "[Installing GitHub Desktop](#)."

## Part 2: Configuring your account

If you have an account on GitHub or GitHub Enterprise, you can use GitHub Desktop to exchange data between your local and remote repositories.

### Creating an account

If you do not already have an account on GitHub.com, create one now. For more information, see "[Signing up for a new GitHub account](#)."

If you're part of an organization that uses Enterprise Managed Users and you do not have an account, contact your enterprise administrator.

### Authenticating to GitHub

To connect to GitHub Desktop with GitHub, you'll need to authenticate your account. For more information, see "[Authenticating to GitHub in GitHub Desktop](#)."

After authenticating your account, you are ready to manage and contribute to projects with GitHub Desktop.

## Part 3: Configuring Git

You must have Git installed before using GitHub Desktop. If you do not already have Git installed, you can download and install the latest version of Git from <https://git-scm.com/downloads>.

After you have Git installed, you'll need to configure Git for GitHub Desktop. For more

information, see "[Configuring Git for GitHub Desktop](#)."

## Part 4: Customizing GitHub Desktop

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You can adjust defaults and settings to tailor GitHub Desktop to your needs.

### Choosing a default text editor

You can open a text editor from GitHub Desktop to manipulate files and repositories. GitHub Desktop supports a variety of text editors and integrated development environments (IDEs) for Windows and macOS. You can choose a default editor in the GitHub Desktop settings. For more information, see "[Configuring a default editor in GitHub Desktop](#)."

### Choosing a theme

GitHub Desktop has multiple themes available to customize the look and feel of the app. You can choose a theme in the GitHub Desktop settings. For more information, see "[Setting a theme for GitHub Desktop](#)."

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