

Deleting files in a repository

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You can delete an individual file or an entire directory in your repository on GitHub Enterprise Cloud.

Who can use this feature

People with write permissions can delete files or directories in a repository.

About file and directory deletion [↗](#)

You can delete an individual file in your repository or an entire directory, including all the files in the directory.

If you try to delete a file or directory in a repository that you don't have write permissions to, we'll fork the project to your personal account and help you send a pull request to the original repository after you commit your change. For more information, see "[About pull requests](#)."

If the file or directory you deleted contains sensitive data, the data will still be available in the repository's Git history. To completely remove the file from GitHub Enterprise Cloud, you must remove the file from your repository's history. For more information, see "[Removing sensitive data from a repository](#)."

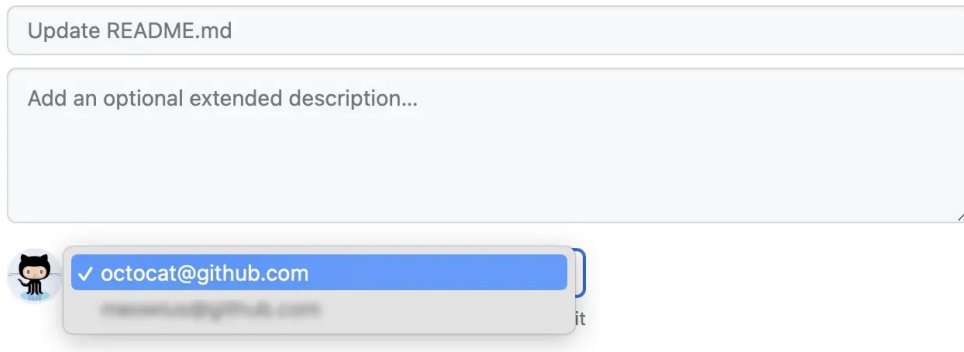
Deleting a file [↗](#)

- 1 Browse to the file in your repository that you want to delete.
- 2 In the top-right corner, select the ... dropdown menu, then click **Delete file**.

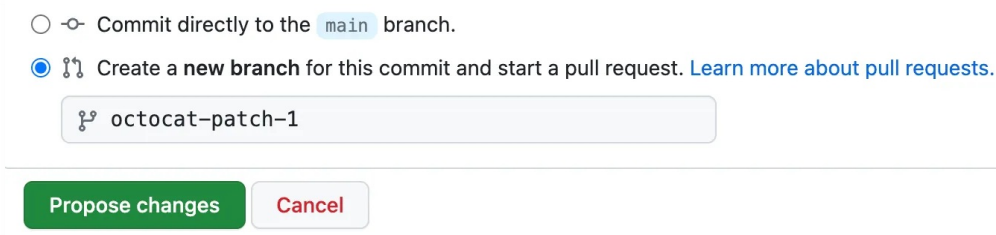


- 3 In the "Commit message" field, type a short, meaningful commit message that describes the change you made to the file. You can attribute the commit to more than one author in the commit message. For more information, see "[Creating a commit with multiple authors](#)."

- 4 If you have more than one email address associated with your account on GitHub.com, click the email address drop-down menu and select the email address to use as the Git author email address. Only verified email addresses appear in this drop-down menu. If you enabled email address privacy, then a no-reply will be the default commit author email address. For more information about the exact form the no-reply email address can take, see "[Setting your commit email address](#)."



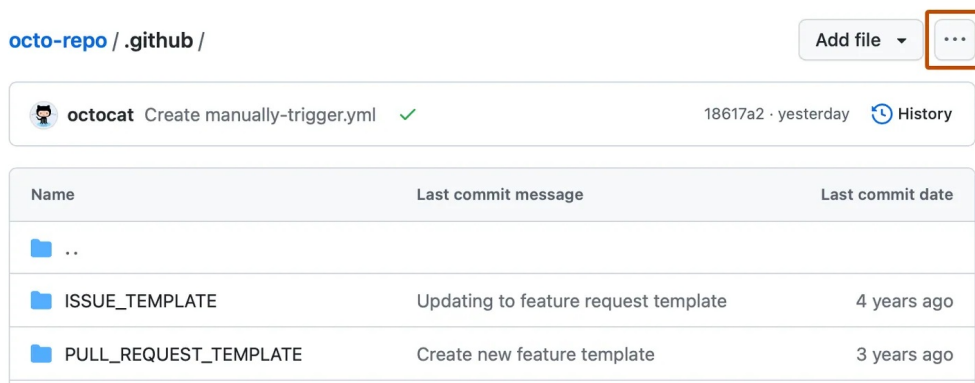
- 5 Below the commit message fields, decide whether to add your commit to the current branch or to a new branch. If your current branch is the default branch, you should choose to create a new branch for your commit and then create a pull request. For more information, see "[Creating a pull request](#)."



- 6 Click **Commit changes** or **Propose changes**.

Deleting a directory [🔗](#)

- 1 Browse to the directory in your repository that you want to delete.
- 2 In the top-right corner, select the ... dropdown menu, then click **Delete directory**.

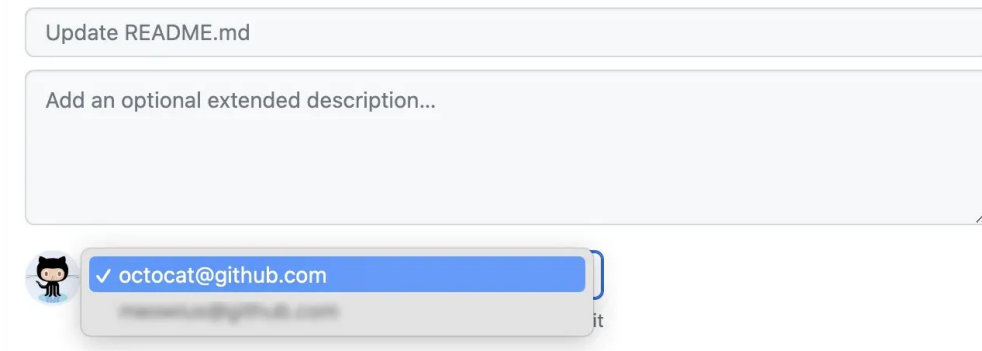


Name	Last commit message	Last commit date
..		
ISSUE_TEMPLATE	Updating to feature request template	4 years ago
PULL_REQUEST_TEMPLATE	Create new feature template	3 years ago

- 3 Review the files you will delete.
- 4 In the "Commit message" field, type a short, meaningful commit message that

describes the change you made to the file. You can attribute the commit to more than one author in the commit message. For more information, see "[Creating a commit with multiple authors](#)."

- 5 If you have more than one email address associated with your account on GitHub.com, click the email address drop-down menu and select the email address to use as the Git author email address. Only verified email addresses appear in this drop-down menu. If you enabled email address privacy, then a no-reply will be the default commit author email address. For more information about the exact form the no-reply email address can take, see "[Setting your commit email address](#)."

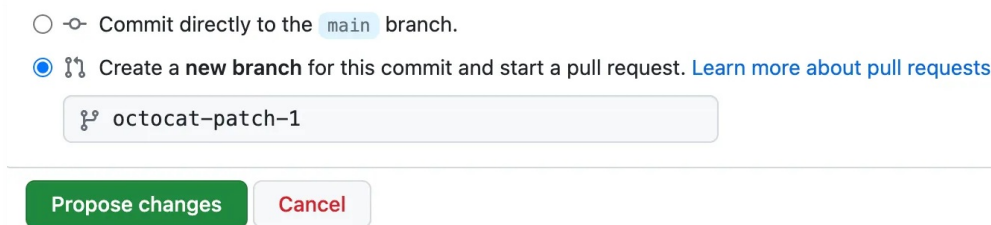


Update README.md

Add an optional extended description...

✓ octocat@github.com

- 6 Below the commit message fields, decide whether to add your commit to the current branch or to a new branch. If your current branch is the default branch, you should choose to create a new branch for your commit and then create a pull request. For more information, see "[Creating a pull request](#)."



☐ Commit directly to the `main` branch.

☒ Create a **new branch** for this commit and start a pull request. [Learn more about pull requests.](#)

octocat-patch-1

Propose changes Cancel

- 7 Click **Commit changes** or **Propose changes**.

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