

# Repositories documentation

Learn to use and manage the repositories that allow you to store and collaborate on your project's code.

[Quickstart](#)[Overview](#)

Start here

## Cloning a repository

When you create a repository on GitHub.com, it exists as a remote repository. You can clone your repository to create a local copy on your computer and sync between the two locations.

## Restoring a deleted repository

You can restore some deleted repositories to recover their contents.

## Adding a file to a repository

You can upload and commit an existing file to a repository on GitHub Enterprise Cloud or by using the command line.

## Licensing a repository

Public repositories on GitHub are often used to share open source software. For your repository to truly be open source, you'll need to license it so that others are free to use, change, and distribute the software.

Popular

## About protected branches

You can protect important branches by setting branch protection rules, which define whether collaborators can delete or force push to the branch and set requirements for any pushes to the branch, such as passing status checks or a linear commit history.

## About releases

You can create a release to package software, along with release notes and links to binary files, for other people to use.

## About READMEs

You can add a README file to your repository to tell other people why your project is useful, what they can do with your project, and how they can use it.

## About code owners

You can use a CODEOWNERS file to define individuals or teams that are responsible for code in a repository.

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## Organization Archiving public beta

June 15

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## Custom repository roles API GA and breaking change

March 07

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## Increased custom repository roles per organization

February 17

## Guides

### Deleting a repository

You can delete any repository or fork if you're either an organization owner or have admin permissions for the repository or fork. Deleting a forked repository does not delete the upstream repository.

@GitHub

### Managing a branch protection rule

You can create a branch protection rule to enforce certain workflows for one or more branches, such as requiring an approving review or passing status checks for all pull requests merged into the protected branch.

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### Setting repository visibility

You can choose who can view your repository.

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