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 Cloud.

Introduction 🔗

GitHub Enterprise Cloud 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, and GitHub 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.

GitHub Discussions 🔗

- are like a forum, and are best used for open-form ideas and discussions where collaboration is important.
- may span many repositories.
- provide a collaborative experience outside the codebase, allowing the brainstorming of ideas, and the creation of a community knowledge base.
- 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.
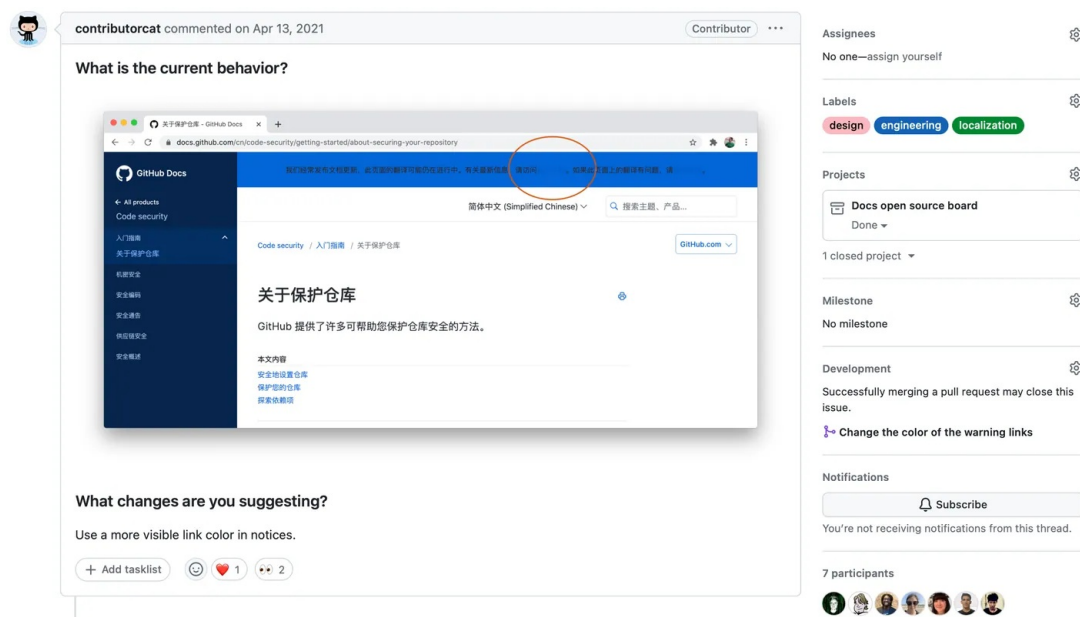- I want to ask a question about files in the repository.

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.

- 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 ■■□□□□

👤 **contributocat** 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 ⌄**

⌄ ⇕ 2 ■■□□□ 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    `format( string, replaceValue0, replaceValue1, ...,   324    `format( string, replaceValue0, replaceValue1, ...,
       replaceValueN)`                                             replaceValueN)`
325                                              325
326 -  Replaces values in the `string`, with the variable    326 +  Replaces values in the `string`, with the variable
       `replaceValueN`. Variables in the `string` are specified      `replaceValueN`. Variables in the `string` are specified
       using the `{N}` syntax, where `N` is an integer. You must     using the `{N}` syntax, where `N` is an integer. You must
       specify at least one `replaceValue` and `string`. There        specify at least one `replaceValue` and `string`. There
       is no maximum for the number of variables                     is no maximum for the number of variables
       (`replaceValueN`) you can use. Escape curly braces useing     (`replaceValueN`) you can use. Escape curly braces using
       double braces.                                              double braces.
327                                              327
```

- 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

Edit

🔒 Locked **octocat** started this conversation in **General**

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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

Oldest | Newest | Top

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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.

Next steps 🔗

These examples showed you how to decide which is the best tool for your conversations on GitHub Enterprise Cloud. 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 set up a code of conduct and pin discussions that contain important information for your community. For more information, see "About discussions."

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