

**This version of GitHub Enterprise was discontinued on 2023-03-15.** No patch releases will be made, even for critical security issues. For better performance, improved security, and new features, [upgrade to the latest version of GitHub Enterprise](#). For help with the upgrade, [contact GitHub Enterprise support](#).

# Using built-in authentication

If you don't use a centralized, external system for your users' identity, you can use built-in authentication to allow GitHub Enterprise Server to manage accounts and perform local authentication.

## Configuring built-in authentication

When you use the default authentication method, all authentication details are stored on your GitHub Enterprise Server instance.

## Inviting people to use your instance

When you use built-in authentication for GitHub Enterprise Server, you can invite people by email address to create a user account on your instance.

## Disabling unauthenticated sign-ups

If you're using built-in authentication for your GitHub Enterprise Server instance, you can block unauthenticated people from creating new user accounts on your instance.

## Legal