Manually running a workflow

In this article

When a workflow is configured to run on the `workflow_dispatch` event, you can run the workflow using the Actions tab on GitHub, GitHub CLI, or the REST API.

GitHub CLI   Web browser

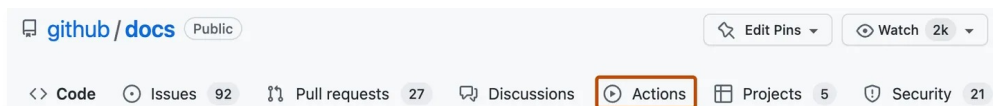## Configuring a workflow to run manually 🔗

To run a workflow manually, the workflow must be configured to run on the `workflow_dispatch` event.

To trigger the `workflow_dispatch` event, your workflow must be in the default branch. For more information about configuring the `workflow_dispatch` event, see "[Events that trigger workflows](#)."
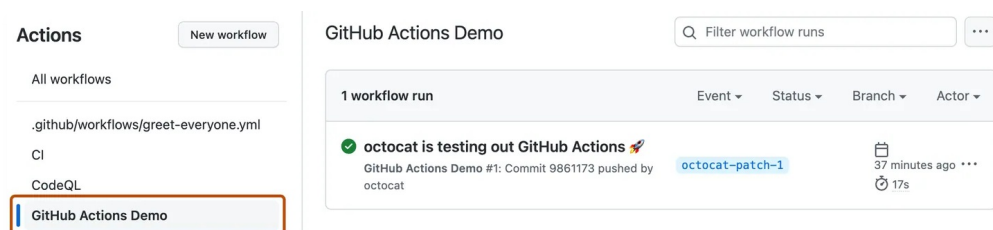
Write access to the repository is required to perform these steps.

Running a workflow 🔗

1. On GitHub.com, navigate to the main page of the repository.

2. Under your repository name, click ⊙ **Actions**.

3. In the left sidebar, click the name of the workflow you want to run.

4. Above the list of workflow runs, click the **Run workflow** button.

> **Note:** To see the **Run workflow** button, your workflow file must use the

`workflow_dispatch` event trigger. Only workflow files that use the `workflow_dispatch` event trigger will have the option to run the workflow manually using the **Run workflow** button. For more information about configuring the `workflow_dispatch` event, see "[Events that trigger workflows](#)."

Browser Tests
browser-test.yml

🔍 Filter workflow runs   · · ·

12,809 workflow runs	Event ▾ Status ▾ Branch ▾ Actor ▾

This workflow has a `workflow_dispatch` event trigger.   [Run workflow ▾]

✅ **repo sync**
   Browser Tests #18928: Pull request #24112   `repo-sync`   📅 38 minutes ago · · ·
   opened by Octomerger   ⏱ 3m 24s

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5 Select the **Branch** dropdown menu and click a branch to run the workflow on.

6 If the workflow requires input, fill in the fields.

7 Click **Run workflow**.

> To learn more about GitHub CLI, see "[About GitHub CLI](#)."

To run a workflow, use the `workflow run` subcommand. Replace the `workflow` parameter with either the name, ID, or file name of the workflow you want to run. For example, `"Link Checker"`, `1234567`, or `"link-check-test.yml"`. If you don't specify a workflow, GitHub CLI returns an interactive menu for you to choose a workflow.

```
gh workflow run WORKFLOW
```

If your workflow accepts inputs, GitHub CLI will prompt you to enter them. Alternatively, you can use `-f` or `-F` to add an input in `key=value` format. Use `-F` to read from a file.

```
gh workflow run greet.yml -f name=mona -f greeting=hello -F data=@myfile.txt
```

You can also pass inputs as JSON by using standard input.

```
echo '{"name":"mona", "greeting":"hello"}' | gh workflow run greet.yml --json
```

To run a workflow on a branch other than the repository's default branch, use the `--ref` flag.

```
gh workflow run WORKFLOW --ref BRANCH
```

To view the progress of the workflow run, use the `run watch` subcommand and select the run from the interactive list.

```
gh run watch
```

Running a workflow using the REST API 🔗

When using the REST API, you configure the `inputs` and `ref` as request body parameters. If the inputs are omitted, the default values defined in the workflow file are used.

> **Note:** You can define up to 10 `inputs` for a `workflow_dispatch` event.

For more information about using the REST API, see the "[Actions](#)."