

Using GitHub CLI in workflows

You can script with GitHub CLI in GitHub Actions workflows.

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

GitHub CLI is preinstalled on all GitHub-hosted runners. For each step that uses GitHub CLI, you must set an environment variable called `GITHUB_TOKEN` to a token with the required scopes.

You can execute any GitHub CLI command. For example, this workflow uses the `gh issue comment` subcommand to add a comment when an issue is opened.

YAML



```
name: Comment when opened
on:
  issues:
    types:
      - opened
jobs:
  comment:
    runs-on: ubuntu-latest
    steps:
      - run: gh issue comment $ISSUE --body "Thank you for opening this issue!"
        env:
          GITHUB_TOKEN: ${ secrets.GITHUB_TOKEN }
          ISSUE: ${ github.event.issue.html_url }
```

You can also execute API calls through GitHub CLI. For example, this workflow first uses the `gh api` subcommand to query the GraphQL API and parse the result. Then it stores the result in an environment variable that it can access in a later step. In the second step, it uses the `gh issue create` subcommand to create an issue containing the information from the first step.

YAML



```
name: Report remaining open issues
on:
  schedule:
    # Daily at 8:20 UTC
    - cron: '20 8 * * *'
jobs:
  track_pr:
    runs-on: ubuntu-latest
    steps:
      - run: |
          numOpenIssues="$(gh api graphql -F owner=$OWNER -F name=$REPO -f
query='
    query($name: String!, $owner: String!) {
      repository(owner: $owner, name: $name) {
        issues(states:OPEN){
          totalCount
        }
      }
    }
  )"
```

```
    }
  }
  ' --jq '.data.repository.issues.totalCount')"

echo 'NUM_OPEN_ISSUES=$numOpenIssues >> $GITHUB_ENV
env:
  GITHUB_TOKEN: ${ secrets.GITHUB_TOKEN }
  OWNER: ${ github.repository_owner }
  REPO: ${ github.event.repository.name }
- run: |
  gh issue create --title "Issue report" --body "$NUM_OPEN_ISSUES issues
remaining" --repo $GITHUB_REPOSITORY
env:
  GITHUB_TOKEN: ${ secrets.GITHUB_TOKEN }
```

Legal

© 2023 GitHub, Inc. [Terms](#) [Privacy](#) [Status](#) [Pricing](#) [Expert services](#) [Blog](#)