Setting default values for jobs

In this article

Define the default settings that will apply to all jobs in the workflow, or all steps in a job.

Overview 🔗

Use `defaults` to create a `map` of default settings that will apply to all jobs in the workflow. You can also set default settings that are only available to a job. For more information, see `jobs.<job_id>.defaults`.

When more than one default setting is defined with the same name, GitHub uses the most specific default setting. For example, a default setting defined in a job will override a default setting that has the same name defined in a workflow.

Setting default shell and working directory 🔗

You can use `defaults.run` to provide default `shell` and `working-directory` options for all `run` steps in a workflow. You can also set default settings for `run` that are only available to a job. For more information, see `jobs.<job_id>.defaults.run`. You cannot use contexts or expressions in this keyword.

When more than one default setting is defined with the same name, GitHub uses the most specific default setting. For example, a default setting defined in a job will override a default setting that has the same name defined in a workflow.

Example: Set the default shell and working directory 🔗

```
defaults:
  run:
    shell: bash
    working-directory: ./scripts
```

Setting default values for a specific job 🔗

Use `jobs.<job_id>.defaults` to create a `map` of default settings that will apply to all steps in the job. You can also set default settings for the entire workflow. For more information, see `defaults`.

When more than one default setting is defined with the same name, GitHub uses the most specific default setting. For example, a default setting defined in a job will override

a default setting that has the same name defined in a workflow.

Setting default shell and working directory for a job 🔗

Use `jobs.<job_id>.defaults.run` to provide default `shell` and `working-directory` to all `run` steps in the job. This keyword can reference several contexts. For more information, see "[Contexts](#)."

You can provide default `shell` and `working-directory` options for all `run` steps in a job. You can also set default settings for `run` for the entire workflow. For more information, see [defaults.run](#).

When more than one default setting is defined with the same name, GitHub uses the most specific default setting. For example, a default setting defined in a job will override a default setting that has the same name defined in a workflow.

Example: Setting default `run` step options for a job 🔗

```
jobs:
  job1:
    runs-on: ubuntu-latest
    defaults:
      run:
        shell: bash
        working-directory: ./scripts
```

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