

Ignoring files

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You can configure Git to ignore files you don't want to check in to GitHub Enterprise Server.

Mac Windows Linux

Configuring ignored files for a single repository [↗](#)

You can create a `.gitignore` file in your repository's root directory to tell Git which files and directories to ignore when you make a commit. To share the ignore rules with other users who clone the repository, commit the `.gitignore` file in to your repository.

GitHub maintains an official list of recommended `.gitignore` files for many popular operating systems, environments, and languages in the "github/gitignore" public repository. You can also use gitignore.io to create a `.gitignore` file for your operating system, programming language, or IDE. For more information, see "[github/gitignore](https://github.com/github/gitignore)" and the "gitignore.io" site.

- 1 Open TerminalTerminalGit Bash.
- 2 Navigate to the location of your Git repository.
- 3 Create a `.gitignore` file for your repository.

```
touch .gitignore
```

If the command succeeds, there will be no output.

For an example `.gitignore` file, see "[Some common .gitignore configurations](#)" in the Octocat repository.

If you want to ignore a file that is already checked in, you must untrack the file before you add a rule to ignore it. From your terminal, untrack the file.

```
git rm --cached FILENAME
```

Configuring ignored files for all repositories on your computer [↗](#)

You can tell Git to always ignore certain files or directories when you make a commit in

any Git repository on your computer. For example, you could use this feature to ignore any temporary backup files that your text editor creates.

To always ignore a certain file or directory, add it to a file named `ignore` that's located inside the directory `~/.config/git`. By default, Git will ignore any files and directories that are listed in the global configuration file `~/.config/git/ignore`. If the `git` directory and `ignore` file don't exist yet, you may need to create them.

Excluding local files without creating a *.gitignore* file



If you don't want to create a `.gitignore` file to share with others, you can create rules that are not committed with the repository. You can use this technique for locally-generated files that you don't expect other users to generate, such as files created by your editor.

Use your favorite text editor to open the file called `.git/info/exclude` within the root of your Git repository. Any rule you add here will not be checked in, and will only ignore files for your local repository.

- 1 Open TerminalTerminalGit Bash.
- 2 Navigate to the location of your Git repository.
- 3 Using your favorite text editor, open the file `.git/info/exclude`.

Further Reading

- [Ignoring files](#) in the Git documentation
- [.gitignore](#) in the Git documentation
- [A collection of useful .gitignore templates](#) in the github/gitignore repository
- [gitignore.io](#) site

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