GitHub Docs

Finding files on GitHub

In this article
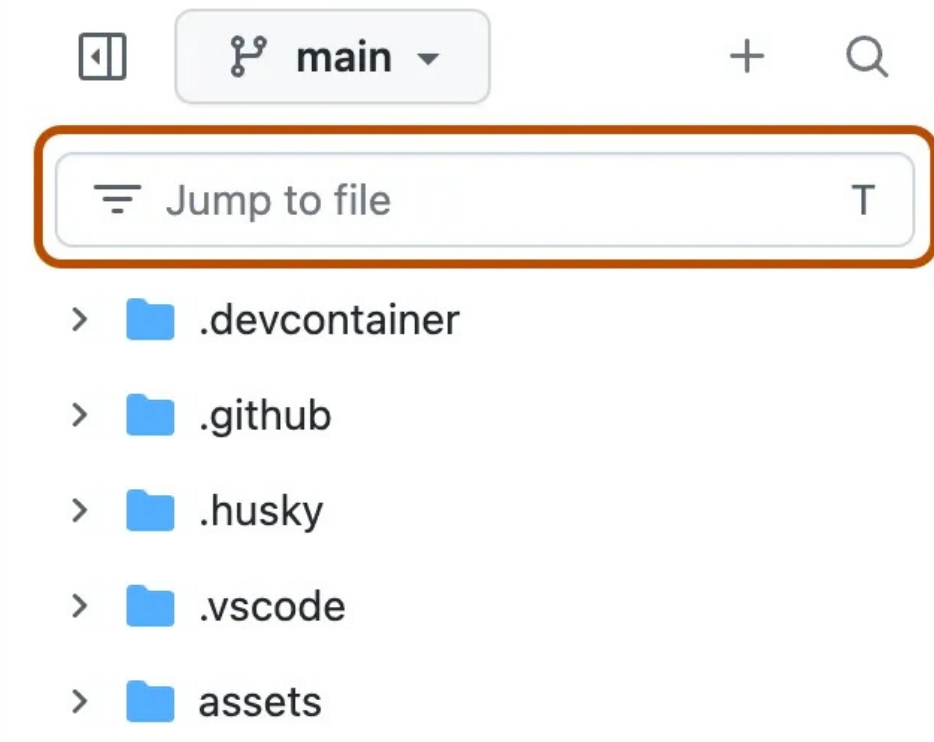
You can search for a file in a repository using the file finder. To search for a file in multiple repositories on GitHub Enterprise Cloud, use the `path` code search qualifier.

> **Tips:**
>
> - By default, file finder results exclude some directories like `build`, `log`, `tmp`, and `vendor`. To search for files in these directories, use the `path` code search qualifier. Alternatively, you can customize which directories are excluded by default using a `.gitattributes` file.
> - You can also open the file finder by pressing `t` on your keyboard. For more information, see "Keyboard shortcuts."

Using the file finder 🔗

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

2 In the file tree view, click the ⇂ **Jump to file** search bar. You can also find the ⇂ **Jump to file** search bar at the top of the integrated file editor.

3   In the search bar, type the name of the file or directory you'd like to find.

4   In the list of results, click the file or directory you wanted to find. You can view the file path for a directory or file below each search result.

Customizing excluded files 🔗

By default, file finder results do not include files in the following directories if they exist at your repository root:

- `.git`
- `.hg`
- `.sass-cache`
- `.svn`
- `build`
- `dot_git`
- `log`
- `tmp`
- `vendor`

You can override these default exclusions using a `.gitattributes` file.

To do this, create or update a file called `.gitattributes` in your repository root, setting the `linguist-generated` attribute to `false` for each directory that should be included in file finder results.

For example, the following `.gitattributes` file would cause files in the `build/` directory to be available to the file finder:

```
build/** linguist-generated=false
```

Note that this override requires the use of the recursive glob pattern (`**`). For more information, see "pattern format" in the Git documentation. More complex overrides of subdirectories within excluded-by-default directories are not supported.

Further reading 🔗

- "About searching on GitHub"
- "Customizing how changed files appear on GitHub"
- `.gitattributes` in the Git documentation