Contributing code

How individuals contribute code to Exponential - finding something to work on, setting up from Git, the branch and pull request workflow of CONTRIBUTING.md, commit messages, the file manifest, tests and CI, the merge...

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This page is for developers who want to send their first or next pull request to Exponential. The rules are in CONTRIBUTING.md; the Git workflow is explained step by step on Develop with Git.

Find something to work on

- Open issues: https://github.com/se7enxweb/exponential/issues.
- Something that annoyed you in your own work: that is usually the best first contribution.
- Extensions: each `se7enxweb/*` extension is its own repository with its own issues.

Set up

Install Exponential from Git with full history (Develop with Git). SQLite is the default database, so a development installation needs no database server (Database support).

The workflow

1. Fork the repository and clone your fork.
2. Create a branch: `git checkout -b feature/your-feature`.
3. Follow the PSR standards and the coding style; administration templates follow the styling rules (no `<style>` blocks, no `style=""` attributes; shared components and tokens) (CONTRIBUTING.md).
4. Commit with a subject that starts with `Added:` , `Updated:` , `Fixed:` , `Removed:` or `Renamed:` , for example `Fixed: The redirect keeps the query string on the own host` (CONTRIBUTING.md).
5. Update `share/filelist.md5` for every file you add, change or remove (`make manifest-fix`); `make hooks` installs a pre-commit hook that checks it, the PHP syntax and the code style.
6. Run the tests, update the documentation, push and open a pull request. "Keep your pull request focused. If you have multiple contributions, submit multiple pull requests."

What happens to your pull request

- CI runs syntax, manifest, commit message, code style, PHPStan and test checks on the supported PHP versions (`doc/eng-us/bc/6.0/ci.md`).
- It is reviewed, and every pull request is merged. While it is open, you squash it and rebase it onto `main` as the reviews ask (`git fetch origin`, `git rebase -i origin/main`, `git push --force-with-lease` to your pull request branch only); once it is merged, `main`'s history is

never rewritten (`doc/eng-us/bc/6.0/ci.md`).

- A pull request that changes deliberate behavior, a negative feature other sites depend on, needs a clear justification and can take several rounds of review before it is accepted and merged. Adding an option instead of changing the default is the easier path.

License

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First contribution ideas

- A test that reproduces a reported bug.
- A PHP deprecation fix for the newest PHP version.
- A small usability fix in the administration.

Related pages

- Develop with Git
- Testing and reporting bugs
- Contributing code back (for partners)
- Contribute to the project: every way to help build Exponential
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