GitHub Copilot Tutorial

Caterina Fuster-Barceló

1. What is GitHub Copilot?
2. How can I get it?*
3. Hands on!

** for free*

Notion AI, now for everyone.

DALL·E 2

DeepL

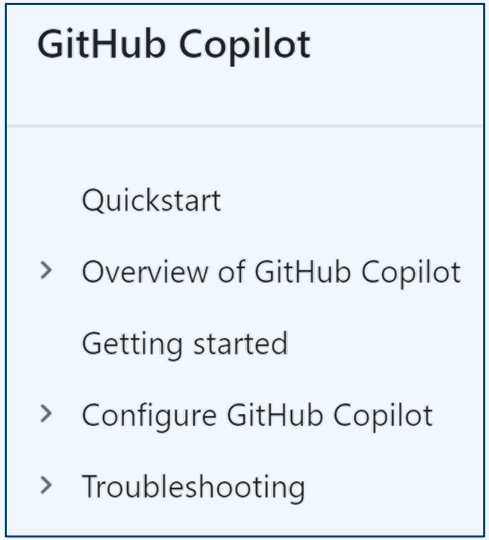
Claude

Bard AI

GitHub Copilot

Get AI-based suggestions, just for you

GitHub Copilot shares **recommendations** based on the project's context and style conventions. Quickly cycle through lines of code, complete function suggestions, and decide which to accept, reject, or edit.



docs.github.com/copilot

How does it work?

- Based on **OpenAI Codex**, from natural language to code
- The AI tool understands TypeScript, **Python**, JavaScript, Ruby, and dozens of other common languages.
- Suggestions come from open-source code within **GitHub's public repositories**

OpenAI Codex Model
GitHub
Private Code
Provide Editor context
Provide Suggestions
Improve Suggestions
GitHub Copilot
Service
fetch_pic.js
Copilot
Public code and text
on the internet

The numbers speak for themselves

74%

Focus on more satisfying work

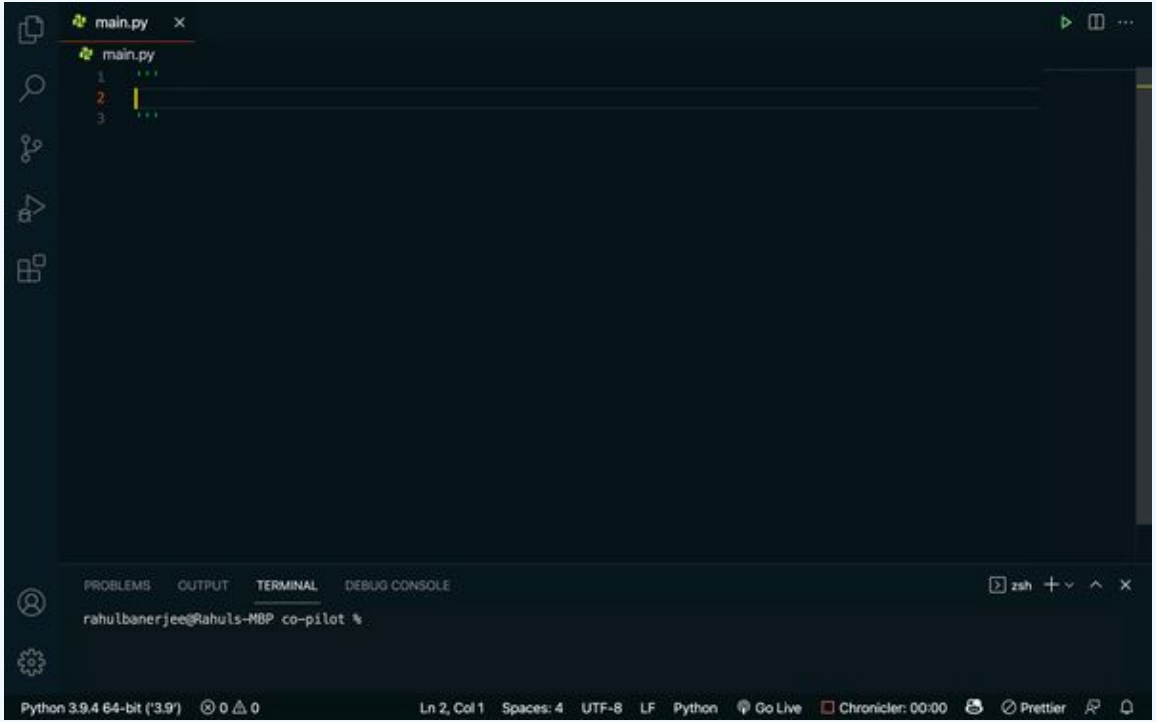
88%

Feel more productive

96%

Are faster with repetitive tasks

Research: quantifying GitHub Copilot's impact on developer productiviy and happiness



[Some Experiments using GitHub Copilot with Python - towardsdatascience.com]

Specially useful for:

- Documentation
- Formatting
- Read data `(os.walk, listdir, etc)`
- Generate code snipets for repetitive tasks
- …

Be careful:

- No testing
- Not the perfect code
- Trying to guess programmer’s intentions
- Do functions, comment and write meaningful names

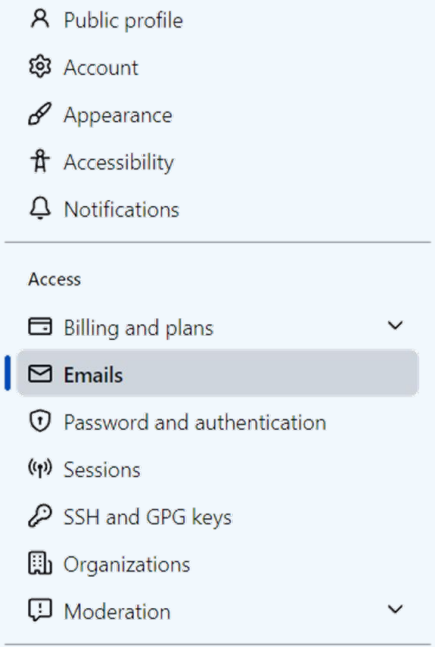
How can I get it?

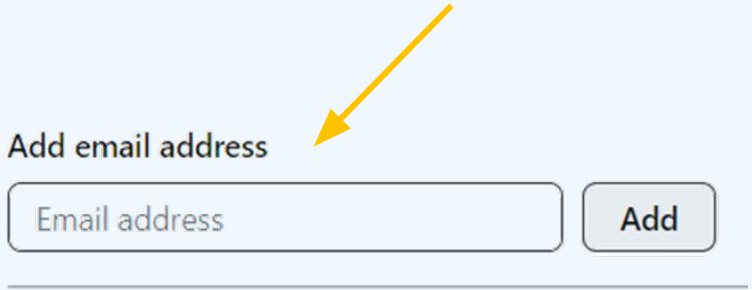
Requirements

You will need:

- GitHub account
- Student account
  - student ID or similar
- Visual Studio Code

Link GitHub to your student account

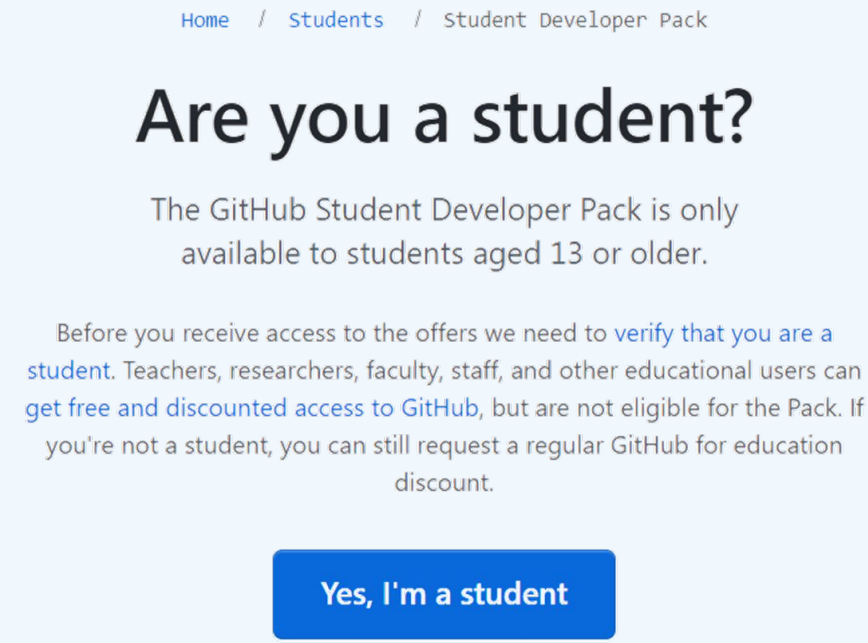




github.com/settings

Get Github Education

Get Github Education



Get Github Education

You will be asked to upload your student ID or the University tuition as a proof that you are actually a student. Now, you have access to GitHub Pro.

Get the extension on VSCode

GitHub Copilot v1.86.82

GitHub github.com | 5,776,693 | ★★★★☆ (867)

Your AI pair programmer

Disable | Uninstall

This extension is enabled globally.

Hands on!

Slides and notebook on: cfusterbarcelo.github.io