

Finding an Open Source Project

Example using GitHub

1. GitHub Open Source <https://github.com/open-source> → click “Contribute on Open Source Friday”
2. Open Source Friday <https://opensourcefriday.com/> → under “Find a project” and “An issue you can fix” click “Your first PR” (Pull Request)
3. Your First PR <https://yourfirstpr.github.io/> → under Community click “GitHub’s issue page”
4. Yourfirstpr’s GitHub issues page:
<https://github.com/yourfirstpr/yourfirstpr.github.io/issues> → look for a project - click “Mission Pinball Framework”
5. Mission Pinball <https://github.com/yourfirstpr/yourfirstpr.github.io/issues/83> → look for a link to documentation. (This project has links to both user and developer docs.)
6. What do the docs look like?
 - a. User docs: <http://docs.missionpinball.org/en/latest/> (edit on GitHub → edit in copy, then submit pull request)
 - b. Dev docs: <http://developer.missionpinball.org/en/dev/> (edit on GitHub → edit in copy, then submit pull request)
7. Look for a forum or other line of communication. The Mission Pinball docs list a support forum: <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/mpf-users>
 - a. Is the forum active? What types of questions are asked? What level of support is provided?
8. Look for how-to-contribute page:
http://docs.missionpinball.org/en/latest/about/contributing_to_mpf_docs.html
9. They also have a list of authors with contact info:
<http://docs.missionpinball.org/en/latest/about/authors.html>
10. What I would do first: Try to follow their getting started tutorial and see if there are any steps that are unclear or out of date. Fix any typos/grammar errors.
<http://docs.missionpinball.org/en/latest/tutorial/index.html>
11. Next, I would look at their other docs and see if there are any opportunities to contribute.

Open Source Resources

Good starting point: <https://opensource.guide/how-to-contribute/>

First Timers Only (includes GitHub tutorial): <https://www.firsttimersonly.com/>

Your first open source contribution: a step-by-step technical guide:
<https://medium.com/@jenweber/your-first-open-source-contribution-a-step-by-step-technical-guide-d3aca55cc5a6>

How to ask questions the hacker way:
<http://catb.org/~esr/faqs/smart-questions.html#intro>

GitHub projects for new contributors:
<https://github.com/showcases/great-for-new-contributors>

Top open source projects of 2017:
<https://hackernoon.com/top-6-open-source-projects-in-2017-db34b9d034a2>

Society for Technical Communication (STC): www.stc.org (find local chapters through Google search)

Write the Docs meetups: <http://www.writethedocs.org/meetups/>

Lynda.com: <https://www.lynda.com/> (LinkedIn Learning)

Coursera: <https://www.coursera.org/>

Code School: <https://www.codeschool.com> (Pluralsight)

Software Carpentry: <https://software-carpentry.org/> (I did not try this one)