

# Demo: Creating a GitHub Alternative on EC2

CSC 410/510

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# GitHub Alternatives

README

Code of conduct

Contributing

MIT license

Security

## Gitea

release-nightly passing Discord 915 online go report A+ GO reference release v1.25.4 code helpers 133 backers 144

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### Purpose

The goal of this project is to make the easiest, fastest, and most painless way of setting up a self-hosted Git service.

As Gitea is written in Go, it works across **all** the platforms and architectures that are supported by Go, including Linux, macOS, and Windows on x86, amd64, ARM and PowerPC architectures. This project has been [forked](#) from [Gogs](#) since November of 2016, but a lot has changed.

For online demonstrations, you can visit [demo.gitea.com](#).

For accessing free Gitea service (with a limited number of repositories), you can visit [gitea.com](#).

To quickly deploy your own dedicated Gitea instance on Gitea Cloud, you can start a free trial at [cloud.gitea.com](#).

# Plan For Today

- Set up an EC2 Instance
  - Running Ubuntu
- Create a Gitea Service User
- Set up directories for new user
- Install Gitea
- Set up a Systemd service
- Install a database
- Create a git repo on our personal service!

# Create an EC2 Instance

- Give it a name
- Choose Ubuntu 24.04 LTS (HVM), SSD Volume Type
  - Free-tier eligible!
- Choose the t3.micro instance type
- Create a new key pair (or use one if you already have one)
  - Give it a name,
  - Choose ED25519
  - Use .pem from Linux/Mac
- Set up a VPC (with defaults) if you need to.
- Set up 1 20GB gp3 Root volume.
- Click “Launch Instance”

# Update Security Group Inbound Rules

## Edit inbound rules [Info](#)

Inbound rules control the incoming traffic that's allowed to reach the instance.

### Inbound rules [Info](#)

Security group rule ID

sgr-05c69e53d85ac083d

Type [Info](#)

SSH

Protocol [Info](#)

TCP

Port range [Info](#)

22

Source [Info](#)

Custom

Q

0.0.0.0/0 X

Description - optional [Info](#)

Delete

sgr-0994ae035d0438ce7

HTTP

TCP

80

Custom

Q

0.0.0.0/0 X

Delete

-

Custom TCP

TCP

3000

Anywhe...

Q 0.0.0.0/0

0.0.0.0/0 X

Delete

Add rule

⚠ Rules with source of 0.0.0.0/0 or ::/0 allow all IP addresses to access your instance. We recommend setting security group rules to allow access from known IP addresses only.

X

Cancel

Preview changes

Save rules

# Update Security Group Inbound Rules

Inbound rules (3)

🔄

Manage tags

Edit inbound rules

< 1 >

⚙️

🔍

Search

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Security group rule ID	IP version	Type	Protocol	Port range	Source
<input type="checkbox"/>	–	sgr-05e84b0e29d71c676	IPv4	Custom TCP	TCP	3000	0.0.0.0/0
<input type="checkbox"/>	–	sgr-05c69e53d85ac083d	IPv4	SSH	TCP	22	0.0.0.0/0
<input type="checkbox"/>	–	sgr-0994ae035d0438ce7	IPv4	HTTP	TCP	80	0.0.0.0/0

# SSH into the new instance

```
chmod 400 <pem file>
```

```
ssh -i <pem file> ubuntu@<ip address>
```

You get the public IPv4 address from the instance summary.

# Update Ubuntu

```
sudo apt update
```

```
sudo apt upgrade -y
```

```
sudo apt install -y git sqlite3 curl ca-certificates
```



# Create Gitea service user with real home

```
sudo adduser \  
  --system \  
  --shell /bin/bash \  
  --home /home/git \  
  --gecos 'Git Version Control' \  
  --group \  
git
```

# Create directories

```
sudo mkdir -p /var/lib/gitea/{custom,data,log}  
sudo mkdir -p /etc/gitea
```

```
sudo chown -R git:git /var/lib/gitea  
sudo chown -R root:git /etc/gitea  
sudo chmod 770 /etc/gitea
```

# Install Gitea binary

```
curl -L https://dl.gitea.com/gitea/1.22.3/gitea-1.22.3-linux-amd64 \
| sudo tee /usr/local/bin/gitea > /dev/null
```

```
sudo chmod +x /usr/local/bin/gitea
```

# Installing emacs

```
sudo apt install emacs
```

# systemd service

```
sudo emacs /etc/systemd/system/gitea.service
```

```
[Unit]
```

```
Description=Gitea
```

```
After=network.target
```

```
[Service]
```

```
Type=simple
```

```
User=git
```

```
Group=git
```

```
WorkingDirectory=/var/lib/gitea
```

```
ExecStart=/usr/local/bin/gitea web --config /etc/gitea/app.ini
```

```
Restart=always
```

```
Environment=USER=git HOME=/home/git GITEA_WORK_DIR=/var/lib/gitea
```

```
[Install]
```

```
WantedBy=multi-user.target
```

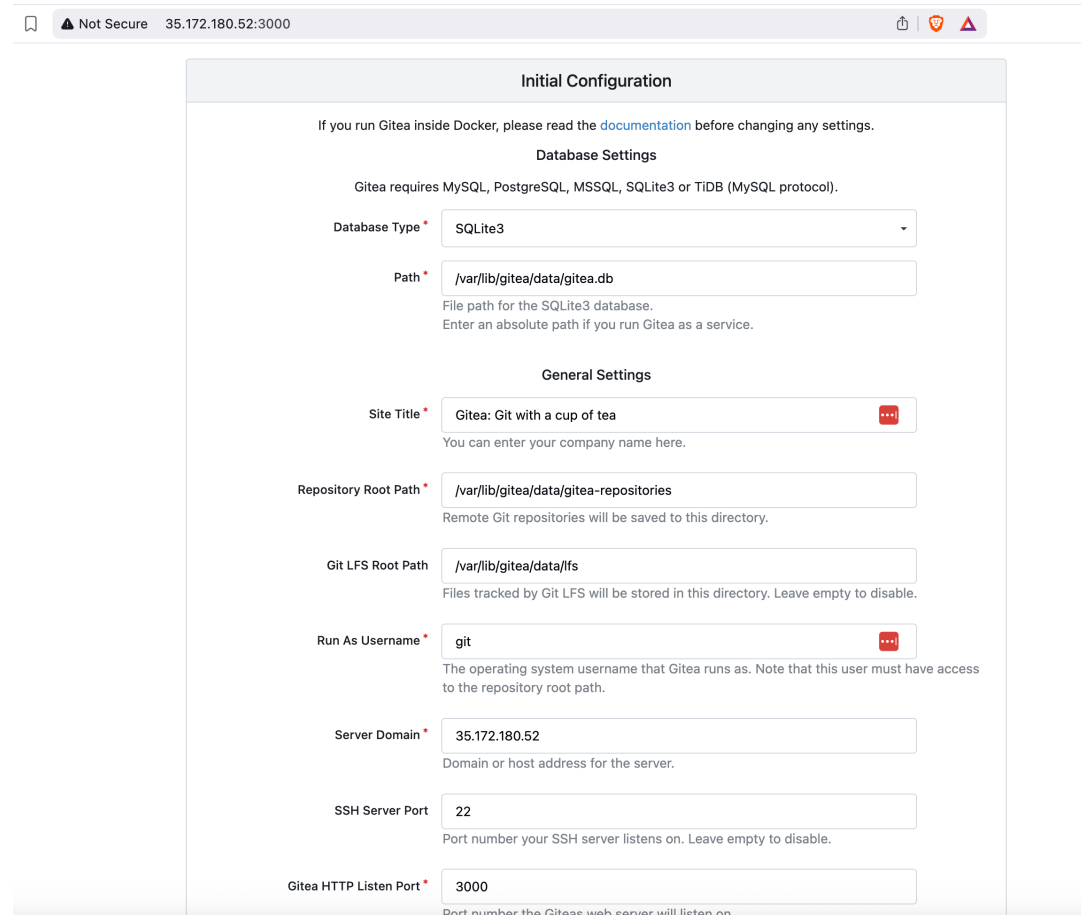
# Enable and start service

```
sudo systemctl daemon-reload  
sudo systemctl enable gitea  
sudo systemctl start gitea
```

# Debugging

```
sudo journalctl -u gitea -n 200 --no-pager
```

# Set up Database



The screenshot shows the 'Initial Configuration' page of Gitea. The browser address bar indicates the URL is 35.172.180.52:3000. The page is divided into two main sections: 'Database Settings' and 'General Settings'.

**Database Settings**

If you run Gitea inside Docker, please read the [documentation](#) before changing any settings.

Gitea requires MySQL, PostgreSQL, MSSQL, SQLite3 or TIDB (MySQL protocol).

**Database Type \*** SQLite3

**Path \*** /var/lib/gitea/data/gitea.db

File path for the SQLite3 database.  
Enter an absolute path if you run Gitea as a service.

**General Settings**

**Site Title \*** Gitea: Git with a cup of tea

You can enter your company name here.

**Repository Root Path \*** /var/lib/gitea/data/gitea-repositories

Remote Git repositories will be saved to this directory.

**Git LFS Root Path** /var/lib/gitea/data/lfs

Files tracked by Git LFS will be stored in this directory. Leave empty to disable.

**Run As Username \*** git

The operating system username that Gitea runs as. Note that this user must have access to the repository root path.

**Server Domain \*** 35.172.180.52

Domain or host address for the server.

**SSH Server Port** 22

Port number your SSH server listens on. Leave empty to disable.

**Gitea HTTP Listen Port \*** 3000

Port number the Gitea web server will listen on.



# Register a new user

[Sign In](#) [Register Account](#) [OpenID](#)

Register

Username \*

Email Address \*

Password \*

Confirm Password \*

Register Account


[Already have an account? Sign in now!](#)

# Create a repository

## New Repository

A repository contains all project files, including revision history. Already hosting one elsewhere? [Migrate repository.](#)

Owner \*

 richard

Some organizations may not show up in the dropdown due to a maximum repository count limit.

Repository Name \*

Good repository names use short, memorable and unique keywords.

Visibility

☐ Make repository private

Only the owner or the organization members if they have rights, will be able to see it.

Description

Enter short description (optional)

Template

Select a template.

Issue Labels

Select an issue label set.

.gitignore

Select .gitignore templates.

Choose which files not to track from a list of templates for common languages. Typical artifacts generated by each language's build tools are included on .gitignore by default.

License

Select a license file.


A license governs what others can and can't do with your code. Not sure which one is right for your project? See [Choose a license.](#)




README

Default

This is the place where you can write a complete description for your project.

# Create a repository


 richard / test-repo

  Unwatch 1  Star 0

[Code](#) [Issues](#) [Actions](#) [Packages](#) [Projects](#) [Wiki](#) [Settings](#)

### Quick Guide

**Clone this repository** Need help cloning? Visit [Help](#).

[New File](#) [Upload File](#) [HTTP](#) [SSH](#)  

### Creating a new repository on the command line

```
touch README.md
git init
git checkout -b main
git add README.md
git commit -m "first commit"
git remote add origin http://35.172.180.52:3000/richard/test-repo.git
git push -u origin main
```

### Pushing an existing repository from the command line

```
git remote add origin http://35.172.180.52:3000/richard/test-repo.git
git push -u origin main
```


# Lock down config after install

```
sudo chmod 750 /etc/gitea
sudo chmod 640 /etc/gitea/app.ini
sudo chown root:git /etc/gitea/app.ini
sudo systemctl restart gitea
```

# Terminate the instance (when you're done)



**Instance summary for i-0738ecaf14bf61a61 (HelloGitea)** [Info](#)


Updated 8 minutes ago


**Instance ID**  
 i-0738ecaf14bf61a61




**IPv6 address**  
—


**Hostname type**  
IP name: ip-172-31-31-201.ec2.internal



**Public IPv4 address**  
 35.172.180.52 | [open address](#) 

**Instance state**  
 **Running**

**Private IP DNS name (IPv4 only)**  
 ip-172-31-31-201.ec2.internal

 [Connect](#) [Instance state](#)  [Actions](#) 

**Private IPv4 addresses**  
 172.31.31.201

**Public DNS**  
 ec2-35-172-180-52.com | [address](#) 

Stop instance

Start instance

Reboot instance

Hibernate instance

Terminate (delete) instance

# Going Beyond the Basics

- Next steps to get a GitHub replacement:
  - Put it behind HTTPS
  - Fix the public URL permanently
  - Enable backups
    - SQLite DB
    - Repositories
    - Config
  - Decide on Git auth method
  - Configure email
  - Lock down the instance
    - Restrict ports, force HTTPS, disable registration

# Programs to know

- `chmod`
  - Change the permissions of a file or directory
- `ssh`
  - Log in to a remote machine.
- `sudo`
  - Run a command as the administrative user
- `apt`
  - Install, update, and remove software (binary packages)
- `adduser`
  - Create a new user and/or group.
- `mkdir`
  - Create a new directory
- `chown`
  - Change the owner and group of a file or directory
- `curl`
  - Download a file from a remote source.

# Programs to know

- tee
  - Split
- emacs
  - Text editor. Very powerful.
- systemctl
  - Control operating system services and long-running processes.
- journalctl
  - Inspect and analyze log files collected by systemd-journald.