

How to Create a Website Using [Zola](#)

Zola is a fast and user-friendly static site generator that streamlines the process of building websites. It provides a wide selection of customizable themes, enabling you to create visually appealing and functional websites with ease. These themes come with built-in features designed to enhance both design and functionality. Content creation is straightforward with Zola, as it supports Markdown—a simple, intuitive language for adding and managing page content. The initial setup may require some time, maintaining and updating your website afterward is quick.

Here are few examples of demo websites made with Zola:

- <https://duckquill.daudix.one/>
- <https://not-matthias.github.io/apollo/>
- <https://andromeda-theme.netlify.app/>
- <https://anemone.pages.dev/>

Prerequisites

1. **Install Rust:** Zola requires Rust to compile and run. Install Rust by following <https://www.rust-lang.org/>
2. **Make a github page:** <https://pages.github.com/>
3. **Install Zola:** <https://www.getzola.org/documentation/getting-started/overview/>

Setting up your site:

Here's a video series that will guide you through creating your first website with Zola. I recommend following along, or at the very least, watching episodes 2 through 4 for key insights:

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rLcziFHhpPI&list=PL9pZM6WESR5Z1g_XFTT-hkPIHrTk5UPUt&index=1

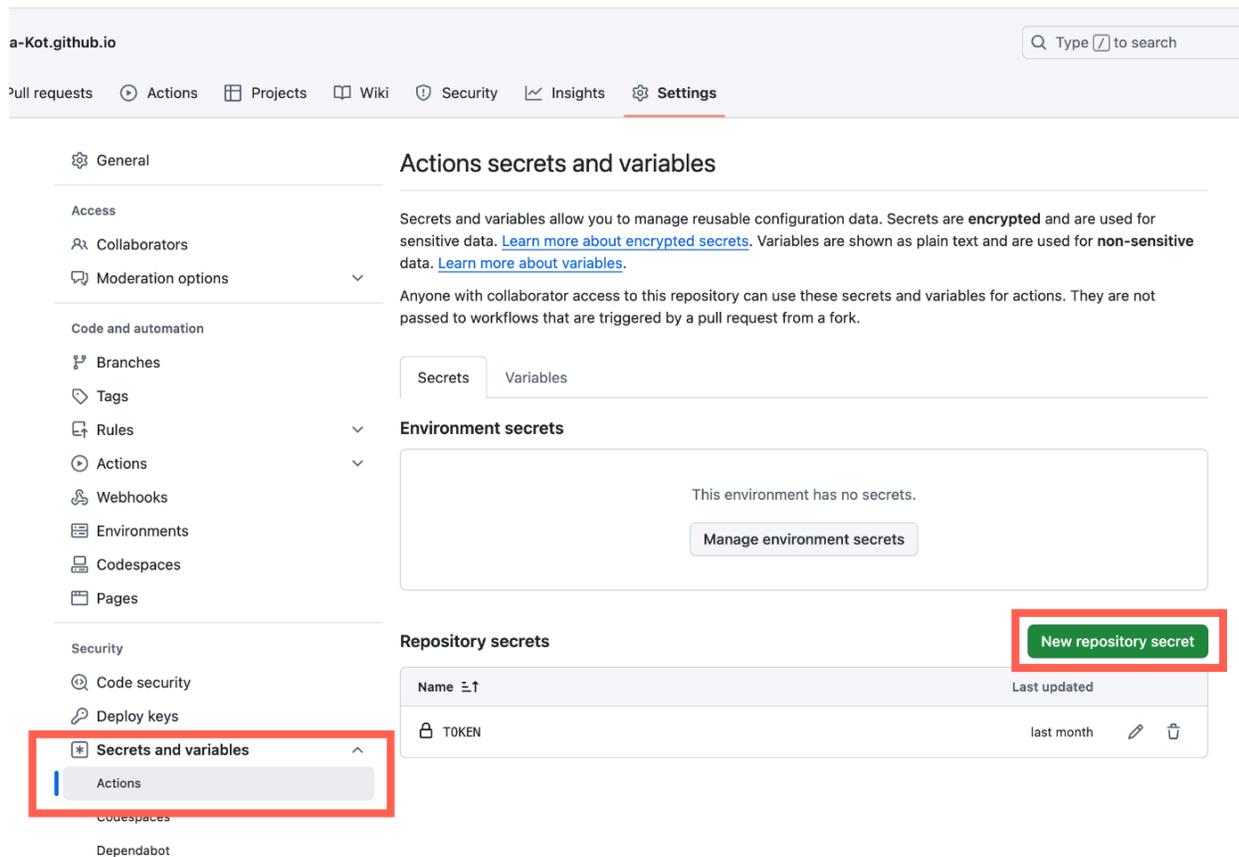
Deploying Your Site

The video series demonstrates deploying with GitLab in episode 7, but we'll be using GitHub Pages, which involves a slightly different process. Zola's documentation on this topic can be a bit confusing, so here are some clarifications to help you through the steps:

Follow the documentation here: <https://www.getzola.org/documentation/deployment/github-pages/>

The documentation on where to input your GitHub token after generating it can be a bit unclear. Here's what you need to do:

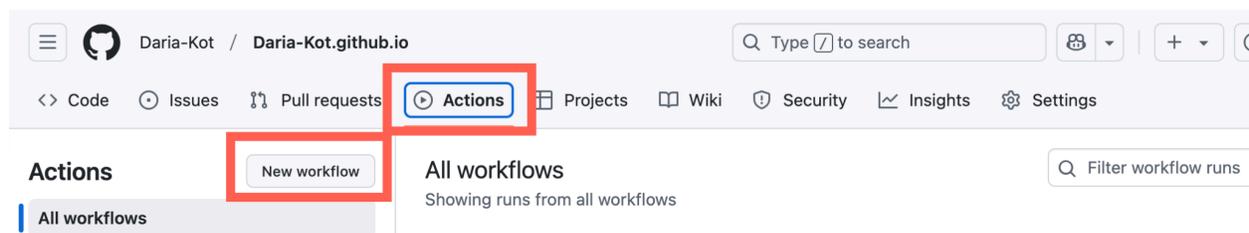
1. Navigate to your repository on GitHub.
2. Go to **Settings > Secrets and variables > Actions**.
3. Click **New repository secret**.
4. Name the secret **TOKEN**.
5. Paste your GitHub token into the value field and save it.



The screenshot shows the GitHub repository settings page for 'a-Kot.github.io'. The 'Settings' tab is selected, and the 'Secrets and variables' section is expanded. The 'Actions' sub-tab is selected, and the 'New repository secret' button is highlighted with a red box. The 'Repository secrets' table shows a secret named 'TOKEN' with a lock icon, last updated 'last month', and edit/delete icons.

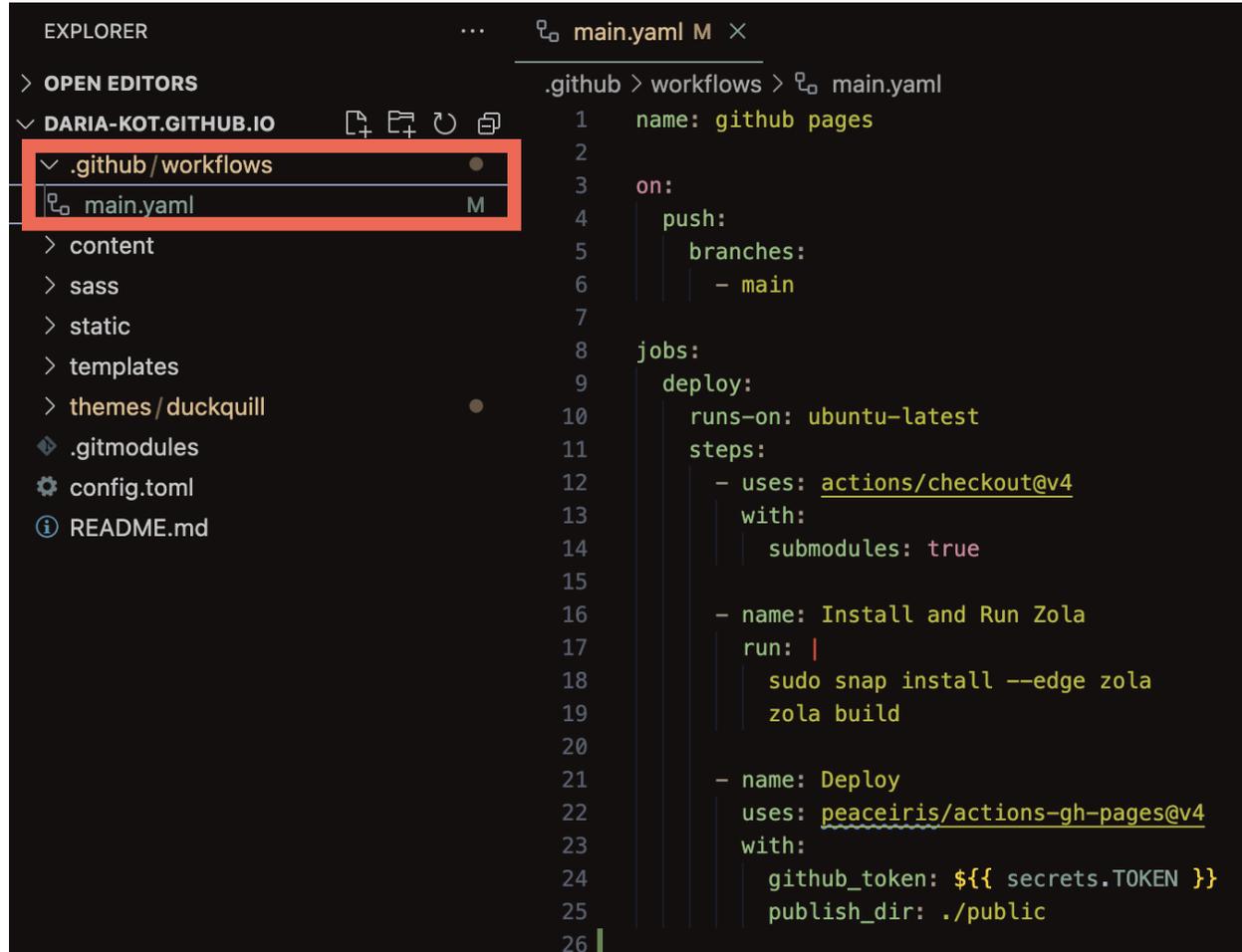
Name	Last updated
TOKEN	last month

When creating a GitHub Action, ensure you navigate to the **Actions** tab of your repository. Note that this is different from the **Actions** option found in the side menu within the **Settings** tab.



The screenshot shows the GitHub repository main page for 'Daria-Kot / Daria-Kot.github.io'. The 'Actions' tab is selected and highlighted with a red box. The 'New workflow' button is also highlighted with a red box. The 'All workflows' section is visible below the tab.

This is what your directory structure should look like when you are done with this step.



The screenshot shows the VS Code interface. On the left, the Explorer sidebar displays the project structure. The file `.github/workflows/main.yaml` is highlighted with a red box. The main editor area shows the content of `main.yaml`, which is a GitHub Actions workflow for deploying to GitHub Pages. The workflow is named `github pages` and triggers on a push to the `main` branch. It includes a `deploy` job that runs on `ubuntu-latest`. The job steps are: 1. Checkout the repository using `actions/checkout@v4` with `submodules: true`. 2. Install and run Zola using `sudo snap install --edge zola` followed by `zola build`. 3. Deploy the site using `peaceiris/actions-gh-pages@v4` with the `github_token` from the repository secrets and `publish_dir: ./public`.

If the Zola script you copied and pasted from the documentation doesn't work, try using the following alternative script:

```
name: github pages

on:
  push:
    branches:
      - main

jobs:
  deploy:
    runs-on: ubuntu-latest
    steps:
```

```
- uses: actions/checkout@v4
  with:
    submodules: true

- name: Install and Run Zola
  run: |
    sudo snap install --edge zola
    zola build

- name: Deploy
  uses: peaceiris/actions-gh-pages@v4
  with:
    github_token: ${{ secrets.TOKEN }}
    publish_dir: ./public
```

“Finally we need to check the *Pages* section of the repository settings. Click on the *Settings* tab and scroll down to the *Pages* section. Check if the source is set to *gh-pages* branch and the directory is */ (root)*. You should also see your *Github Pages* link.”

Check if the source is set to *gh-pages* branch and the directory is */ (root)*

Kot.github.io

requests Actions Projects Wiki Security Insights **Settings**

General

Access

Collaborators

Moderation options

Code and automation

Branches

Tags

Rules

Actions

Webhooks

Environments

Codespaces

Pages

Security

Code security

Deploy keys

Secrets and variables

Integrations

GitHub Apps

Email notifications

GitHub Pages

GitHub Pages is designed to host your personal, organization, or project pages from a GitHub repository.

Your site is live at <https://daria-kot.github.io/>
Last deployed by Daria-Kot 3 weeks ago [Visit site](#)

Build and deployment

Source
Deploy from a branch

Branch
Your GitHub Pages site is currently being built from the gh-pages branch. [Learn more about configuring the publishing source for your site.](#)

gh-pages / (root) Save

Learn how to [add a Jekyll theme](#) to your site.

Your site was last deployed to the `github-pages` environment by the `pages build and deployment` workflow. [Learn more about deploying to GitHub Pages using custom workflows](#)

Custom domain

Custom domains allow you to serve your site from a domain other than `daria-kot.github.io`. [Learn more about configuring custom domains.](#)

Save Remove

Enforce HTTPS
— Required for your site because you are using the default domain (`daria-kot.github.io`)

Congratulations! Your Zola website should now be set up, and the rest of the content is yours to create. Remember to push all your changes and verify that your webpage has deployed successfully. Look for a green checkmark to confirm everything worked as expected.

main 2 Branches 0 Tags

Go to file Add file Code

Daria-Kot fix contact me ✓ 0934ac8 · 3 weeks ago 31 Commits

.github/workflows	add workflow	last month
content	fix contact me	3 weeks ago
static	update resume	3 weeks ago
themes	add theme	last month
.DS_Store	add wireframe	last month
.gitmodules	add theme	last month
README.md	README change	last month
config.toml	fix video	last month

README

About
No description, website, or topics provided.
Readme
Activity
0 stars
1 watching
0 forks

Releases
No releases published
[Create a new release](#)

Packages
No packages published
[Publish your first package](#)

Contributors 2
Daria-Kot
dak267

Deployments 13
github-pages 3 weeks ago
[+ 12 deployments](#)

Deployments

All deployments

Environments

github-pages

Manage environments

All deployments

Latest deployments from pinned environments

github-pages

Last deployed 3 weeks ago

<https://daria-kot.github.io/>

This is the link you need to submit. Ensure your website is visible and functioning correctly when you open the link.

Tips:

Many of the themes include demo pages that showcase the various features. You can also explore the theme's Git repository to learn how to implement the features displayed on the demo page.

