# Contributing

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Are you a first-timer in contributing to open source? [These guidelines](https://opensource.guide/how-to-contribute/#how-to-submit-a-contribution) from GitHub might help!

## Running Locally

1. Fork this repository.

2. Clone your forked repo to your machine.

```bash

git clone https://github.com/<your-username>/algorithm-visualizer.git

```

3. Choose whether to run [`server`](https://github.com/algorithm-visualizer/server) on your machine or to use the remote server.

- If you choose to run the server locally as well, follow the instructions [here](https://github.com/algorithm-visualizer/server/blob/master/CONTRIBUTING.md#running-locally).

- If you choose to use the remote server, \*\*temporarily\*\* (i.e., don't commit this change) modify `package.json` as follows:

```diff

- "proxy": "http://localhost:8080",

+ "proxy": "https://algorithm-visualizer.org",

```

4. Install dependencies, and run the web app.

```bash

cd algorithm-visualizer

npm install

npm start

```

5. Open [`http://localhost:3000/`](http://localhost:3000/) in a web browser.

## Running in Gitpod

You can also run `algorithm-visualizer` in Gitpod, a free online dev environment for GitHub.

[![Open in Gitpod](https://gitpod.io/button/open-in-gitpod.svg)](https://gitpod.io/#https://github.com/algorithm-visualizer/algorithm-visualizer)

## Directory Structure

- [\*\*branding/\*\*](branding) contains representative image files.

- [\*\*public/\*\*](public) contains static files to be served.

- [\*\*src/\*\*](src) contains source code.

- [\*\*apis/\*\*](src/apis) defines outgoing API requests.

- [\*\*common/\*\*](src/common) contains commonly used files.

- [\*\*components/\*\*](src/components) contains UI components.

- [\*\*core/\*\*](src/core) processes visualization.

- [\*\*layouts/\*\*](src/core/layouts) layout tracers.

- [\*\*renderers/\*\*](src/core/renderers) renders visualization data.

- [\*\*tracers/\*\*](src/core/tracers) interprets visualizing commands into visualization data.

- [\*\*files/\*\*](src/files) contains markdown or skeleton files to be shown in the code editor.

- [\*\*reducers/\*\*](src/reducers) contains Redux reducers.