# Contributing guidelines

## When submitting pull requests

\* Explain your thinking in why a change or addition is needed.

\* Is it a requested change or feature?

\* If not, open a feature request to get feedback before making a pull request.

\* If it's a fix for a unreported bug, make a bug report and link the pull request.

\* Split up multiple unrelated changes in multiple pull requests.

\* [Shellcheck](https://github.com/koalaman/shellcheck) your work. Current shellsheck exceptions at the beginning of [bashtop](bashtop).

\* Purely cosmetic changes won't be accepted without a very good explanation of its value.

\* (Some design choices are for better configurability of syntax highlighting.)

## Formatting

### Follow the current syntax design

\* Indent type: Tabs

\* Tab size: 4

\* Use the longer "if, elif, then, else, fi" statements and indent conditionals, loops etc.

\* Use "[[ ]]", "(( ))" for conditions and "$( ), <( )" for command substitution.

\* Create functions instead of repeating blocks of code.

\* Don't stack unrelated blocks of code, leave blank lines for better readability.

\* Comment new code that isn't very obvious in it's function.

\* Name new variables and functions in lower-case and after what purpose they serve.

\* (Exception arithmetic with many variables, make sure to comment what's happening instead.)

## Optimization

\* Avoid forks if possible.

\* Avoid writing to disk if possible.

\* Make sure variables/arrays are cleaned up if not reused.

\* Compare cpu and memory usage with and without your code and look for alternatives if they cause a noticeable negative impact.

For questions contact Aristocratos at admin@qvantnet.com

For proposing changes to this document create a [new issue](https://github.com/aristocratos/bashtop/issues/new/choose).