# Contributing to Electron Forge

Electron Forge is a community-driven project. As such, we welcome and encourage all sorts of

contributions. They include, but are not limited to:

\* Constructive feedback

\* [Questions about usage](#questions-about-usage)

\* [Bug reports / technical issues](#before-opening-bug-reportstechnical-issues)

\* [Documentation changes](#documentation-changes)

\* Feature requests

\* [Pull requests](#filing-pull-requests)

We strongly suggest that before filing an issue, you search through the existing issues to see

if it has already been filed by someone else.

This project is a part of the Electron ecosystem. As such, all contributions to this project follow

[Electron's code of conduct](https://github.com/electron/electron/blob/master/CODE\_OF\_CONDUCT.md)

where appropriate.

## Questions about usage

If you have questions about usage, we encourage you to visit one of the several [community-driven

sites](https://github.com/electron/electron#community).

## Before opening bug reports/technical issues

### Debugging

Troubleshooting suggestions can be found in the [support

documentation](https://github.com/electron-userland/electron-forge/blob/master/SUPPORT.md#troubleshooting).

## Contribution suggestions

We use the label [`help wanted`](https://github.com/electron-userland/electron-forge/issues?q=is%3Aopen+is%3Aissue+label%3A%22help+wanted%22)

in the issue tracker to denote fairly-well-scoped-out bugs or feature requests that the community

can pick up and work on. If any of those labeled issues do not have enough information, please feel

free to ask constructive questions. (This applies to any open issue.)

## Documentation changes

When changing the API documentation, here are some rules to keep in mind.

\* The first line:

\* should end with a period

\* should be in imperative mood (e.g., "Create" instead of "Creates")

\* First line should not be the function's "signature"

\* The first word of the first line:

\* should be properly capitalized

\* should not be "This"

For changes to the website ([electronforge.io](https://www.electronforge.io)), please file

issues/pull requests at [its separate repository](https://github.com/MarshallOfSound/electron-forge-docs).

## Changing the Code

Getting the code base running locally requires the `bolt` command installed globally. An example is given below.

```bash

npm i -g bolt

git clone https://github.com/electron-userland/electron-forge

cd electron-forge

# Installs all dependencies, don't run "yarn" or "npm install" yourself

bolt

# Builds all the TS code

bolt build

```

### Making Commits

Please ensure that all changes are committed using [semantic commit messages](https://github.com/bcoe/conventional-changelog-standard/blob/master/convention.md).

We expose a helper (`bolt commit`) to make this easier.

### Running the Tests

The Electron Forge repository has a lot of tests, some of which take a decent

amount of time to run.

```bash

bolt test

```

## Filing Pull Requests

Here are some things to keep in mind as you file pull requests to fix bugs, add new features, etc.:

\* GitHub Actions are used to make sure that the project builds packages as expected on the

supported platforms, using supported Node.js versions, and that the project conforms to the

configured coding standards.

\* Unless it's impractical, please write tests for your changes. This will help us so that we can

spot regressions much easier.

\* If your PR changes the behavior of an existing feature, or adds a new feature, please add/edit

the package's documentation.

\* Commit messages and pull request titles should adhere to the [Conventional Commits

format](https://www.conventionalcommits.org/en/v1.0.0/).

\* One of the philosophies of the project is to keep the code base as small as possible. If you are

adding a new feature, think about whether it is appropriate to go into a separate Node module,

and then be integrated into this project.

\* Please \*\*do not\*\* bump the version number in your pull requests, the maintainers will do that.

Feel free to indicate whether the changes are a breaking change in behavior.

\* If you are continuing the work of another person's PR and need to rebase/squash, please retain the

attribution of the original author(s) and continue the work in subsequent commits.

### Release process

- if you aren't sure if a release should happen, open an issue

- make sure the tests pass

- `node tools/bump.js $NEW\_VERSION`

- `node tools/publish.js`