# Contributor Guide

## Open Discussion

The most important part of an open source project is \*open discussion\*. If a developer, user, or other contributor has

a question, comment, suggestion, or concern about any part of this project, \*\*please speak up\*\*: create an issue, add

a comment to an existing issue or pull request or ask a question at jabber chat room at https://jabbr.net/#/rooms/CodeContracts.

This policy especially affects the emoji described below. Any user or contributor may freely use these symbols to

clarify intent during discussions. Questions and concerns from first-time contributors matter just as much as questions

and concerns from the original project developers.

## License

The code in this repository is licensed under the MIT license. A complete description of the license, as well as license

notices for 3rd-party code incorporated into this project, is available in the repository:

\* [LICENSE](https://github.com/Microsoft/CodeContracts/blob/master/LICENSE.txt)

## Labels

This project uses many labels for categorizing issues and pull requests.

| Label | Meaning on Issue | Meaning on Pull Request |

| --- | --- | --- |

|contract issue| The issue concerns an incorrect or missing contract in the reference source code. | n/a |

| bug | The issue concerns a bug in the code | The issue concerns a bug in the code |

| enhancement | The issue is an improvement to the code | The pull request is an improvement to the code |

| up for grabs | The issue is not assigned to a particular person. If you want to work on it, just add a comment saying so and it's yours! | Normally not applicable (see comments if observed on a pull request) |

| question | The issue is a question | Normally not applicable (see comments if observed on a pull request) |

| code review | n/a | The pull request is under review |

| needs discussion | The issue needs further discussion before an actionable decision can be made | The pull request needs further discussion before an actionable decision can be made |

| pull request | A pull request intended to address the issue has been created, but not yet merged | n/a |

| blocked | The issue cannot be fixed until another issue, which may be external, is addressed | The pull request cannot be merged until another issue, which may be external, is addressed |

| do not merge | n/a | The pull request should not be merged at this time. This could indicate a work-in-progress, a problem in the implementation code, or cases where the pull request depends on (is blocked by) another issue or pull request which has not been addressed. |

| in progress | A developer is currently working on the issue | A developer is currently making updates to the code in the pull request |

| fixed | The issue has been resolved | The pull request describes a new issue (i.e. no separate issue exists), and the content of the pull request was merged to fix the issue |

| duplicate | Another issue or pull request contains the original report for this topic | Another pull request was submitted to correct the issue. This is generally only applied to pull requests after another pull request to correct the issue is merged. |

| wontfix | The issue will not be corrected. The current behavior could be by design, out of scope, or cannot be changed due to the breaking changes policy for the project (see comments for details). | The pull request will not be merged due to a fundamental issue (see description for this label on issues) |

## Emoji

GitHub provides several emoji which can be included in many areas of the site, especially including comments on issues

and pull requests. To reduce confusion during evaluation of a pull request, the following emoji convey special intent.

\* :question: (`:question:`) Indicates a question. This emoji comes with \*\*no strings attached\*\*, which means it's fine

to simply answer the question in another comment without making any changes to code.

In general, pull requests with an unanswered question will not be merged until \*someone\* addresses it. This could be

the original creator of the issue or pull request, another contributor to the project, or even the person who asked

the question.

\* :exclamation: (`:exclamation:`) Indicates a problem with the code which will need to be addressed before changes can

be merged into `master`. This \*may\* be accompanied by a specific suggestion for how to change the code. Any

contributor is completely welcome to open a discussion regarding alternative solutions, even if the originally

proposed change has already been made.

Every active contributor to a project is likely to use the :exclamation: emoji (or similar) due to a simple

misunderstanding or oversight in their evaluation. \*\*This is absolutely fine.\*\* If you notice a case like this, simply

add a comment to clarify the intent and the exclamation can be considered resolved.

Pull requests with an unresolved exclamation will not be merged until they are addressed by either a change in the

code or a detailed explanation. While it is possible for code with an exclamation to be merged, this will usually only

occur if \*all\* of the following conditions hold:

\* The rationale is fully and clearly explained

\* The code corrects an issue that is likely to affect users

\* All other proposed solutions are either too time-consuming to implement or are equally (or more) problematic

\* :bulb: (`:bulb:`) Indicates an idea or suggestion regarding a potential change in the code. These items will not

necessarily block the inclusion of code into the `master` branch, especially in cases where suggestions are trivial

and no other issues were found during code review.

In certain trivial cases (e.g. a simple formatting change), a core contributor on the project may make the suggested

change themselves in the process of merging a pull request. Like the :exclamation: emoji, :bulb: suggestions invite

open discussion about alternative solutions from any contributor.