# How to contribute to PMD

First off, thanks for taking the time to contribute!

Please note that this project is released with a Contributor Code of Conduct.

By participating in this project you agree to abide by its terms.

You can find the code of conduct in the file [code\_of\_conduct.md](code\_of\_conduct.md).

| NB: the rule designer is developed over at [pmd/pmd-designer](https://github.com/pmd/pmd-designer). Please refer to the specific [contributor documentation](https://github.com/pmd/pmd-designer/blob/master/CONTRIBUTING.md) if your issue, feature request or PR touches the designer. |

| --- |

## Pull requests

\* Please create your pull request against the `master` branch. We will rebase/merge it to the maintenance

branches, if necessary.

\* We are using [checkstyle](http://checkstyle.sourceforge.net/) to enforce a common code style.

The check is integrated into the default build - so, make sure, you can [build PMD](BUILDING.md) without errors.

See [code style](#code-style) for more info.

## Bug reports

We use the issue tracker on Github. Please report new bugs at <https://github.com/pmd/pmd/issues>.

When filing a bug report, please provide as much information as possible, so that we can reproduce the issue:

\* The name of the rule, that is buggy

\* A code snippet, which triggers a false positive/negative or crash

\* How do you execute PMD? (command line, ant, maven, gradle, other)

## Documentation

There is some documentation available under <https://pmd.github.io/latest>. Feel free to create a bug report if

documentation is missing, incomplete or outdated. See [Bug reports](#bug-reports).

The documentation is generated as a Jekyll site, the source is available at: <https://github.com/pmd/pmd/tree/master/docs>. You can find build instructions there.

For more on contributing documentation check <https://pmd.github.io/pmd/pmd\_devdocs\_writing\_documentation.html>

## Questions

There are various channels, on which you can ask questions:

\* On [StackOverflow](https://stackoverflow.com/questions/tagged/pmd): Make sure, to tag your question with "pmd".

\* Create a issue for your question at <https://github.com/pmd/pmd/issues>.

\* Ask your question on Gitter <https://gitter.im/pmd/pmd>.

## Code Style

PMD uses [checkstyle](http://checkstyle.sourceforge.net/) to enforce a common code style.

See [pmd-checkstyle-config.xml](https://github.com/pmd/build-tools/blob/master/src/main/resources/net/sourceforge/pmd/pmd-checkstyle-config.xml) for the configuration and

[the eclipse configuration files](https://github.com/pmd/build-tools/tree/master/eclipse) that can

be imported into a fresh workspace.