

Contribution Guidelines

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1. Overview

To maintain code quality and project stability, all contributors must follow these workflow standards. We use **GitLab** as our central version control system and follow a simplified **Git Flow** methodology.

2. Branching Strategy

We avoid working directly on the main branch. Each feature or fix must have its own branch:

- main: Production-ready code only.
- develop: Integration branch for features.
- feature/feature-name: For new functionalities.
- fix/bug-name: For bug fixing.

Workflow:

1. git checkout develop
2. git pull origin develop
3. git checkout -b feature/your-task-name

3. Coding Standards

To ensure readability and maintainability we follow rules :

- PHP : Follow standards (camelCase methods, proper indentation,..)
- JavaScript Use standard syntax , use arrow functions
- Comments : Use DocBlocks for PHP pages to support auto generated documentation.

4. Merge Requests

Before merging a feature into dev :

- Update local code : Merge the latest dev into your feature branch to resolve conflicts
- Self-Review : Ensure no debug() or console.log() calls remain in the code
- Peer Review : At least one other team member should look at the logic, especially for critical parts like Authentication or DateBase Migrations.

4. Databases Changes

Never modify the database manually via phpMyAdmin. Use CakePHP Migrations.

- To create a new table : bin/cake bake migration *NewTable*
- To apply changes: bin/cake migrations migrate

This ensures all team members have the same database schema.