GitHub Personal Access Tokens

These expire annually.

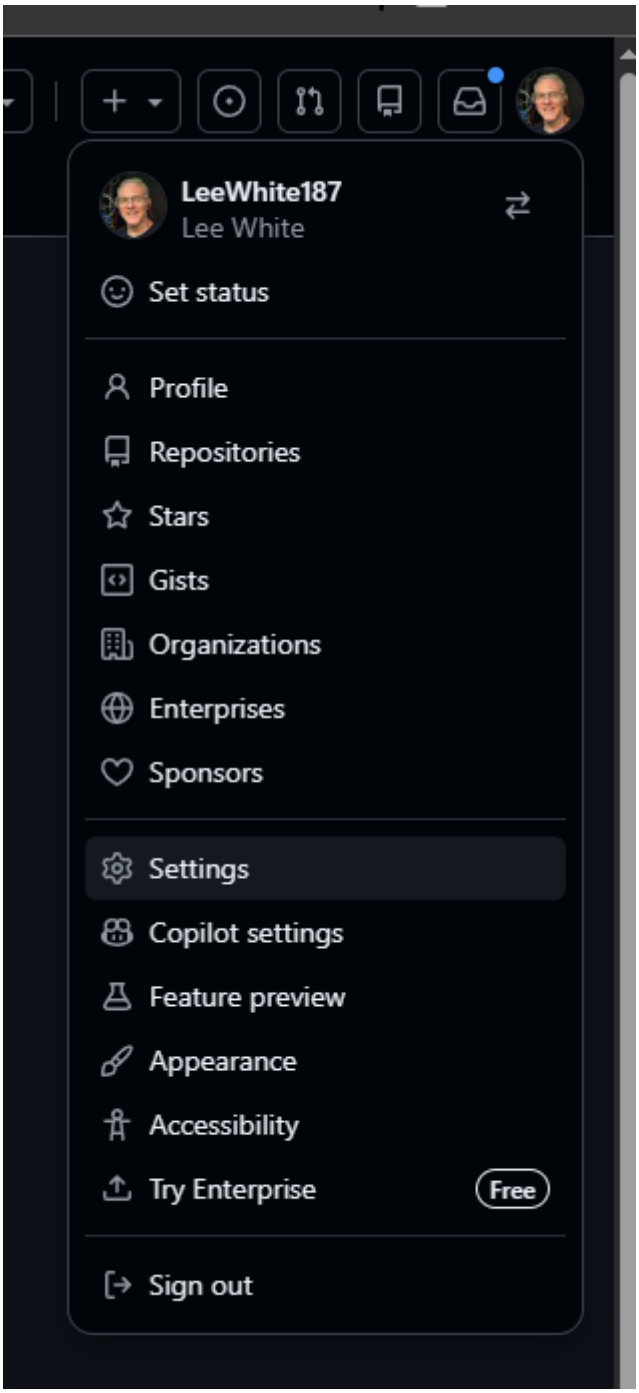
We use a couple for testing and automated access.

Creation

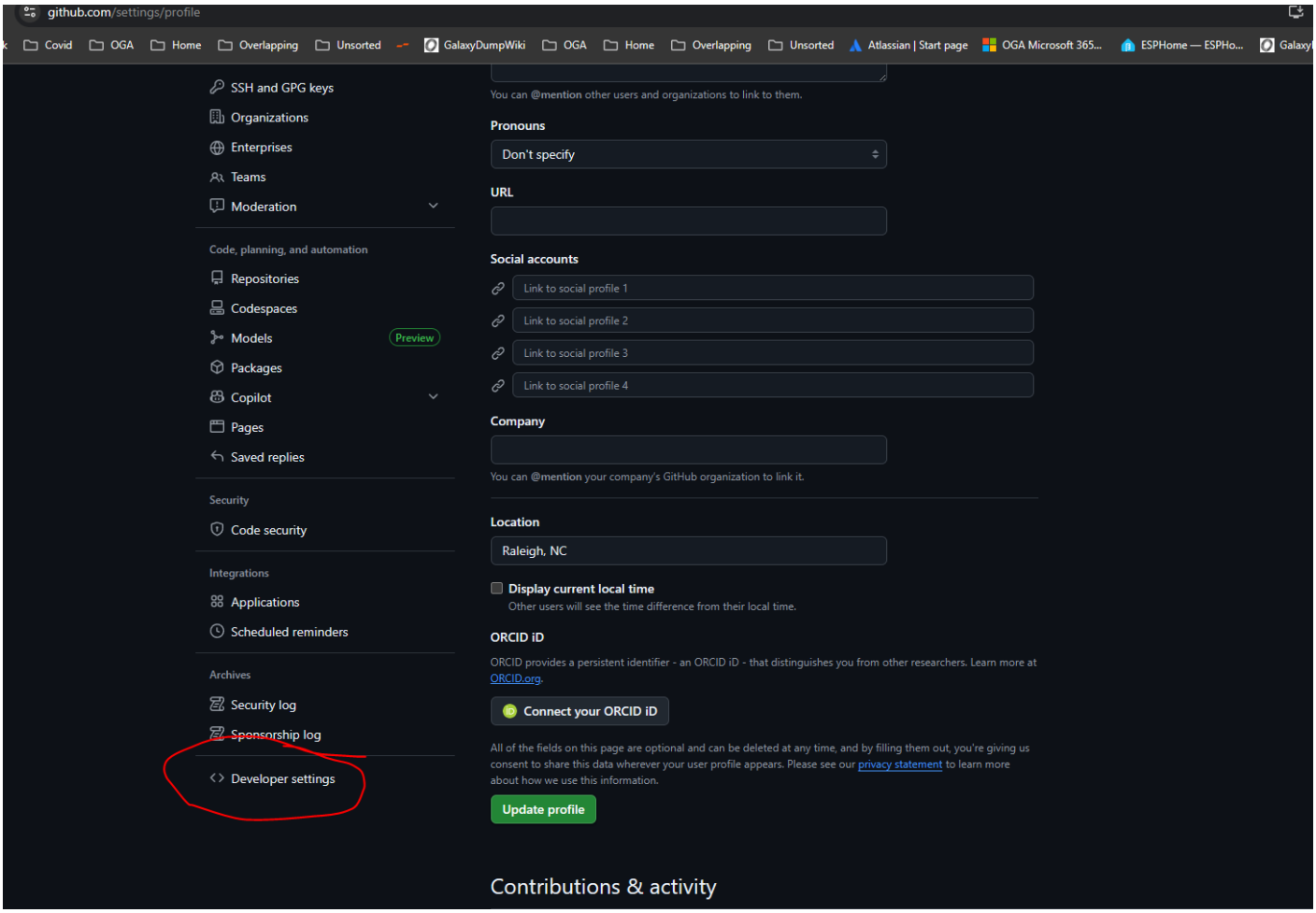
To create a new token, open the GitHub page.

Click on your profile in the upper right.

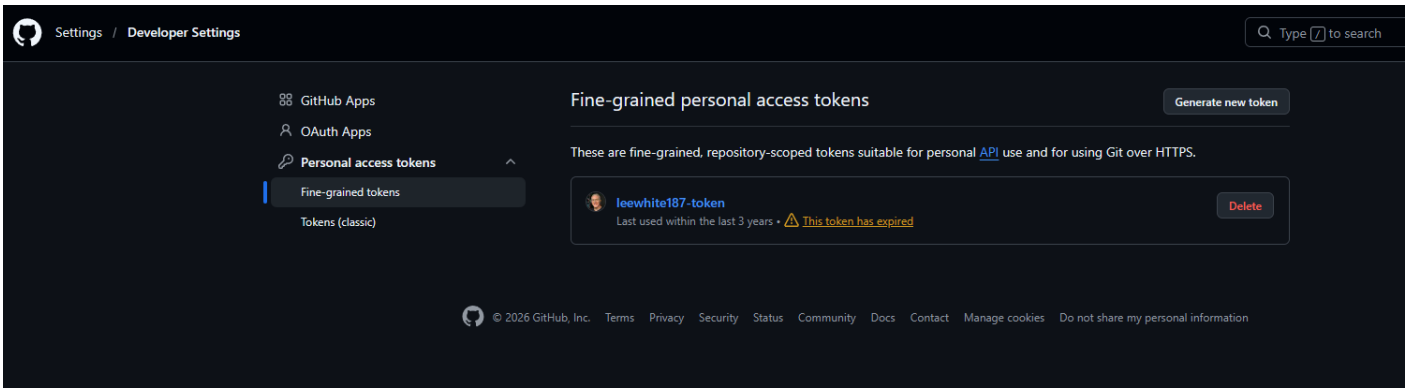
Scroll down and click Settings.



Scroll down to the bottom of the left-hand menu, and click on Developer Settings.



Expand the Personal Access Tokens node, and select Fine-Grained Tokens.



It will list any tokens you currently have and their expiry.

To make a new one, click Generate New Token.

Give it a meaningful token name.
Ideally, this will be a multi-term token, such as:

<username>-<purpose>-<dateofissue>

For example, the user's pat may be:

User Access Token Specifics

We have two active tokens.

- LeeWhite187-UserAccess-20260426
- LeeWhite187-TestAccess-20260426

LeeWhite187-UserAccess-20260426

This is a Fine-Grained token.

Named: LeeWhite187-UserAccess-20260426

Expiry, set to one year from creation.

Repository Access, set to All Repositories.

Here are added permissions:

- Commit Statuses - Access: Read Only
- Contents - Access: Read Only
- Environments - Access: Read Only
- Issues - Access: Read Only
- Metadata - Access: Read Only (Grayed Out)
- Commit Statuses - Access: Read Only
- Pull Requests - Access: Read Only

LeeWhite187-TestAccess-20260426

This is a classic Personal Access Token.

It was created to get around the access limitation of the fine-grained token.
Specifically, the classic PAT inherently has access across all orgs.
Whereas, the fine-grained PAT needs to be granted access to each one.
So, we wanted the classic token, so we don't have to edit token permissions, just to make testing work.

Named: LeeWhite187-TestAccess-20260426

Expiry, set to one year from creation.

It has access for:

- Repo:status
- public_repo
- read:org
- read:user
- read:email
- read:enterprise
- read:audit_log

Revision #2
Created 26 April 2026 00:33:45 by glwhite
Updated 26 April 2026 06:10:34 by glwhite