



Why contribute to open source?

- 1. Improve existing skills**
- 2. Meet people who are interested in similar things**
- 3. Find mentors and teach others**
- 4. Build public artifacts that help you grow a reputation (and a career)**
- 5. Learn people skills**
- 6. It's empowering to be able to make changes, even small ones**

What it means to contribute



- **You don't have to contribute code**
- **Do you like planning events?**
- **Do you like to design?**
- **Do you like to write?**
- **Do you like organizing?**
- **Do you like to code?**
- **Do you like helping people?**
- **Do you like helping others code?**
- **You don't just have to work on software projects!**

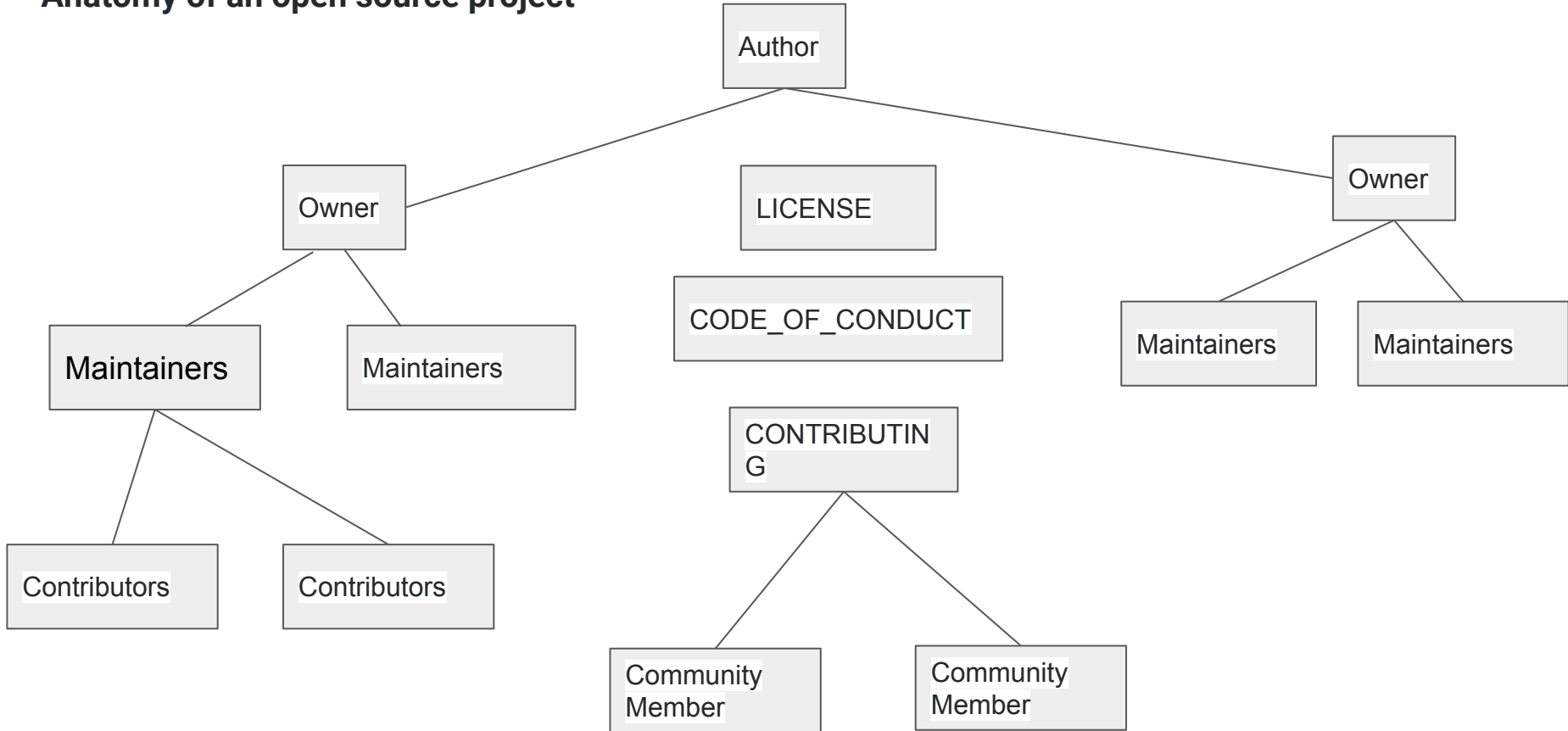
For example:

- [@sindresorhus](#) curates a [list of "awesome" lists](#)
- [@h5bp](#) maintains a [list of potential interview questions](#) for front-end developer candidates
- [@stuartlynn](#) and [@nicole-a-tesla](#) made a [collection of fun facts about puffins](#)



Orienting yourself to a new project

Anatomy of an open source project





Finding a project to contribute to

- [GitHub Explore](#)
- [Open Source Friday](#)
- [First Timers Only](#)
- [Your First PR](#)
- [CodeTriage](#)
- [24 Pull Requests](#)
- [Up For Grabs](#)
- [Contributor-ninja](#)

A checklist before you contribute:

- Meets the definition of open source
- Project actively accepts contributions
- Project is welcoming



How to submit a contribution

Communicating effectively

- Give context.
- Do your homework beforehand
- Keep requests short and direct
- Keep all communication public
- It's okay to ask questions
- Respect community decisions
- Above all, keep it classy

- **Gathering context**
 - Issues
 - Pull requests
 - For lightweight communication
- **Opening an issue**
 - Report an error
 - Discuss a high-level topic
 - Propose a new feature
- **Opening a pull request**
 - Submit trivial fixes
 - Start work on a contribution that was already asked
 - [Fork the repository](#)
 - [Create a branch](#)
 - Reference any relevant issues
 - Include screenshots of the before and after
 - Test your changes
 - Contribute in the style of the project

What happens after you submit a contribution



- **You don't get a response.**
- **Someone requests changes to your contribution.**
- **Your contribution doesn't get accepted.**
- **Your contribution gets accepted.**

You did it!

