

gitRmap / “Guitar Map”- Easy Maps for Git users

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Abstract

Many people want to create a map but don't know GIS. gitRmap makes this possible for anyone with a little Git experience: fork the repository, add locations to a CSV file, and GitHub Actions automatically generates a web map — no R or GIS knowledge required.

The tool began as an adaptation of Michele Tobias's Traveling GIS Chat Book map for the 2025 Open Science Retreat, where many attendees had Git skills but no GIS background. It has since been developed further, with a live demo, quick start guide, tutorial, and video walkthrough available at nickbearman.com/gitRmap (code at github.com/nickbearman/gitRmap), thanks to funding from OSGeo:UK. In 2026 it was used again at the Open Science Retreat to map bookstores near the venue.