Lesson #8 - Branching

**Q**- What if I want to restore a branch after it was deleted (accidentally)?

**A**- Use following command:

git checkout –b <branch-name> <sha>

<sha> can be found in two ways:

1. It appears as a message when you deleted the branch:

praveena@CAB2WQB0TX ~/gitrepo (master)

$ git branch -D test6

Deleted branch test6 (was b5bc02a).

Or, you can use git reflog on the master and you will find the corresponding sha:

**Example:**

git reflog | grep test6

**b5bc02a** HEAD@{0}: merge test6: Fast-forward

6c939dd HEAD@{1}: checkout: moving from test6 to master

6c939dd HEAD@{3}: checkout: moving from master to test6

praveena@CAB2WQB0TX ~/gitrepo (master)

$ git checkout -b test6 **b5bc02a**

Switched to a new branch 'test6'

Lesson #9: Merging Branches

**Q**- How do I view history of branch post merge?

**A**- By default, GIT does not give history of a branch after it is merged into the master. However, you can still view it by providing the --no-ff option during the merge. This will disable the fast forward feature that GIT uses for merging.

praveena@CAB2WQB0TX ~/gitrepo (test6)

$ git log --oneline

3b2855a (HEAD -> test6) Changing new.txt

90e54bd Changing hello.txt

praveena@CAB2WQB0TX ~/gitrepo (test6)

$ git checkout master

Switched to branch 'master'

praveena@CAB2WQB0TX ~/gitrepo (master)

$ git merge test6 --no-ff

Merge made by the 'recursive' strategy.

hello.txt | 1 +

world.txt | 1 +

2 files changed, 2 insertions(+)

praveena@CAB2WQB0TX ~/gitrepo (master)

$ git log --oneline | head

0b50469 Merge branch 'test6'

3b2855a Changing new.txt

90e54bd Changing hello.txt

**Note** – But it is recommended to not use this method while merging – details in <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/2850369/why-does-git-fast-forward-merges-by-default/2850413#2850413>