

git-started

Getting Started with Git

o. Verify that Git is installed on your machine

I. Open up your terminal:

- Windows:
 - Press `windows` key and search for `windows terminal` (recommended) or `powershell` in case it doesn't show.
- Linux:
 - Git should be pre-installed, so open your Terminal by pressing `Ctrl Alt t`, search online if its not depending on your distro
- MacOS:
 - `Command + Space` and search for `Terminal`, look

I. Type this command (case no error means you're good to go)

```
git -v

# should output something like this:
# git version 2.39.1.windows.1
```

I. Configure Your Global Identity

When you first install Git, you'll want to set up your global username and email. These are used to identify your commits across all your projects.

```
# Set your username globally
git config --global user.name "Your Full Name"

# Set your email globally (use the email associated with your GitHub account)
git config --global user.email "your_email@example.com"

# Optional: Verify your configurations
git config --global --list
```

💡 Pro Tip: Use the same email you'll use for GitHub to ensure smooth integration between Git and GitHub.

2. Choose a Git Client (Optional)

While the command line is powerful, you have options:

- Command Line Interface (CLI): Built-in, no installation needed - *highly recommended*
- GitHub Desktop: User-friendly, visual interface
- VS Code: Integrated Git tools
- Other options: GitKraken, TowerGit (free for students)

3. Initial GitHub Setup

2. Create a GitHub account if you haven't
3. Complete your profile
4. Set up two-factor authentication for security - *Recommended with Github Mobile App*
5. Consider setting up a profile picture

4. Recommended Global Git Configurations

```
# Set default branch name to 'main'
git config --global init.defaultBranch main

# Improve diff and merge readability
git config --global color.ui auto
```