




# How to Change Default Branch from 'main' to 'master'

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## Current Situation

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-  Your code is on: `master` branch
  -  Default branch is: `main` branch (empty or old code)
  -  Goal: Make `master` the default so people see your latest code
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## Visual Step-by-Step Guide

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### You're Already on the Right Page!

You're currently at:

`github.com/Bharv1122/chef-doggo/settings/branches`

This is EXACTLY where you need to be! 

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### Step 1: Scroll to the TOP of the Page

**What you see now:** "Branch protection rules" section

**What you need to see:** Look at the very top, **above** "Branch protection rules"

You'll see a box that looks like this:

Default branch

The default branch is considered the "base" branch in your repository, against which all pull requests and code commits are automatically made.

[main ▼] [≡ icon or pencil icon]

↑                      ↑  
Current branch      Switch/Edit button

### Step 2: Click the Switch Button

You'll see one of these buttons next to "main":

- Pencil icon ()

- **Switch arrows icon (↔)**
- Or a **dropdown arrow (▼)** next to “main”

**Click it!**

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### Step 3: Select ‘master’ Branch

A dropdown or modal will appear showing:

Switch default branch

☐ main


☒ master ← Click this!

Select **master**

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### Step 4: Confirm the Change

GitHub will show a warning:

 This will change the default branch to master

This may affect open pull requests and actions.


[ Cancel ] [ I understand, update default branch ]

Click **“I understand, update the default branch”**

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### Step 5: Verify Success

You should see:

 Default branch updated to master

Now the “Default branch” section will show:

[master ▼] [↔]

## Why This Matters

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### Before Change (Current):

- Someone visits: <https://github.com/Bharv1122/chef-doggo>
- They see the `main` branch (might be empty or have old code)
- Your Phase 1A/1B/1C work is NOT visible 😞

### After Change:

- Someone visits: <https://github.com/Bharv1122/chef-doggo>
- They see the `master` branch with all your latest code
- All 13 commits, 197 files, documentation visible 🎉

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## Alternative: Use GitHub CLI (If You Have It)

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If you have GitHub CLI installed locally:

```
gh repo edit Bharv1122/chef-doggo --default-branch master
```

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## Troubleshooting

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### “I don’t see the Default Branch section”

**Solution:**

- Make sure you’re on the “Branches” page (left sidebar)
- Scroll ALL THE WAY to the top
- It should be the FIRST thing on the page

### “The dropdown only shows ‘main’”

**Solution:**

- Refresh the page (F5 or Ctrl+R)
- Make sure the `master` branch exists (it does - we just pushed it!)
- You might need to wait 30 seconds for GitHub to update

### “I see ‘Protected branch’ warning”

**Solution:**

- Click “I understand” - your code is safe
- This is just GitHub being cautious
- You can change it back anytime

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## After Changing

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### Test It Works

1. Go to: <https://github.com/Bharv1122/chef-doggo>

2. Look at the branch dropdown (top-left)
3. It should show `master` selected by default
4. You should see your README.md with Chef Doggo content
5. File list should show 197 files

## Delete the 'main' Branch (Optional)

Once `master` is the default, you can delete `main` if it's empty:



1. Go to: <https://github.com/Bharv1122/chef-doggo/branches>
2. Find the `main` branch
3. Click the trash icon  next to it
4. Confirm deletion

This prevents confusion about which branch to use.

## Current Status

**Repository:** <https://github.com/Bharv1122/chef-doggo>

### Branches:

- `main` - Currently default  (change this!)
- `master` - Your code is here  (make this default!)

### Commits on `master` :


```
fd79d4e - Latest checkpoints
8cb4e46 - Add detailed GitHub Personal Access Token guide
3047ef1 - Add comprehensive GitHub push guide
5230998 - Phase 1C Complete: Holistic Medicine & Safety
089ccd9 - Add GitHub integration setup guide
deb55b4 - Fix TypeScript errors
2cb2576 - Phase 1C: TCVM/Ayurveda integration
8aa2786 - Phase 1B Complete: Advanced Features
... (13 total commits)
```







## Need Help?

If you're still stuck:


1. **Take a screenshot** of what you see at the top of the Branches page
2. Share it and I'll guide you through it
3. Or try the GitHub docs: <https://docs.github.com/en/repositories/configuring-branches-and-merges-in-your-repository/managing-branches-in-your-repository/changing-the-default-branch>

## Summary

1.  You're already on the right page: `.../settings/branches`

2.  Scroll to the TOP of the page
3.  Look for “Default branch” section
4.  Click the switch/edit button next to “main”
5.  Select “master”
6.  Click “I understand, update the default branch”
7.  Done! Your code is now visible to everyone!

**Current default:** `main` 

**Should be:** `master` 

**Where to change:** Top of the page you’re already on!