

How to Change Default Branch from ‘main’ to ‘master’

Current Situation

- ✅ 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

You’re Already on the Right Page!

You’re currently at:

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

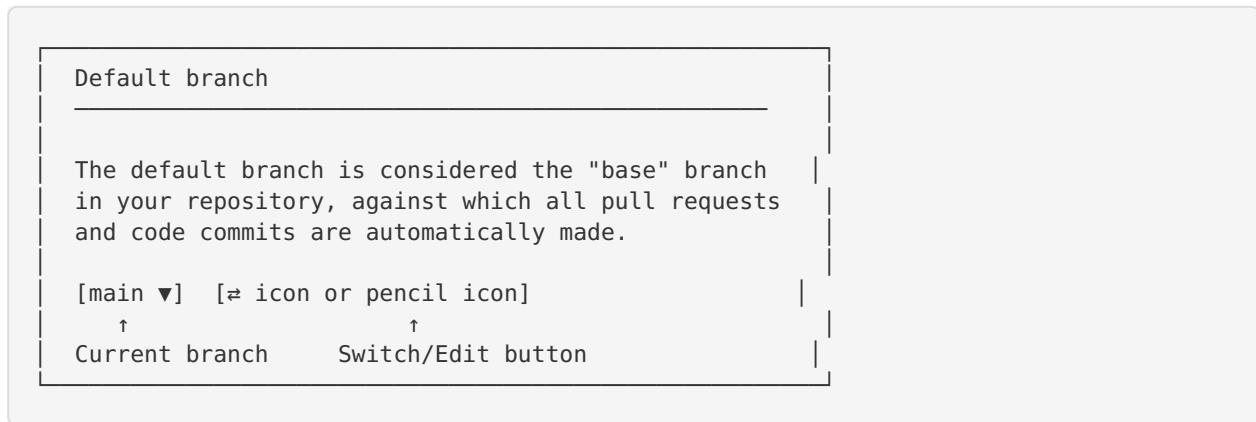
This is EXACTLY where you need to be! ✅

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:



Step 2: Click the Switch Button

You’ll see one of these buttons next to “main”:

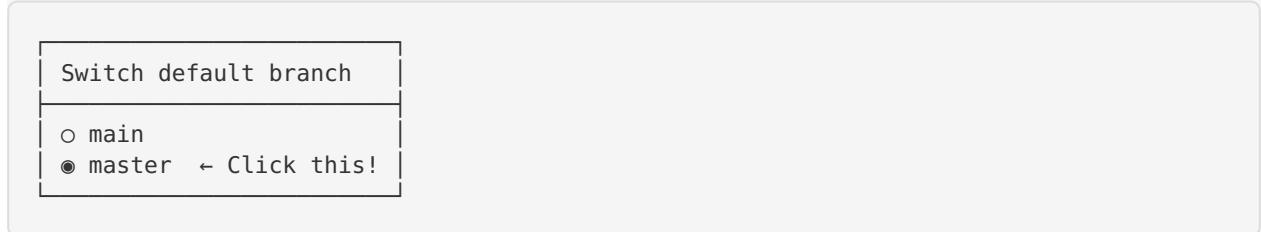
- Pencil icon (📝)

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

Click it!

Step 3: Select ‘master’ Branch

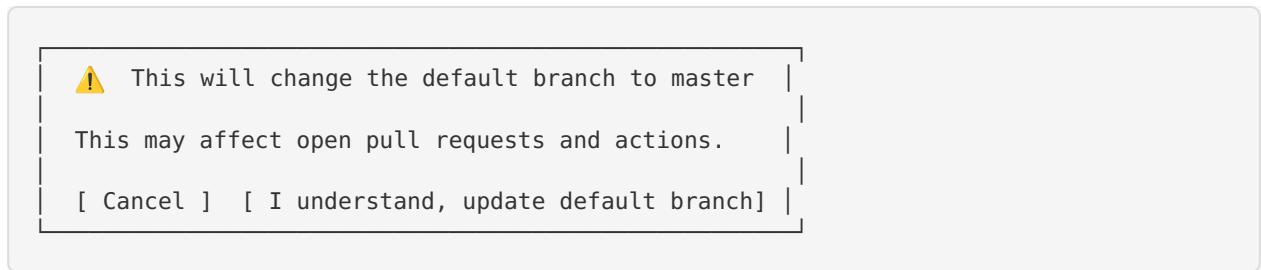
A dropdown or modal will appear showing:



Select **master**

Step 4: Confirm the Change

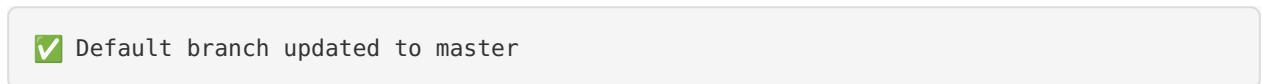
GitHub will show a warning:



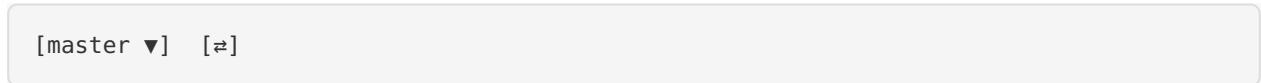
Click "**I understand, update the default branch**"

Step 5: Verify Success ✓

You should see:



Now the “Default branch” section will show:



Why This Matters

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)

If you have GitHub CLI installed locally:

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

Troubleshooting

“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

After Changing

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
8cbae46 - 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>
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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!