

Skill Net

Hands-on Lab: Creating and merging branches in your GitHub repo

Effort: 20 min

Objectives of Exercise

After completing this lab, you will be able to:

- Create a branch
- Commit changes in the child branch
- Open a pull request (PR)
- Merge the PR into the master branch

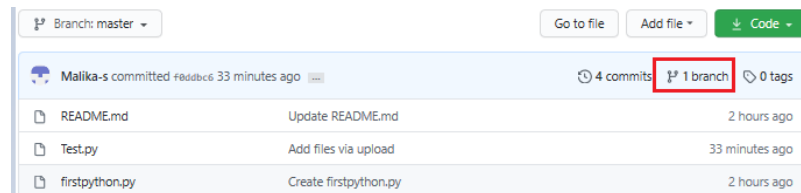
Pre-requisites

This hands-on lab requires you to have created a GitHub account and added a project to it, as illustrated in the [previous lab](#)

Exercise 1: Creating a branch

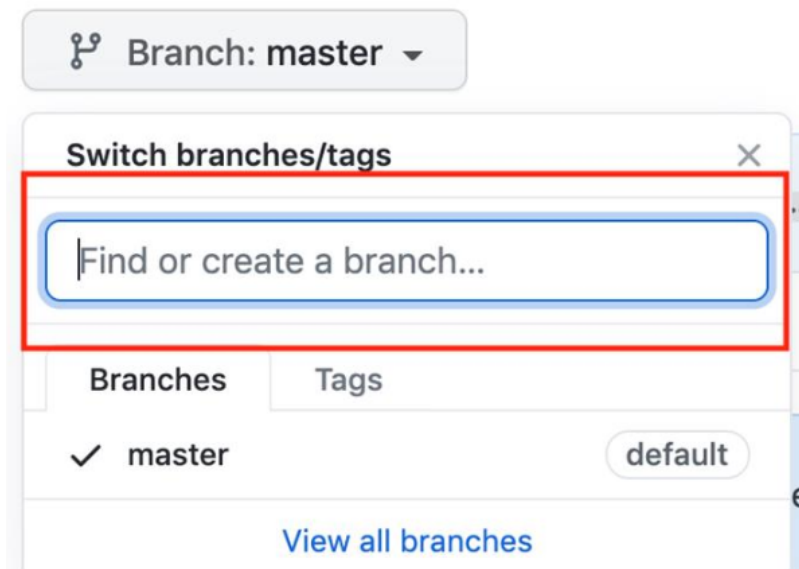
You can create or delete branches directly on GitHub.

Step 1: Currently, there is one branch as shown below:

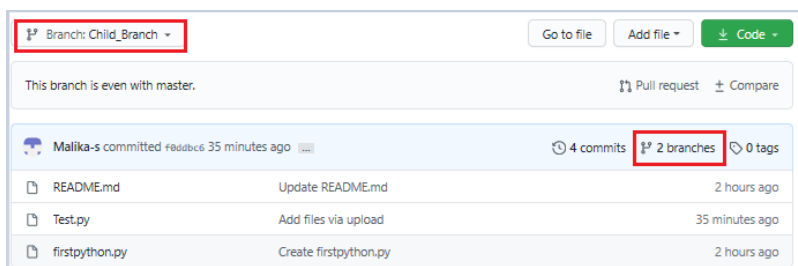


Step 2: On GitHub, navigate to the main page of the repository.

Step 3: Click the Branch selector menu. Enter the name of the branch you want to create and press Enter.



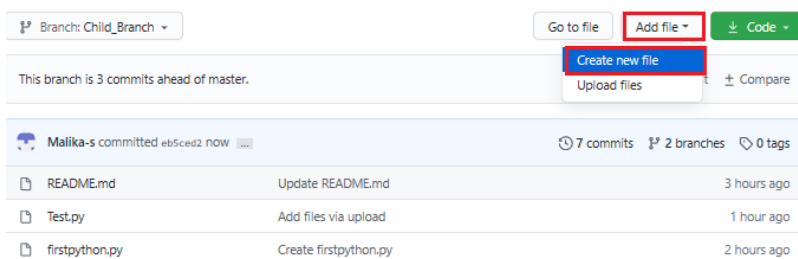
Step 4: Observe that your repository has two branches, Master and Child_Branch (check using drop-down arrow).



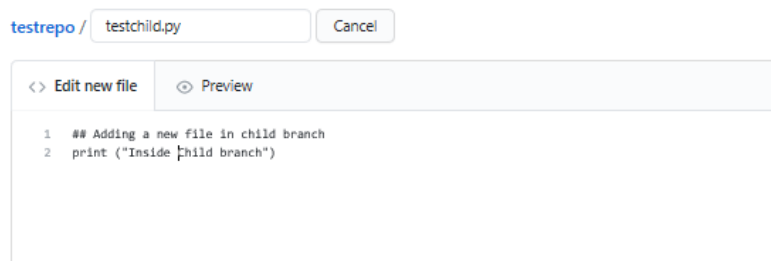
Whatever is in the master file is copied to the child branch. But when you add or edit any file in the child branch, it will not reflect in the Master branch.

Exercise 2: Adding a file in the Child Branch

Step 1: Click Add file and select Create New file to create a file in the repository.



Step 2: Provide the file name and the extension of the file. For example, *testchild.py* and add the lines.



Step 3: Scroll down the page after adding the text. Add a description of the file (optional) and click Commit new file.

Commit new file

Create testchild.py

Add an optional extended description...

☒ Commit directly to the `Child_Branch` branch.

☐ Create a new branch for this commit and start a pull request. [Learn more about pull requests.](#)

Commit new file

Cancel

The file is added to the child branch.

Exercise 3: Open a Pull Request

You can check the master branch to see there is no `testchild.py` file by selecting the Branch selector menu.

Branch: master

Go to file

Add file

Malika-s committed 92fe776 1 minute ago

9 commits 2 branches

README.md	Update README.md	7
Test.py	Add files via upload	5
firstpython.py	Create firstpython.py	7

Or you can also compare the file as shown below with the option Compare & pull request.

Child_Branch had recent pushes less than a minute ago

Compare & pull request

Branch: Child_Branch

Go to file

Add file

Code

This branch is 3 commits ahead of master.

Malika-s committed eb5ced2 3 minutes ago

7 commits 2 branches 0 tags

README.md	Update README.md	3 hours ago
Test.py	Add files via upload	1 hour ago
firstpython.py	Create firstpython.py	2 hours ago
testchild.py	Create testchild.py	3 minutes ago

Step 1: Scroll down the page, you can see one changed file.

Showing 1 changed file with 2 additions and 0 deletions.

Unified Split

testchild.py

@@ -0,0 +1,2 @@
+ ## Adding a new file in child branch
+ print ("Inside Child branch")

Step 2: Scroll up and create a pull request using the option Create pull request. In the highlight, you can see the arrow, which means that you are comparing and creating a pull request. Add the comments (optional) to create a request.

Open a pull request

Create a new pull request by comparing changes across two branches. If you need to, you can also [compare across forks](#).

base: master ← compare: Child_Branch

✓ Able to merge. These branches can be automatically merged.

Child branch

Write Preview

H B I

Want to change in the master branch.

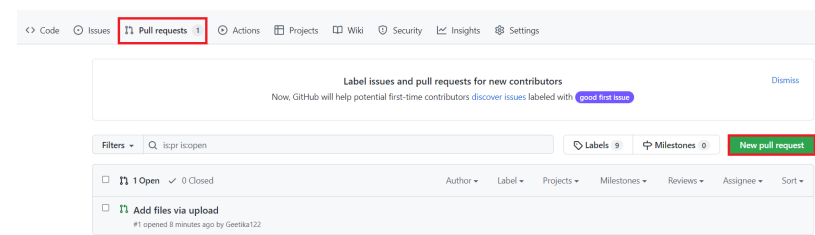
Attach files by dragging & dropping, selecting or pasting them.

Create pull request

Remember, contributions to this repository should follow our [GitHub Community Guidelines](#).

Exercise 4: Merge the Pull Request

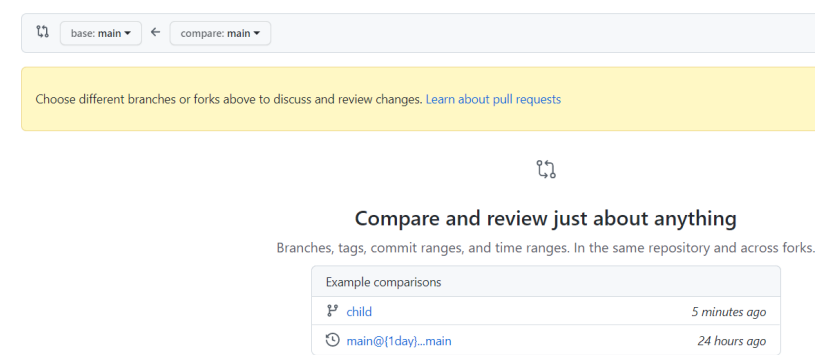
Click the Pull Requests tab and click New Pull Requests.



Select the child branch which you have created.

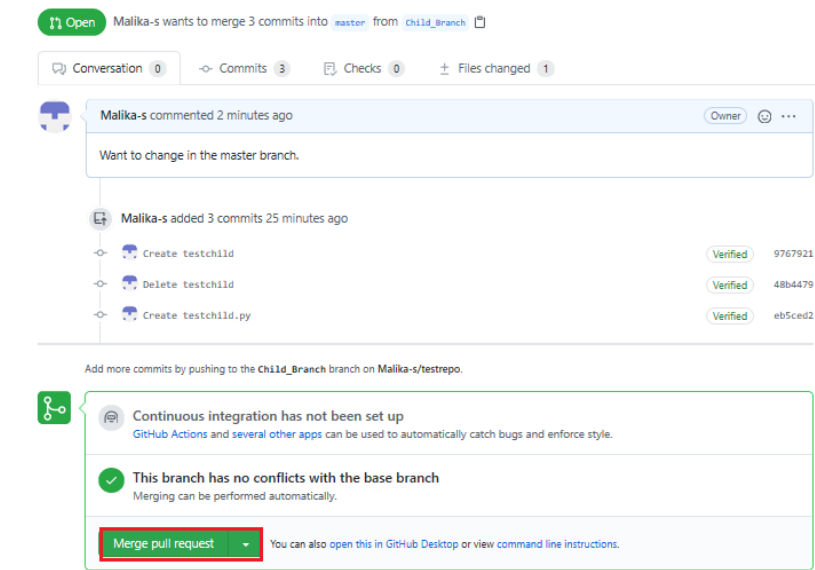
Compare changes

Compare changes across branches, commits, tags, and more below. If you need to, you can also [compare across forks](#).



You will then see a summary of pending pull requests. If you have verified all the changes, click Merge pull request to accept the pull request and perform the merge. You can add a comment if you want.

Child branch #1



Once you click Merge pull request, you will see a Confirm merge button. Click the button.

Child branch #1

Open Malika-s wants to merge 3 commits into master from Child_Branch

Conversation 0Commits 3Checks 0Files changed 1

Malika-s commented 4 minutes ago

Want to change in the master branch.

Malika-s added 3 commits 27 minutes ago

Create testchild

Verified9767921

Delete testchild

Verified48b4479

Create testchild.py

Verifiedeb5ced2

Add more commits by pushing to the Child_Branch branch on Malika-s/testrepo.

Merge pull request #1 from Malika-s/Child_Branch

Child branch

Confirm mergeCancel

Your request has now merged successfully.

Pull request successfully merged and closed

You're all set—the Child_Branch branch can be safely deleted.

Delete branch

Now, the child branch has completely merged with the Master branch. You can check the Master branch has the testchild.py file.

Branch: masterGo to fileAdd fileCode

Malika-s committed 7a7c576 3 minutes ago

8 commits2 branches0 tags

README.md

Update README.md

3 hours ago

Test.py

Add files via upload

1 hour ago

firstpython.py

Create firstpython.py

3 hours ago

testchild.py

Create testchild.py

21 minutes ago

Summary

In this document, you have learned how to create a branch, edit and commit the changes, open a pull request and merge the request.

Author(s)

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Other Contributor(s)

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Changelog

Date	Version	Changed by	Change Description
2023-01-04	0.5	Steve Hord	QA pass with edits
2020-07-16	0.4	Malika Singla	Spell check, steps added
2020-07-14	0.3	Rav Ahuja	Changed logo, updated title, intro, objectives, added Effort, Authors and Changelog
2020-07-13	0.2	Malika Singla	Added to GitLab and made some formatting changes, added objectives, etc.
2020-06-30	0.1	Malika Singla	Drafted initial version