

◆ Git Terminology

Term	Meaning
Repository (Repo)	A project folder tracked by Git that contains code and its history.
Commit	A snapshot of your code at a specific time.
Staging Area (Index)	A "waiting room" where files are added before committing.
Branch	A separate line of development inside a repo (default is <code>main</code> or <code>master</code>).
Remote	A copy of your repo hosted elsewhere (like GitHub).
Origin	The default name of your remote repo on GitHub.
HEAD	A pointer to your current branch/commit.
Stash	A temporary storage for changes you don't want to commit yet.
Merge	Combine changes from one branch into another.
Rebase	Move or replay commits on top of another branch for a cleaner history.
Tag	A label (usually for versions, like <code>v1.0</code>).

◆ Git Commands with Explanation and Examples

Configuration

```
git config --global user.name "Your Name"
git config --global user.email "you@example.com"
```

Sets your identity for commits (use the same email linked to GitHub).

```
git config --list
```

Shows all settings.

Start a Repository

```
git init
```

Starts a new Git repository in the current folder.

```
git clone git@github.com:username/repo.git
```

Copies (clones) a remote repository from GitHub to your computer.

Basic Workflow

git status

Shows which files are changed, staged, or untracked.

git add filename.txt

Adds filename.txt to the staging area.

git add .

Adds all changes to staging.

git commit -m "Add new feature"

Saves staged changes into the repo history with a message.

git log

Shows commit history.

Branches

git branch

Lists all branches.

git branch feature-branch

Creates a new branch.

git checkout feature-branch

Switches to the branch.

git checkout -b feature-branch

Creates and switches in one step.

git merge feature-branch

Merges changes from feature-branch into the current branch.

Remote Repositories

git remote add origin git@github.com:username/repo.git

Links local repo to a GitHub repo.

git remote -v

Shows linked remotes.

git push -u origin main

Pushes commits to GitHub and sets tracking.

git push

Pushes commits to remote.

git pull origin main

Fetches and merges changes from GitHub.

git fetch

Downloads changes but does **not** merge them.

Undoing Changes

git checkout -- filename.txt

Discards changes in a file (restores last committed version).

git reset HEAD filename.txt

Unstages a file (keeps changes).

git reset --hard

Removes all changes (back to last commit). ⚠️ Dangerous!

git revert <commit_id>

Makes a new commit that undoes a specific commit.

Stashing

git stash

Saves changes temporarily without committing.

git stash list

Shows saved stashes.

git stash apply

Restores latest stash (keeps it saved).

git stash pop

Restores and deletes stash.

Tagging

git tag v1.0

Creates a tag (useful for marking releases).

git push origin --tags

Pushes tags to GitHub.

Viewing

git log --oneline

Shows a simplified commit history.

git show <commit_id>

Shows details of a commit.

git log -- filename.txt

Shows history of a specific file.

git diff

Shows unstaged changes.

git diff --staged

Shows staged changes.

Advanced

git rebase main

Moves your branch commits on top of main.

git cherry-pick <commit_id>

Applies a commit from another branch to your current one.

git blame filename.txt

Shows who changed each line in a file.

Git Workflow

1. `git init` or `git clone` → start repo
2. `git status` → check changes
3. `git add` → stage files
4. `git commit -m "message"` → commit
5. `git push` → send to GitHub
6. `git pull` → get updates