

STEP 1: Connect your existing project to GitHub

You already have a local project folder. Now we'll connect it to GitHub.

1. Open Git Bash.
2. Go to your project folder:

```
cd "C:/Users/YourName/Documents/MyProject"
```

3. Check if Git is initialized:

```
git status
```

If it says "not a git repository", run:

```
git init
```

4. Go to GitHub.com → Click '+ New repository'.
5. Name it something like 'myproject' and click 'Create Repository'.
6. Copy the repository URL GitHub shows you.

7. Connect local folder to GitHub:

```
git remote add origin https://github.com/your-username/myproject.git
git branch -M main
git add .
git commit -m "Initial commit"
git push -u origin main
```

STEP 2: Create and push two branches

Branches let you test features without changing your main project.

Create and push the 'dev' branch:

```
git checkout -b dev
echo "This is the dev branch" > dev.txt
git add dev.txt
git commit -m "Add dev.txt file"
git push -u origin dev
```

Create and push the 'test' branch:

```
git checkout main
git checkout -b test
echo "This is the test branch" > test.txt
git add test.txt
git commit -m "Add test.txt file"
git push -u origin test
```

STEP 3: Merge branches into main

Now we combine dev and test into main.

1. Go back to main:

```
git checkout main
```

2. Merge dev into main:

```
git merge dev
```

3. Merge test into main:

```
git merge test
```

4. Push updated main:

```
git push origin main
```

STEP 4: Create and push a tag

Tags are version labels.

1. Create a tag:

```
git tag -a v1.7 -m "Version 1.7 release"
```

2. Push the tag:

```
git push origin v1.7
```

FINISHED

You've now:

- Connected your project to GitHub
- Created and pushed dev/test branches
- Merged them into main
- Added a version tag

Congratulations!