

# Comparing and Merging Branches

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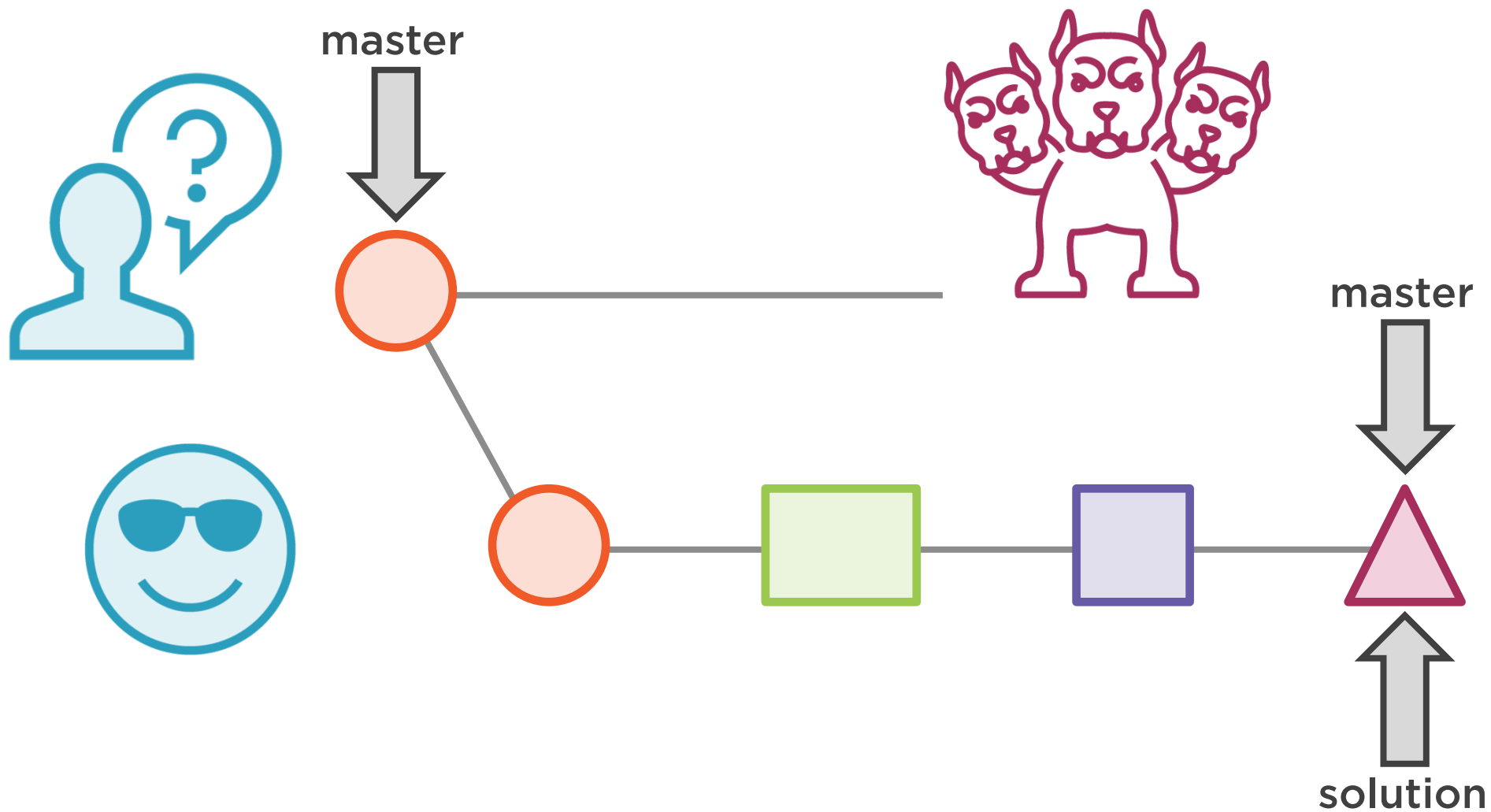
**Craig Golightly**

SENIOR SOFTWARE CONSULTANT

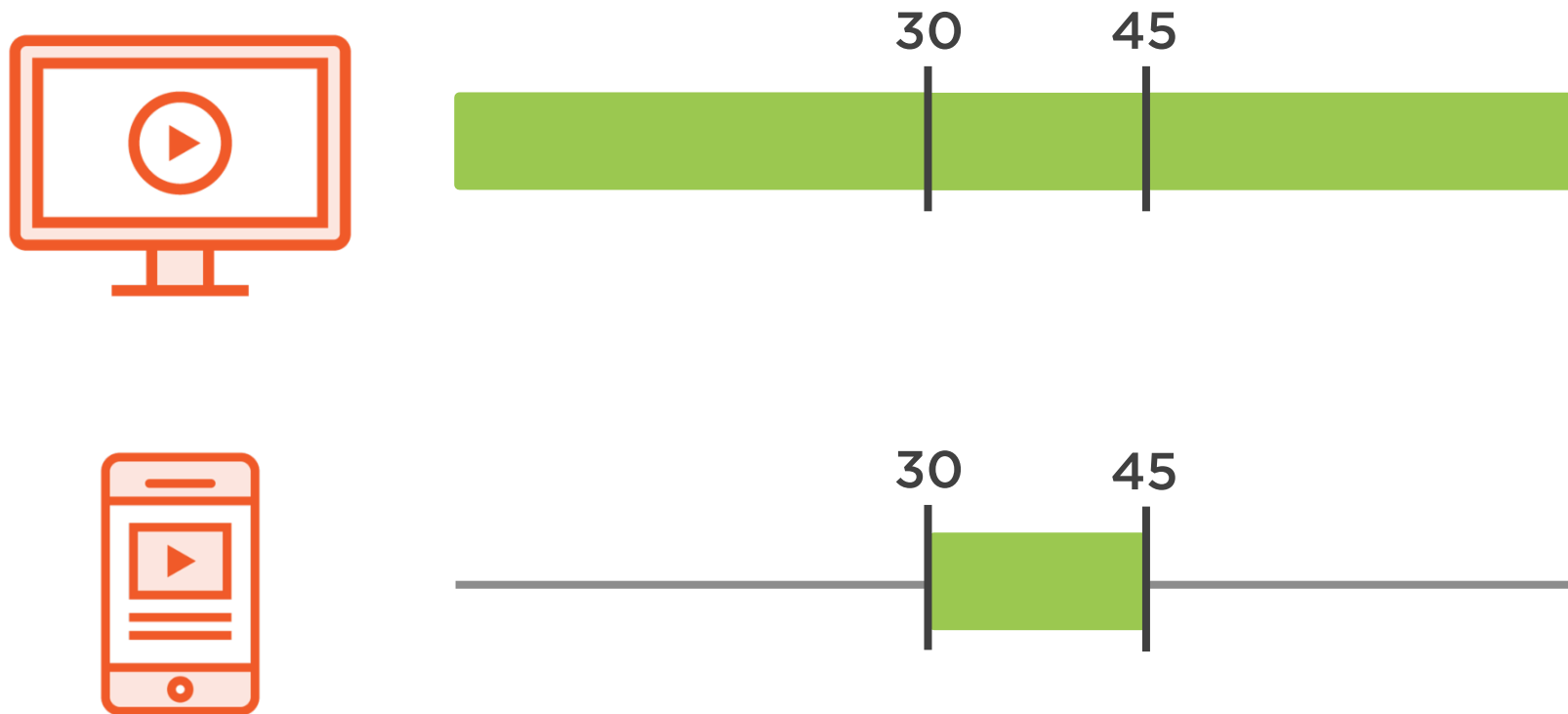
@seethatgo [www.seethatgo.com](http://www.seethatgo.com)



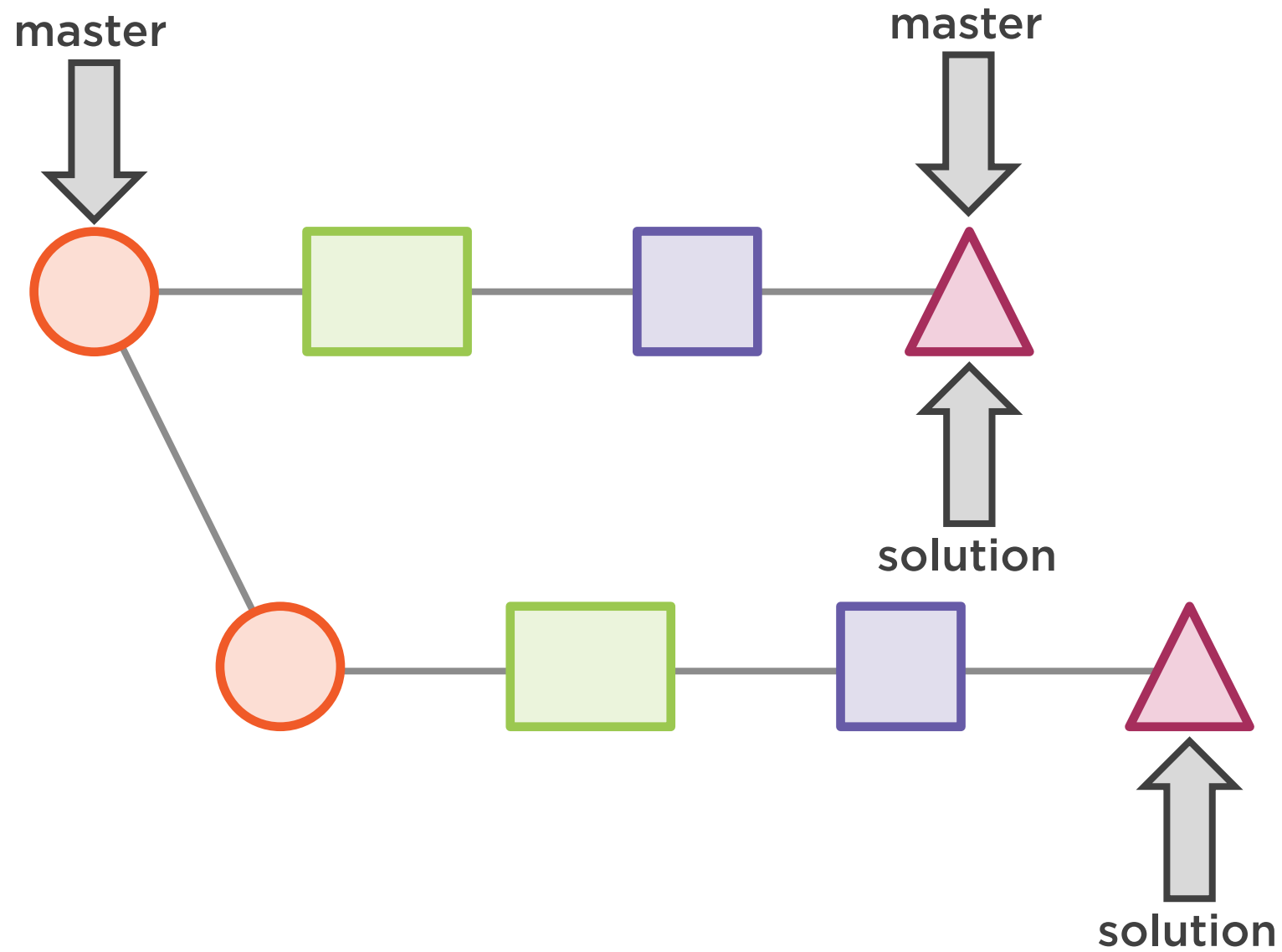
# Fast Forward



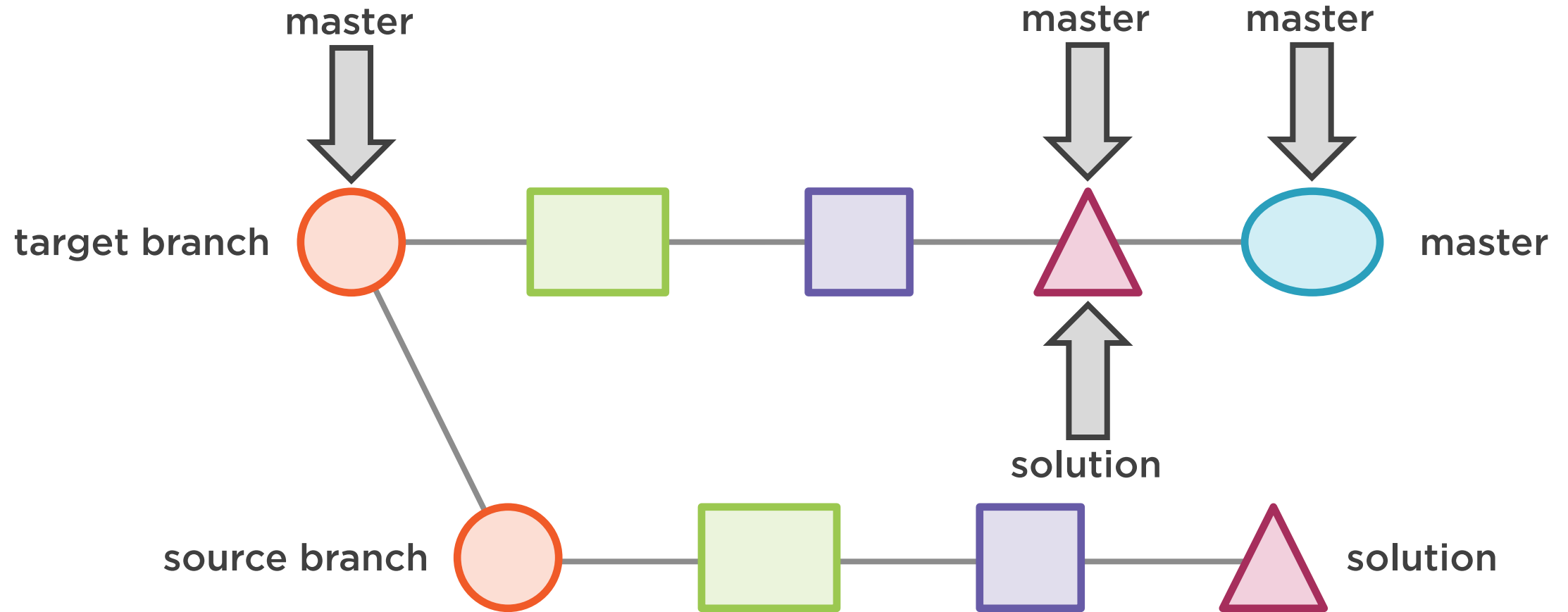
# Movie on Multiple Devices



# Fast Forward



# Target and Source



```
git checkout <target-branch>
```

```
git merge <source-branch>
```

```
git checkout master
```

```
git merge ticket1
```

# Merge Branches

**Switch to target branch**

**Merge source branch**





# What's Going to Happen?

Can you preview a merge before you do it?



```
git diff <branch1> <branch2>
```

```
git diff master ticket1
```

## Compare Branches

**Show changes between tips of branches**

**Does not change anything**

**More to come!**









# git rebase



**Clean up local history**

- Focus on end result

**Should increase accuracy and clarity**

**Rough draft vs. final copy**

**Rebase is an advanced feature**

- Not mandatory
- It can cause problems
- Times to NOT use it



# Rebase



**Do not rebase a  
public branch**

Can cause confusion  
and lost work



**Team guidelines**

Check with your team  
about using rebase



**Rebasing branches**

“Rewriting Git History”  
course is a deep dive  
into rebase

# Rebase Scenarios

## Clean up history

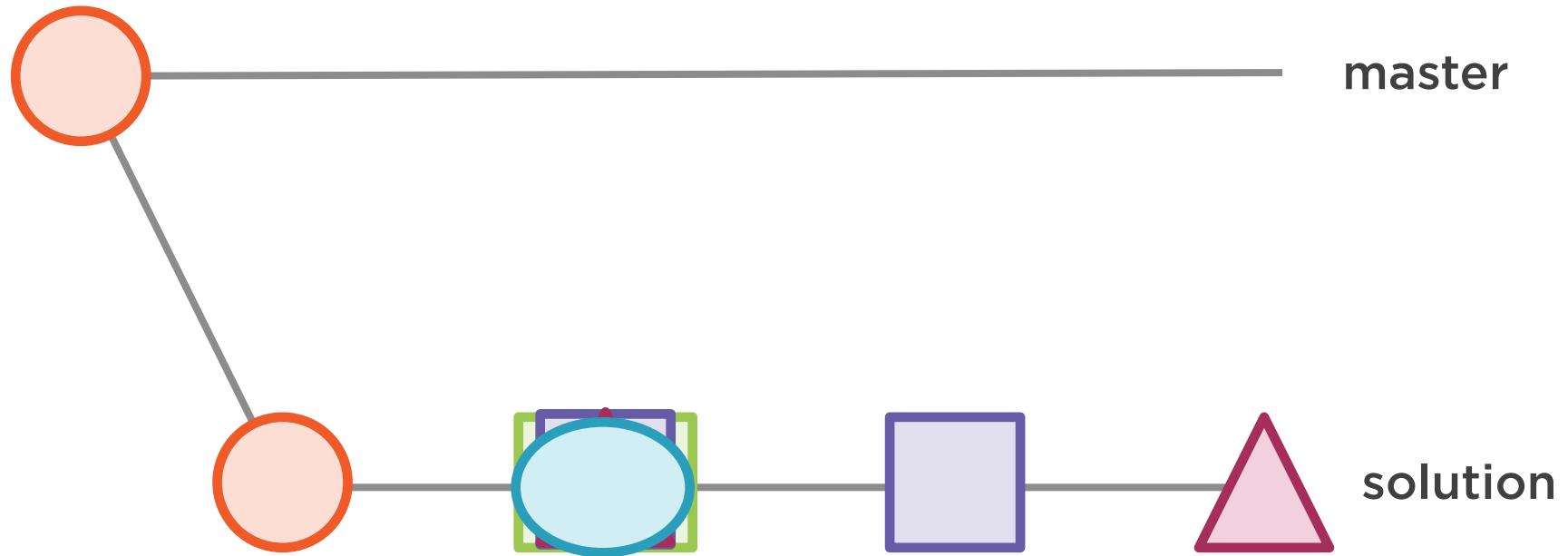
Clean up your local history  
before sharing a branch

## Pull without merge

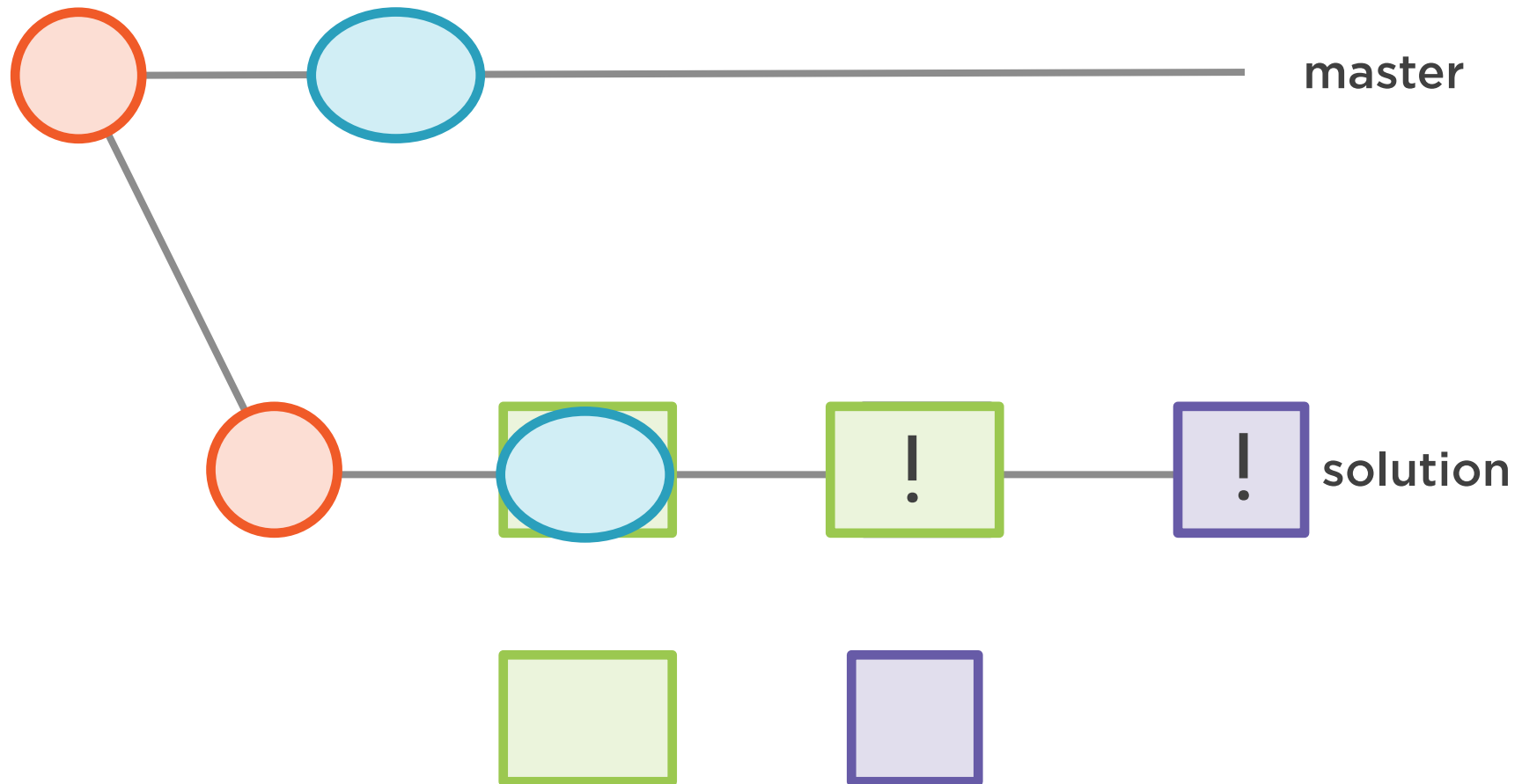
Pull changes from a branch  
into your branch without  
performing a merge



# Squash Commits



# Rebase Branch from Master



```
git log --oneline
```

```
git merge-base ticket1 master
```

```
git rebase -i <commit-sha>
```

```
pick 1285e6c starting f1
```

```
squash b714e68 more work in f1
```

```
squash 985d1e1 completed f1
```

```
# This is the 1st commit message:  
starting f1
```

```
# This is the commit message #2:  
doing more work in f1
```

```
# This is the commit message #3:  
completed feature f1
```

```
git rebase master
```

- ◀ See the branch history
- ◀ Get the original base of the “ticket1” branch created from master
- ◀ Start the rebase from the commit sha
- ◀ Squash the commits you want to combine into a single commit
- ◀ Choose the commit message you want to use
- ◀ Pull in changes from master then replay branch commits after





`git cherry-pick`

**Copy specific commits to another branch**

**Bugfix for multiple versions of product**

**Capture commits from inactive branch**

**Move specific commits to your branch**

- Features needed for your ticket
- Branches not ready to merge yet

**Creates duplicate commit in each branch**

- Can cause confusion

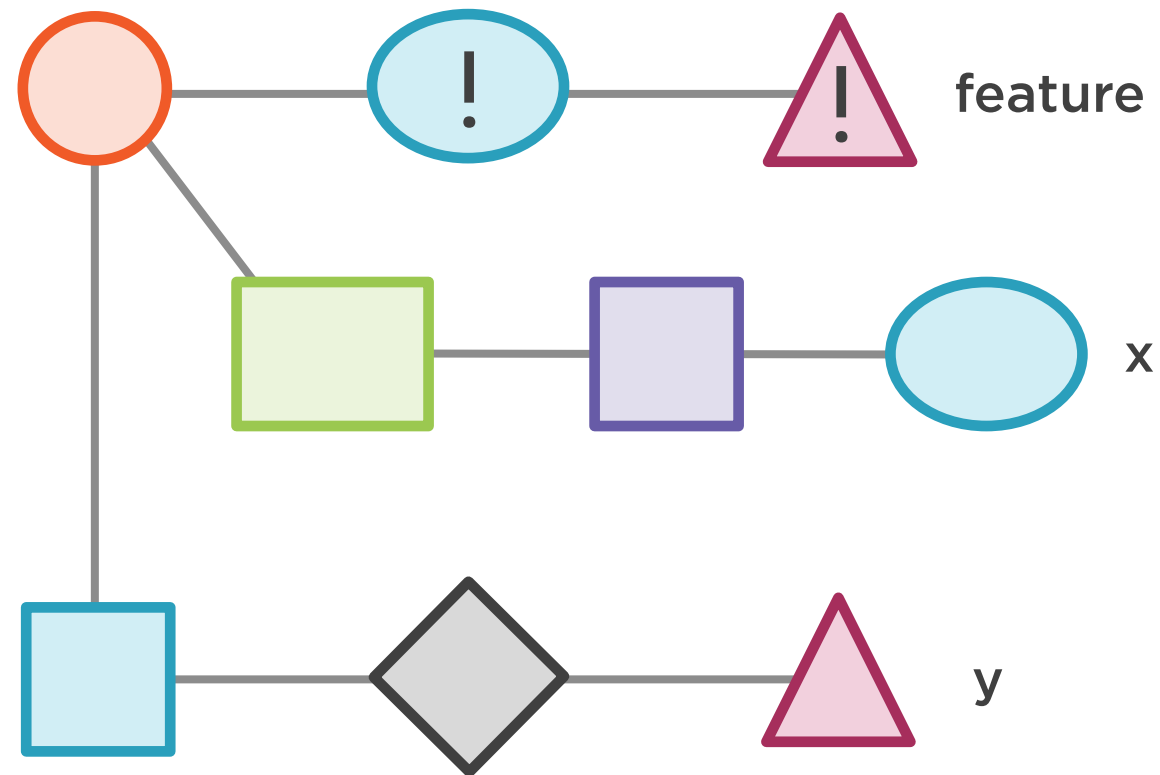
**Cherry-pick is an advanced feature**

- Should not replace merge

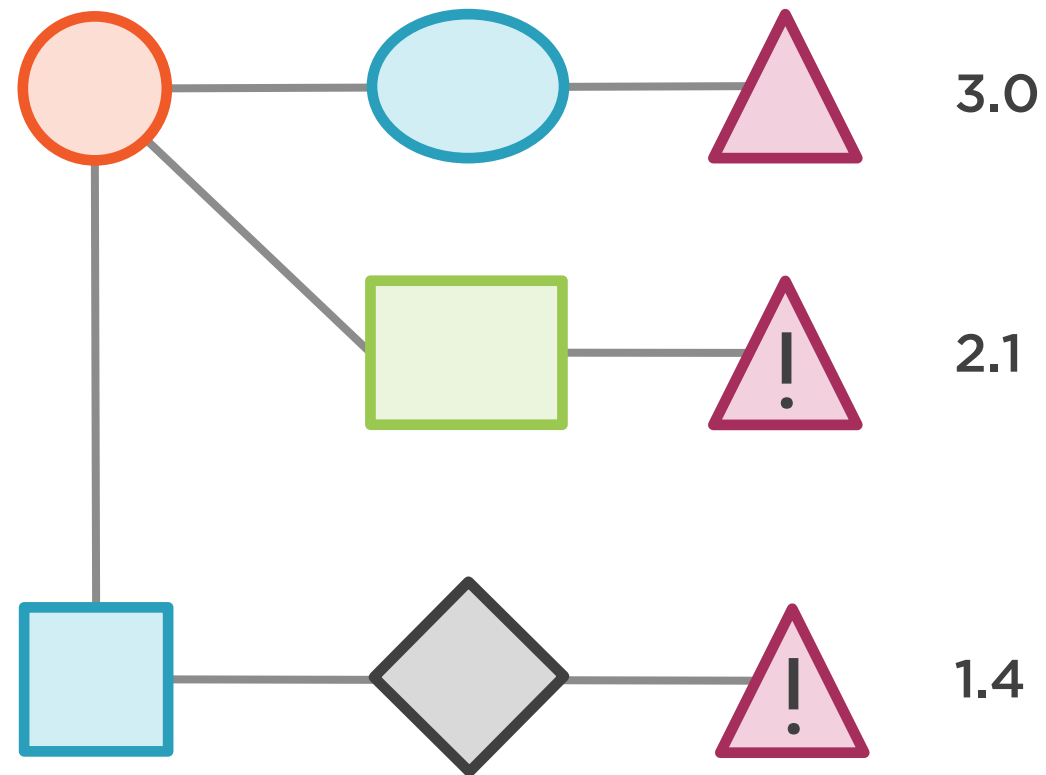




# Cherry-pick to Feature Branch



# Cherry-pick to Version Branches



```
git log --oneline
```

```
git log <branch-name> --oneline
```

```
git checkout <branch-name>
```

```
git cherry-pick <commit>
```

◀ Find the commit you want

◀ Where do you want to put the commit? Checkout that branch.

◀ Perform the cherry-pick to append the commit to HEAD



# Summary



**Move code from branch to branch**

**Fast-forward merge**

**Rebase**

- Squash commits
- Linear changes from another branch

**Cherry-pick**

- Move specific commits

Up Next:

Using Git Branches with Your Team

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