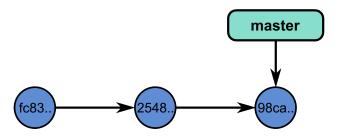
${\tt Git:} \ {\sf Branching} \ {\sf and} \ {\sf Merging}$

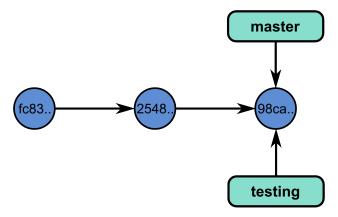
What is a branch?

A branch is just a pointer to a commit:

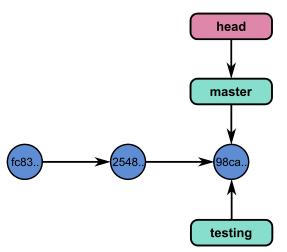


We have been using the master branch.

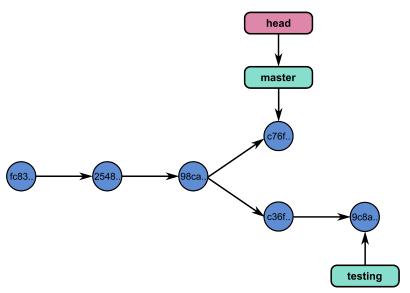
We can create a new branch and it will add a new pointer to the current commit:



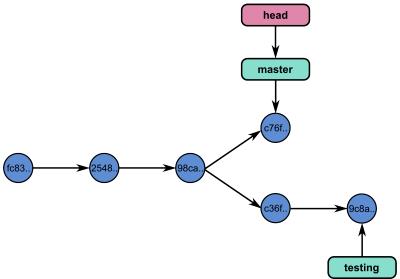
How does Git know which branch you are currently on?



If you add commits on both branches, the directories can diverge:



Eventually, you might want to merge your changes on your branch back into the master development branch:



Why branch?

Isolation of changes.

Why branch?

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Try new things without disrupting main code.

Why branch?

Isolation of changes.

Try new things without disrupting main code.

Usually, there are a few main types of branches:

- 1. Feature Branch
 - If a particular feature is disruptive enough that you don't want the entire development team to be affected in its early stages, you can create a branch on which to do this work.
- 2. Fixes Branch
 - While development continues on the main trunk, a fixes branch can be created to hold the fixes to the latest released version of the software.

Now, how do we actually do this?

Resolving Conflicts

Your Turn

Exercise 5 (30 mins)