git/GitHub for Developers

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Engineers for Exploration, UC San Diego

Introduction

- Git vs. GitHub: Distributed VCS vs. collaboration platform.
- Purpose: Enhances project management and teamwork.
- Basic Commands Overview:
 - git init/clone: Start or copy repositories.
 - git add/commit: Stage and save changes.
 - git push/pull: Update remote and local repos.
 - git branch/checkout: Manage and switch branches.
 - git merge: Combine branch changes.



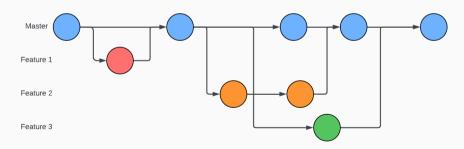
Git Workflows

- Feature Branch Workflow
- Gitflow Workflow
- Fork Workflow



Feature Branch Workflow

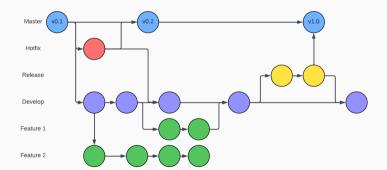
- Develop each feature in its own branch.
- Merges via pull requests for code review.
- Keeps main branch stable, encourages collaboration.
- Ideal for projects with simultaneous feature development.





Gitflow Workflow

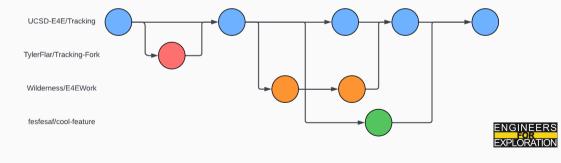
- Structured model: development, features, releases, hotfixes.
- Systematic release management, clear branch roles.
- Tracks progress efficiently, supports parallel releases.
- Suited for scheduled release cycles.





Fork Workflow

- Developers work on personal repository copies.
- Changes proposed via pull requests.
- Encourages external contributions, safe experimentation.
- Ideal for open-source and large collaborations.



Tags

- Marks significant project milestones.
- Useful for release points, use semantic versioning.
- Lightweight tags: git tag tagname.
- Annotated tags: git tag -a tagname.
- List/delete tags: git tag, git tag -d tagname.



Pull Requests (PR) Management

- Keep PRs small for easy review.
- Use checklists for consistent reviews.
- Automate tests and checks via GitHub Actions.



Releases

- Draft new release, choose git tag.
- Add release notes describing changes.
- Bundles code, executables, and assets.
- Detailed notes inform users of updates.
- Example: https://github.com/HumanSignal/label-studio/releases



GitHub Actions for Automation

- Triggered by GitHub events (push, PRs).
- Workflows combine actions in YAML files.
- Runs on GitHub-hosted or self-hosted runners.
- Automates tests and deployment on PR merge.
- Auto-assigns issues, auto-labels PRs by path.



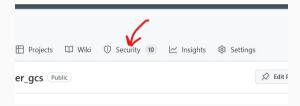
Putting it Together

- Combine Tags, Releases, and GitHub Actions.
- Interact with source code.
- $\bullet \ \ \, \mathsf{Example:} \ \, \mathsf{https:}//\mathsf{github.com}/\mathsf{TylerFlar}/\mathsf{MinecraftDiscord-CrossChat}$



Securing Your Project

- Set branch protection rules for safety.
- Dependabot scans and fixes vulnerabilities.
- Secret scanning detects exposed credentials.
- Code scanning for vulnerabilities on push.





Extras

- Interactive Rebase: Rewrite history, edit commits.
- Use Case: Clean feature branch before merging.
- Cherry-picking: Apply commit to another branch.
- Use Case: Apply bug fixes across branches.
- Stashing: Temporarily shelf changes for tasks.

