SE 2142

Git ignore

Git sees every file in your working copy as one of three things:

- 1. tracked a file which has been previously staged or committed;
- 2. untracked a file which has not been staged or committed; or
- 3. ignored a file which Git has been explicitly told to ignore.

Ignored files are usually build artifacts and machine generated files that can be derived from your repository source or should otherwise not be committed. Some common examples are:

- dependency caches, such as the contents of /node_modules or /packages
- compiled code, such as .o, .pyc, and .class files
- build output directories, such as /bin, /out, or /target
- files generated at runtime, such as .log, .lock, or .tmp
- hidden system files, such as .DS_Store or Thumbs.db
- personal IDE config files, such as .idea/workspace.xml

Ignored files are tracked in a special file named .gitignore that is checked in at the root of your repository.

Git ignore patterns

.gitignore uses globbing patterns to match against file names. You can construct your patterns using various symbols:

Pattern	Example matches	Explanation*
**/logs	<pre>logs/debug.log logs/monday/foo.bar build/logs/debug.log</pre>	You can prepend a pattern with a double asterisk to match directories anywhere in the repository.
**/logs/debug.log	<pre>logs/debug.log build/logs/debug.log but not logs/build/debug.log</pre>	You can also use a double asterisk to match files based on their name and the name of their parent directory.
*.log	<pre>debug.log foo.log .log logs/debug.log</pre>	An asterisk is a wildcard that matches zero or more characters.
*.log !important.log	debug.log but not logs/debug.log	Prepending an exclamation mark to a pattern negates it. If a file matches a pattern, but also matches a negating pattern defined later in the file, it will not be ignored.

/debug.log	<pre>debug.log but not logs/debug.log</pre>	Patterns defined after a negating pattern will re-ignore any previously negated files.
debug.log	debug.log	Prepending a slash matches files only in the repository root.
debug?.log	debug0.log debugg.log but not debug10.log	A question mark matches exactly one character.
debug[0-9].log	debug0.log debug1.log but not debug10.log	Square brackets can also be used to match a single character from a specified range.
debug[01].log	<pre>debug0.log debug1.log but not debug2.log debug01.log</pre>	Square brackets match a single character form the specified set.

```
Files
                                        gitignore / VisualStudio.gitignore 🖵
₽° main
                           + Q
                                          n0099 [VisualStudio.gitignore] remove a trailing space
Q Go to file
                                 t
                                                   Blame 398 lines (319 loc) · 6.7 KB
                                           Code
 | | SketchUp.gitignore
 Smalltalk.gitignore
                                                    ## Ignore Visual Studio temporary files, build results, and
                                                    ## files generated by popular Visual Studio add-ons.
 Stella.gitignore
 SugarCRM.gitignore
                                                    ## Get latest from https://github.com/github/gitignore/blob/main/VisualStudio.gitignore
                                              5
 Swift.gitignore
                                              6
                                                    # User-specific files
 Symfony.gitignore
                                                    *.rsuser
                                                    *.suo
 SymphonyCMS.gitignore
                                                    *.user
                                             10
                                                    *.userosscache
 TeX.gitignore
                                             11
                                                    *.sln.docstates
 Terraform.gitignore
                                             12
                                             13
                                                    # User-specific files (MonoDevelop/Xamarin Studio)
 Textpattern.gitignore
                                             14
                                                    *.userprefs
 TurboGears2.gitignore
                                             15
                                             16
                                                    # Mono auto generated files
 TwinCAT3.gitignore
                                             17
                                                    mono_crash.*
                                             18
 Typo3.gitignore
                                             19
                                                    # Build results
 Unity.gitignore
                                             20
                                                    [Dd]ebug/
                                                                              Square brackets match a single character
                                             21
                                                    [Dd]ebugPublic/
 UnrealEngine.gitignore
                                             22
                                                    [Rr]elease/
                                                                              form the specified set.

□ VVVV.gitignore

                                             23
                                                    [Rr]eleases/
                                             24
                                                    x64/
 VisualStudio.gitignore
                                                    x86/
                                             25
                                             26
                                                    [Ww][Ii][Nn]32/
 Maf.gitignore
                                             27
                                                    [Aa][Rr][Mm]/
 MordPress.gitignore
                                             28
                                                    [Aa][Rr][Mm]64/
                                             29
                                                    bld/
 Nojo.gitignore
                                             30
                                                    [Bb]in/
 Yeoman.gitignore
                                             31
                                                    [0o]bj/
                                             32
                                                    [L1]og/
 | Yii.gitignore
                                             33
                                                    [L1]ogs/
                                             34
 ZendFramework.gitignore
                                             35
                                                    # Visual Studio 2015/2017 cache/options directory
```

Shared .gitignore files in your repository

Git ignore rules are usually defined in a .gitignore file at the root of your repository.

- simplest approach, is to define a single .gitignore file in the root.
- as your .gitignore file is checked in, it is versioned like any other file in your repository and shared with your teammates when you push.
- only include patterns in .gitignore that will benefit other users of the repository.

Personal Git ignore rules

.git/info/exclude

These are not versioned, and not distributed with your repository, so it's an appropriate place to include patterns that will likely only benefit you.

Global Git ignore rules

In addition, you can define global Git ignore patterns for all repositories on your local system by setting the Git **core.excludesFile** property.

Once you've created the file, you'll need to configure its location with git config:

```
$ touch ~/.gitignore
$ git config --global core.excludesFile ~/.gitignore
```

Note:

You should be careful what patterns you choose to globally ignore, as different file types are relevant for different projects.

Special operating system files or temporary files created by some developer tools are typical candidates for ignoring globally.

Ignoring a previously committed file

If you want to ignore a file that you've committed in the past, you'll need to delete the file from your repository and then add a .gitignore rule for it.

```
$ echo debug.log >> .gitignore

$ git rm --cached debug.log
rm 'debug.log'

$ git commit -m "Start ignoring debug.log"
```

You can omit the --cached option if you want to delete the file from both the repository and your local file system.

Committing an ignored file

Force an ignored file to be committed to the repository using the -f (or --force) option with git add:x

Commit a specific file. A better solution is to define an exception to the general rule:

```
$ cat .gitignore
*.log

$ git add -f debug.log

$ git commit -m "Force adding debug.log"
```

Stashing an ignored file

<u>git stash</u> is a powerful Git feature for temporarily shelving and reverting local changes, allowing you to re-apply them later on.

By default git stash ignores ignored files and only stashes changes to files that are tracked by Git. However, you can invoke git stash with the --all option to stash changes to ignored and untracked files as well.

git stash command takes your uncommitted changes (both staged and unstaged), saves them away for later use, and then reverts them from your working copy.

\$ git status
On branch main
Changes to be committed:

new file: style.css

Changes not staged for commit:

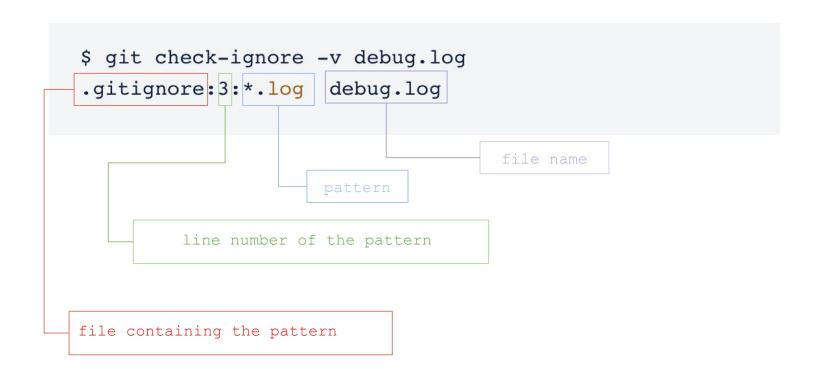
modified: index.html

\$ git stash

Saved working directory and index state WIP on main: 5002d47 our new homepage HEAD is now at 5002d47 our new homepage

\$ git status
On branch main
nothing to commit, working tree clean

Debugging .gitignore files

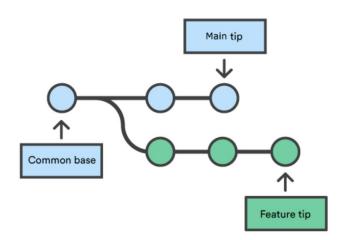


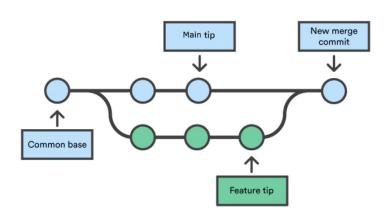
Git merge

The git merge command lets you take the independent lines of development created by git branch and integrate them into a single branch.

Git merge will combine multiple sequences of commits into one unified history.

Before After





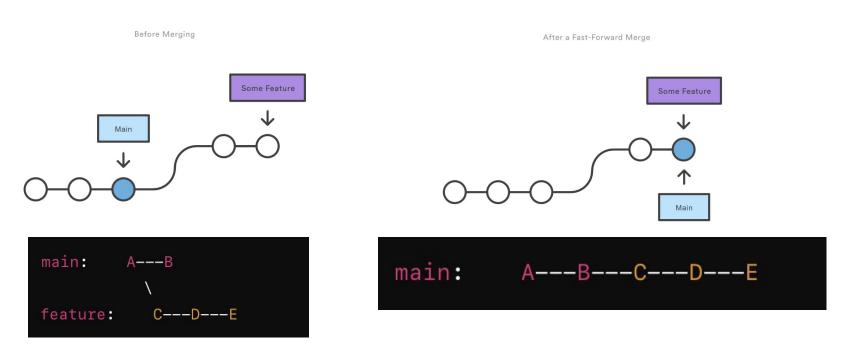
There are two main ways Git will merge:

Fast Forward

- Three way

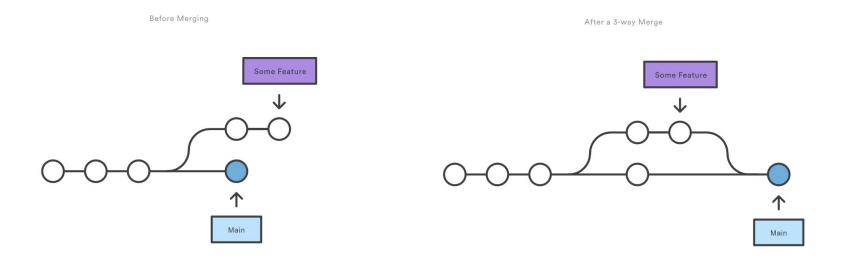
Fast forward merge

A fast-forward merge can occur when there is a **linear path** from the current branch tip to the target branch.



3-way merge

When there is not a linear path to the target branch, Git has no choice but to combine them via a 3-way merge. 3-way merges use a dedicated commit to tie together the two histories.



How conflicts are presented

When Git encounters a conflict during a merge, It will edit the content of the affected files with visual indicators that mark both sides of the conflicted content. These visual markers are: <<<<<, =======, and >>>>>.

```
here is some content not affected by the conflict
<<<<< main
this is conflicted text from main
======
this is conflicted text from feature branch
>>>>>> feature branch;
```

Git merge conflicts

Version control systems are all about managing contributions between multiple distributed authors (usually developers).

The git merge command's primary responsibility is to combine separate branches and resolve any conflicting edits.

Understanding merge conflicts

Conflicts generally arise when two people have changed the same lines in a file, or if one developer deleted a file while another developer was modifying it.

In these cases, Git cannot automatically determine what is correct.

Types of merge conflicts

Git fails to start the merge

A merge will fail to start when Git sees there are changes in either the working directory or staging area of the current project.

Git fails during the merge

A failure DURING a merge indicates a conflict between the current local branch and the branch being merged.

Git commands that can help resolve merge conflicts

General tools

```
git status
```

The status command is in frequent use when a working with Git and during a merge it will help identify conflicted files.

```
git log --merge
```

Passing the --merge argument to the git log command will produce a log with a list of commits that conflict between the merging branches.

```
git diff
```

diff helps find differences between states of a repository/files. This is useful in predicting and preventing merge conflicts.

Tools for when git fails to start a merge

git checkout

checkout can be used for *undoing* changes to files, or for changing branches

git reset --mixed

reset can be used to undo changes to the working directory and staging area.

Tools for when git conflicts arise during a merge

git merge --abort

Executing git merge with the --abort option will exit from the merge process and return the branch to the state before the merge began.

git reset

Git reset can be used during a merge conflict to reset conflicted files to a know good state

A conflict arises when two separate branches have made edits to the same line in a file, or when a file has been deleted in one branch but edited in the other. Conflicts will most likely happen when working in a team environment.

