creating a branch request in GitLab

In GitLab terms, what most people call a "branch request" is actually a **Merge Request (MR)** — you create a branch, make changes, and then request those changes to be merged into another branch (often main or master).

1. Understand the Flow

In GitLab, the typical process is:

1. **Create a new branch** → this is where you make your changes.

2. **Push your branch** to GitLab → so the remote repo has your work.

3. **Create a Merge Request** → this is your formal "branch request" for merging.

4. **Review and approval** → team members check your code.

5. **Merge into target branch** → your changes go live in the main branch.

2. Step-by-Step: Creating a Branch and Merge Request

Step 1 — Create a New Branch

You can do this in two ways:

Option A: In GitLab Web UI

1. Go to your GitLab project.

2. Click on **Repository → Branches**.

3. Click **New branch**.

4. Enter:

- **Branch name** (e.g., feature/user-login).
- **Source branch** (usually main or develop).

5. Click **Create branch**.

6.

Step 2 — Make Changes

- Modify, add, or delete files in your local repo.
- Stage and commit your changes:

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Step 3 — Push the Branch to GitLab

git push origin feature/user-login

Now the branch exists on GitLab's remote repository.

Step 4 — Create a Merge Request in GitLab

1. Go to your GitLab project.
2. GitLab will often show a banner saying:

"You've pushed a branch. Create merge request."

- Click **Create merge request** directly, OR

3. Go to **Merge requests → New merge request**.
4. Select:

- **Source branch** → your branch (feature/user-login).
- **Target branch** → usually main or develop.

5. Fill in:

- **Title** — short description of your change.

- ○ **Description** — explain what's changed, why, and any testing steps.

6. Assign reviewers or approvers (if required).

7. Click **Submit merge request**.

Step 5 — Review & Merge

- Reviewers leave comments, approve, or request changes.

- You make changes and push again — GitLab automatically updates the MR.

- Once approved, click **Merge** to merge your branch into the target branch.