Installation of Git Client

If you are using Debian base GNU/Linux distribution, then **apt-get** command will do the needful.

[ubuntu ~]$ sudo apt-get install git-core

[sudo] password for ubuntu:

[ubuntu ~]$ git --version

git version 1.8.1.2

And if you are using RPM based GNU/Linux distribution, then use **yum**command as given.

[CentOS ~]$

su -

Password:

[CentOS ~]# yum -y install git-core

[CentOS ~]# git --version

git version 1.7.1

Customize Git Environment

Git provides the git config tool, which allows you to set configuration variables. Git stores all global configurations in **.gitconfig** file, which is located in your home directory. To set these configuration values as global, add the **--global**option, and if you omit **--global** option, then your configurations are specific for the current Git repository.

You can also set up system wide configuration. Git stores these values in the **/etc/gitconfig** file, which contains the configuration for every user and repository on the system. To set these values, you must have the root rights and use the **--system** option.

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result −

Setting username

This information is used by Git for each commit.

[jerry@CentOS project]$ git config --global user.name "Jerry Mouse"

Setting email id

This information is used by Git for each commit.

[jerry@CentOS project]$ git config --global user.email "jerry@asreetconsulting.com"

Avoid merge commits for pulling

You pull the latest changes from a remote repository, and if these changes are divergent, then by default Git creates merge commits. We can avoid this via following settings.

jerry@CentOS project]$ git config --global branch.autosetuprebase always

Color highlighting

The following commands enable color highlighting for Git in the console.

[jerry@CentOS project]$ git config --global color.ui true

[jerry@CentOS project]$ git config --global color.status auto

[jerry@CentOS project]$ git config --global color.branch auto

Setting default editor

By default, Git uses the system default editor, which is taken from the VISUAL or EDITOR environment variable. We can configure a different one by using git config.

[jerry@CentOS project]$ git config --global core.editor vim

Setting default merge tool

Git does not provide a default merge tool for integrating conflicting changes into your working tree. We can set default merge tool by enabling following settings.

[jerry@CentOS project]$ git config --global merge.tool vimdiff

Listing Git settings

To verify your Git settings of the local repository, use **git config –list**command as given below.

[jerry@CentOS ~]$ git config --list

The above command will produce the following result.

user.name=Jerry Mouse

user.email=jerry@asreetconsulting.com

push.default=nothing

branch.autosetuprebase=always

color.ui=true

color.status=auto

color.branch=auto

core.editor=vim

merge.tool=vimdiff