heiswayi / repo-reset.md

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GitHub - Delete commits history with git commands

<> **repo-reset.md**

First Method

Deleting the `.git` folder may cause problems in our git repository. If we want to delete all of our commits history, but keep the code in its current state, try this:

```
# Check out to a temporary branch:
git checkout --orphan TEMP_BRANCH

# Add all the files:
git add -A

# Commit the changes:
git commit -am "Initial commit"

# Delete the old branch:
git branch -D master

# Rename the temporary branch to master:
git branch -m master

# Finally, force update to our repository:
git push -f origin master
```

This will not keep our old commits history around. **But if this doesn't work, try the next method below.**

Second Method

```
# Clone the project, e.g. `myproject` is my project repository:
git clone https://github/heiswayi/myproject.git

# Since all of the commits history are in the `.git` folder, we have to remove it:
cd myproject

# And delete the `.git` folder:
```

```
git rm -rf .git

# Now, re-initialize the repository:
git init
git remote add origin https://github.com/heiswayi/myproject.git
git remote -v

# Add all the files and commit the changes:
git add --all
git commit -am "Initial commit"

# Force push update to the master branch of our project repository:
git push -f origin master
```

NOTE: You might need to provide the credentials for your GitHub account.

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ertugrulcetin commented on Sep 13, 2017

Thank you!

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prageet commented on Sep 23, 2017

Thank you.

BrianKSFDO commented on Sep 29, 2017

First method worked, thanks for sharing!

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jayeshdshah commented on Oct 12, 2017

while executing second method, it shown below error message
pathspec '.git' did not match any files

---

xiongmai commented on Oct 18, 2017

yay thanks! I used the first method.

Rob-van-B commented on Oct 24, 2017

great!

TomHaii commented on Nov 8, 2017

thanks

he-dev commented on Nov 19, 2017

Thank you! The first method worked for me ;-)

jasonmeurer commented on Dec 4, 2017

For those using the second method, remove 'git' from the beginning of the rm command.

And delete the `.git` folder:

rm -rf .git

kirkvicent commented on Dec 14, 2017

多谢多谢
from china

Anihilakos commented on Dec 15, 2017

thank you!

maxdonetsk commented on Dec 27, 2017

Works like a charm. Thanks!

Zibri commented on Dec 28, 2017

error: `git rm -rf .git` >>> `rm -rf .git`

moshfeu commented on Jan 10, 2018

Thanks!

---

sebamawa commented on Feb 6, 2018

First method ok! . Thanks!

---

mohammadmahdikarimi commented on Feb 14, 2018

I am completely new and it worked for me. Thanks

Gabboxl commented on Apr 24, 2018

Omg, Thanks bro!

FadeMind commented on Apr 28, 2018

```
rm -rf .git
git init
git remote add origin git@github.com:JohnDoe/foobar.git
git remote -v
git add --all
git commit -am "Initial commit"
git push -f origin master
```

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maxlefou commented on Jun 15, 2018 • edited ▾

First method didn't worked on my private git server. `remote: error: denying non-fast-forward refs/heads/master (you should pull first)`

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lucasbuetto commented on Jun 19, 2018

Thanks Bro!

Alexiades commented on Jul 2, 2018

Thank you!! first method works perfect!

greg-amato commented on Jul 26, 2018

Thanks!

indramahkota commented on Jul 31, 2018

thanks

vserrao commented on Aug 8, 2018

Thanks!

algenisromero commented on Aug 12, 2018

Thanks!

arharo commented on Aug 21, 2018

Thanks mate!

angeldev20 commented on Sep 2, 2018

Thanks.

bernardowb commented on Sep 3, 2018

Second method ok (the only I've tested)! Thanks!

MarkusL27 commented on Sep 23, 2018

Thanks! Works perfect!

Daltonic commented on Sep 23, 2018

Thanks Man

ShinekaBarnett commented on Oct 17, 2018

Thanks!

DianaLauraSaavedra commented on Oct 17, 2018

donde se hace todo ese metodo

deezhizyu commented on Oct 21, 2018

Thanks you!

WiliTest commented on Oct 21, 2018 • edited ▾

thanks you but please correct the second method:

And delete the `.git` folder:

~~git rm -rf .git~~

rm -rf .git

(for windows: at the begining create a new folder, open a git bash inside: through windows context menu)

EricWu23 commented on Nov 1, 2018

Brilliant! Saved my life!

jgwerner commented on Nov 28, 2018

Awesome thanks dude 👍

phoenixproject commented on Nov 30, 2018

thanks. Very thanks!

srinath654321 commented on Dec 17, 2018

Thank you so much the first method worked out well.

danchamorro commented on Jan 3, 2019

Awesome!

crosslife commented on Jan 13, 2019

Thank you!

numoonchld commented on Jan 16, 2019 • edited ▾

thanks! - the first method worked - didn't need to try the second

renatodysouza commented on Jan 17, 2019

thank you, so much...

Sofia190 commented on Jan 26, 2019

Thank you! It's brilliant!

DanielDimanov commented on Jan 27, 2019

Thank you!

EPiC-APOC commented on Feb 15, 2019

this works for my head repository (origin) how can I pull (or whatever) this to my base repository (upstream)?

begueradj commented on Mar 12, 2019

None of these methods worked for me.

deppeler commented on Apr 15, 2019

Just what I was looking for. Thank you for posting and sharing.

MPGAJEWSKI commented on Jul 21, 2019

The first method worked. Thanks!

guyueshui commented on Aug 28, 2019

I would say: mark! And thank you very much, I've wrote down this method to my blog, thank you!

widoz commented on Nov 9, 2019

👍

holitics commented on Nov 18, 2019

First method worked for me!

oseiasmribeiro commented on Nov 23, 2019

thanks

Wujin1992 commented on Dec 7, 2019

Awesome!

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nasmdh commented on Dec 10, 2019

The first method worked for me, tnx.

---

actionanand commented on Jan 17, 2020

awesome. Thanks for the update

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gyan111 commented on Jan 19, 2020 • edited ▾

Everyone remember your all commits still accessible by checking the Environment.

Of course for you only.

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skrantzman commented on Jan 23, 2020

I really appreciate you posting this. An immense help in clearing up the unneeded clutter. The first method worked perfectly.

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ameyaKetkar commented on Jan 28, 2020

Awesome! Thanks a lot.

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roberto-pg commented on Jan 28, 2020

This is very useful, thanks.

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ambrosektal commented on Feb 19, 2020

Thank you

G-Buen0 commented on Feb 26, 2020

Thank you !!

jeffinshadow commented on Feb 29, 2020

Thanks man

akchauhan2 commented on Mar 11, 2020

Leaving the latest commit, i want to delete all the others. How can we do that?

chhaileng commented on Mar 24, 2020

Great, thank you!!

JonnyRodriguez commented on Apr 17, 2020

thanks

igalM commented on Apr 23, 2020

Great job! Thanks!

theproayush commented on May 17, 2020

Thank you very much ! the second method worked :)

ralitsavoronevska commented on May 29, 2020

Thank you :)

TomonoriSoejima commented on Jun 4, 2020

Thank you!

corestackdev commented on Jun 11, 2020

The old commits are still accessible if you have github actions enabled, the action page displays all previous commits and workflow executions. Anyone can still gain access to those previous commits clicking the commit id.

Dionid commented on Jun 27, 2020

Thanks!

JayeshThamke commented on Jun 30, 2020

Hi i also have branches on my repo. and want to ensure that those will remain intact and only commits will be deleted.

halmogbl commented on Jul 16, 2020

thank you

sergiocarp10 commented on Jul 19, 2020

Thank you so much!

TheSpanishBread commented on Aug 8, 2020

Thank you !!! :D

miksica commented on Aug 12, 2020

yer a wizard harry, thanks

Hiestaa commented on Aug 17, 2020 • edited ▾

If using 2FA for authentication with Github, the HTTPs remote won't be possible. You need SSH instead. Replace `git remote add origin https://github.com/heiswayi/myproject.git` with `git remote add origin git@github.com:heiswayi/myproject.git`

sidharrth2002 commented on Sep 7, 2020

Method 1 worked like a charm

suyash0103 commented on Sep 15, 2020

Method 1 worked! Thanks a lot!

alfonmga commented on Sep 25, 2020

An engineer is a man who can do for a dime what any fool can do for a dollar

meta-n4vn33t commented on Sep 27, 2020

Method 1 works fine on my Gitea test instance thanks!

SORC3r3r commented on Nov 4, 2020

👍

itsGreghere commented on Dec 3, 2020

First Method = beautiful! Exactly what I wanted to do. Thanks!

rommzestz commented on Dec 5, 2020

First is easy, just need enter your email and name
all steps
##########
git pull origin master
git checkout --orphan TEMP_BRANCH
git add -A
git config --global user.email "you@example.com"
git config --global user.name "Your Name"
git commit -am "Initial commit"
git branch -D master
git branch -m master
git push -f origin master

peloncano commented on Jan 12

This helped - thanks.

cmd3BOT commented on Feb 11

Thanks brother 👍

Dr-McFish commented on Feb 21

helfull +1

arpanEnbake commented on Feb 26

thanks for giving commands

VincentYeh-dev commented on Feb 27

Thanks,first method work perfectly.

ileuskov commented on Feb 28

Thanks a lot!

morethanbooks commented on Mar 5

Awesome! Thanks!

calag4n commented on Mar 10

Thanks :)

hassandraga commented on Mar 20

First method worked, Thank you for sharing this!

trinib commented on Mar 29

THANK YoU VERY very MUCH ......could not understand on stackflow 😥

julian128 commented on Mar 31

Hi I have a problem related with commit histories.
I worked on branch - br1. and created pull request.
before merging it, I created new branch - br2 from master.
after that, the PR related br1 has been merged.
by the way, now, the PR related br2 includes all commit histories from the PR related br1.
can I remove only these commit histories? current pr has new commit histories related br2.
I don't want to delete new commit histories.

can you help me?

trinib commented on Mar 31

> Hi I have a problem related with commit histories.
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>
> can you help me?

i dont know if is this your looking for https://gist.github.com/cutiko/0b1615c63504a940877541362cc51211

KarthikKN007 commented on Apr 23

thanks alot worked with the first one

jainijhawan commented on May 2

Thanks A lot

leejongyoung commented on May 3

Awesome! 😄

amanarora9848 commented 17 days ago

Worked very well, thank you!

GaborVxxx commented 9 days ago

Thank you. Helped me a lot.

flcoder commented 6 days ago

Thank you!