Hi Team New Haven,

To ensure you don’t break the **master** (the **master** branch always works), make commits to a **development** branch.

Note: branches cannot have children (meaning branches can’t actually branch, counter intuitive), but **c**ommits **c**an have **c**hildren.

(don’t delete green highlights. yellow highlights are for me to see how far along I am, delete yellow as needed)

STEPS:

// switch to the **development** branch (just make sure you’re not on **master**)

// pull your **development** to latest

git branch << **devs\_name\_branch** >> **development**

git checkout << **devs\_name\_branch** >>

// work in your branch, make changes in your branch

git add .

git commit -m " your changes "

// if you want to merge with development

git checkout **development** // leave your branch and go back to the **development** branch

git merge --no-ff << **devs\_name\_branch** >> // this merges your branch to the **development** branch

git push origin **development**

// if you just want to push your branch

git push origin << **devs\_name\_branch** >> // if want your branch to show in github, otherwise skip