

Top 18 Git Commands

that every developer should know!



git init

Initialize empty Git repository.

Sets up a new Git repository, creating the necessary files and directories. It prepares the project for version control.



git clone [url]

Clone repository into a new directory.

Copies an existing Git repository along with its history to a new directory. Useful for creating local copies of remote repositories.



git add [file]

Add file(s) to staging area.

Stages changes for commit, adding them to the index. It prepares files to be included in the next commit.



git status

Show status of working directory.

Shows the current state of the working directory and staging area, highlighting any modifications or untracked files.



git commit -m "[message]"

Record changes to repository.

Records changes to the repository, creating a new commit with a descriptive message summarizing the changes.



git push

Upload local changes to remote repository.

Records changes to the repository, creating a new commit with a descriptive message summarizing the changes.



git pull

Fetch from and merge with another repository.

Fetches changes from a remote repository and merges them into the current branch, keeping the repository up-to-date.



git branch [branch_name]

Fetch from and merge with another repository.

Fetches changes from a remote repository and merges them into the current branch, keeping the repository up-to-date.



git checkout [branch_name]

Switch branches or restore working tree files.

Switches branches or restores working tree files from a specific branch or commit.



git merge [branch]

Join two or more development histories.

Integrates changes from one branch into another, combining divergent histories into a unified line of development.



git log

Display commit history

Displays a history of commits, showing information like author, date, and commit message.



git diff

Show changes between commits

Shows the differences between various commits, the index, and the working directory, helping to understand changes made over time.



git reset [file]

Unstage file(s) from the staging area.

Removes changes from the staging area for a specified file, without altering the working directory.



git remote add origin [url]

Add remote repository.

Adds a new remote repository with the specified URL to the project, assigning it the name 'origin'.



git fetch

Download objects and refs from another repository.

Downloads objects and refs from another repository, updating remote-tracking branches without merging the changes into the current branch.



git revert [commit]

Revert a commit.

Creates a new commit that undoes the changes introduced by a specific commit, effectively reverting them.



git stash

Temporarily store changes.

Temporarily shelves changes that are not yet ready to be committed, allowing you to switch branches or perform other tasks.



git tag [tag_name]

Create a lightweight tag.

Marks specific commits in the repository's history with a tag, allowing easy reference to important points in the project.



I'm that old-school developer who commands **Git** through the terminal, because real developers don't need a fancy GUI to navigate version control – just a keyboard and a sprinkle of command-line magic!

@ammar-munirr

Was it Helpful?





Ammar Munir

Python | Django | Web Engineer