

NAME

git-difftool - Show changes using common diff tools

SYNOPSIS

git difftool [<options>] [<commit> [<commit>]] [--] [<path>...]

DESCRIPTION

git difftool is a Git command that allows you to compare and edit files between revisions using common diff tools. git difftool is a frontend to git diff and accepts the same options and arguments. See git-diff(1).

OPTIONS

-d, --dir-diff

Copy the modified files to a temporary location and perform a directory diff on them. This mode never prompts before launching the diff tool.

-y, --no-prompt

Do not prompt before launching a diff tool.

--prompt

Prompt before each invocation of the diff tool. This is the default behaviour; the option is provided to override any configuration settings.

--rotate-to=<file>

Start showing the diff for the given path, the paths before it will move to end and output.

--skip-to=<file>

Start showing the diff for the given path, skipping all the paths before it.

-t <tool>, --tool=<tool>

Use the diff tool specified by <tool>. Valid values include emerge, kompare, meld, and vimdiff. Run git difftool --tool-help for the list of valid <tool> settings.

If a diff tool is not specified, git difftool will use the configuration variable diff.tool. If the configuration variable diff.tool is not set, git difftool will pick a suitable default.

You can explicitly provide a full path to the tool by setting the configuration variable difftool.<tool>.path. For example, you can configure the absolute path to kdiff3 by setting difftool.kdiff3.path. Otherwise, git difftool assumes the tool is available in PATH.

Instead of running one of the known diff tools, git difftool can be customized to run an alternative program by specifying the command line to invoke in a configuration variable difftool.<tool>.cmd.

When git difftool is invoked with this tool (either through the -t or --tool option or the diff.tool configuration variable) the configured command line will be invoked with the following variables available: \$LOCAL is set to the name of the temporary file containing the contents of the diff pre-image and \$REMOTE is set to the name of the temporary file containing the contents of the diff post-image. \$MERGED is the name of the file which is being compared. \$BASE is provided for compatibility with custom merge tool commands and has the same value as \$MERGED.

--tool-help

Print a list of diff tools that may be used with --tool.

`--[no-]symlinks`
git difftool's default behavior is create symlinks to the working tree when run in `--dir-diff` mode and the right-hand side of the comparison yields the same content as the file in the working tree.

Specifying `--no-symlinks` instructs git difftool to create copies instead. `--no-symlinks` is the default on Windows.

`-x <command>, --extcmd=<command>`
Specify a custom command for viewing diffs. git-difftool ignores the configured defaults and runs `$command $LOCAL $REMOTE` when this option is specified. Additionally, `$BASE` is set in the environment.

`-g, --[no-]gui`
When git-difftool is invoked with the `-g` or `--gui` option the default diff tool will be read from the configured `diff.guitool` variable instead of `diff.tool`. The `--no-gui` option can be used to override this setting. If `diff.guitool` is not set, we will fallback in the order of `merge.guitool`, `diff.tool`, `merge.tool` until a tool is found.

`--[no-]trust-exit-code`
git-difftool invokes a diff tool individually on each file. Errors reported by the diff tool are ignored by default. Use `--trust-exit-code` to make git-difftool exit when an invoked diff tool returns a non-zero exit code.

git-difftool will forward the exit code of the invoked tool when `--trust-exit-code` is used.

See `git-diff(1)` for the full list of supported options.

CONFIG VARIABLES

git difftool falls back to git mergetool config variables when the difftool equivalents have not been defined.

`diff.tool`
The default diff tool to use.

`diff.guitool`
The default diff tool to use when `--gui` is specified.

`difftool.<tool>.path`
Override the path for the given tool. This is useful in case your tool is not in the `PATH`.

`difftool.<tool>.cmd`
Specify the command to invoke the specified diff tool.

See the `--tool=<tool>` option above for more details.

`difftool.prompt`
Prompt before each invocation of the diff tool.

`difftool.trustExitCode`
Exit difftool if the invoked diff tool returns a non-zero exit status.

See the `--trust-exit-code` option above for more details.

SEE ALSO

`git-diff(1)`
Show changes between commits, commit and working tree, etc

`git-mergetool(1)`
Run merge conflict resolution tools to resolve merge conflicts

`git-config(1)`

Get and set repository or global options

GIT

Part of the git(1) suite

Git 2.34.1

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