Lesson:

GitHub Desktop

PW SKILLS

Topics

- Introduction to GitHub Desktop
- How to use GitHub Desktop?

Introduction to GitHub Desktop

GitHub Desktop is a user-friendly application that simplifies the process of working with Git and GitHub. It provides a graphical user interface (GUI) for common Git operations, such as cloning repositories, making changes, committing changes, and pushing changes to GitHub.

GitHub Desktop is a good choice for both beginners and experienced Git users. Beginners can use it to learn the basics of Git without having to worry about the command line. Experienced Git users can use it to improve their workflow and make it easier to collaborate with others.

Installation

1. Download – Visit the GitHub Desktop download page and download the appropriate version for your operating system (Windows or macOS).

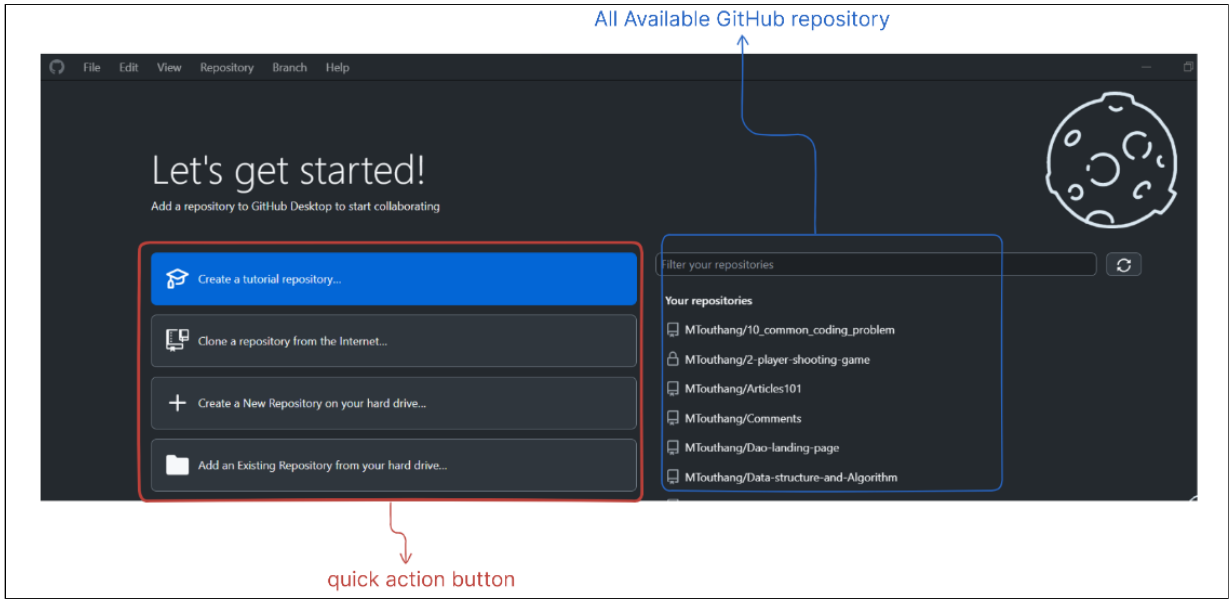
By default - The download button will be selected with your operating system

2. Install – Run the downloaded installer and follow the on-screen instructions to complete the installation.

3. Launch GitHub Desktop – Open GitHub Desktop after installation.

4. Sign In – If you have a GitHub account, sign in. If not, you can continue without signing in, but signing in enables you to access your repositories.

On successful installation and sign-in, you will see a home page as shown below -

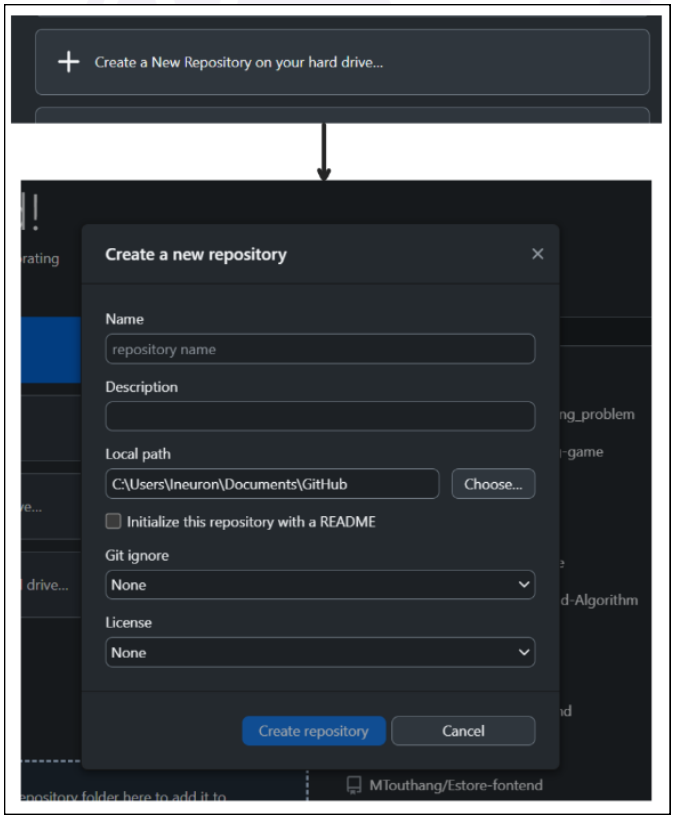


How to use GitHub Desktop?

To use GitHub Desktop, you need to make sure you have a GitHub account and install the GitHub Desktop application. Once you have installed GitHub Desktop, you can log in with your GitHub account and start using it to manage your repositories

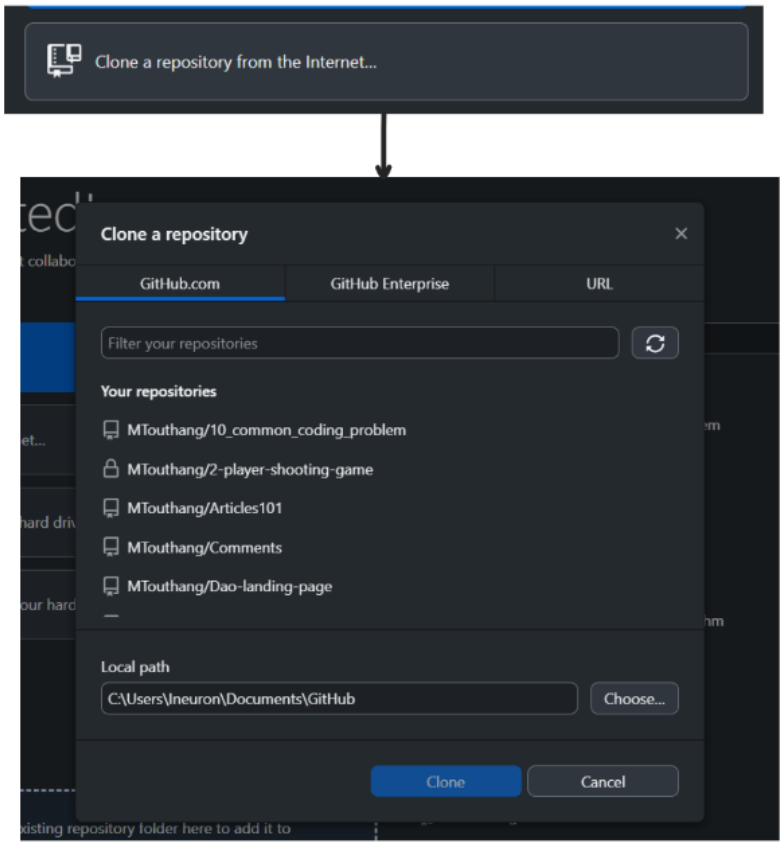
Here is a simple guide to using GitHub Desktop -

- Create a new Repository - select “Create a New Repository on your hard drive”



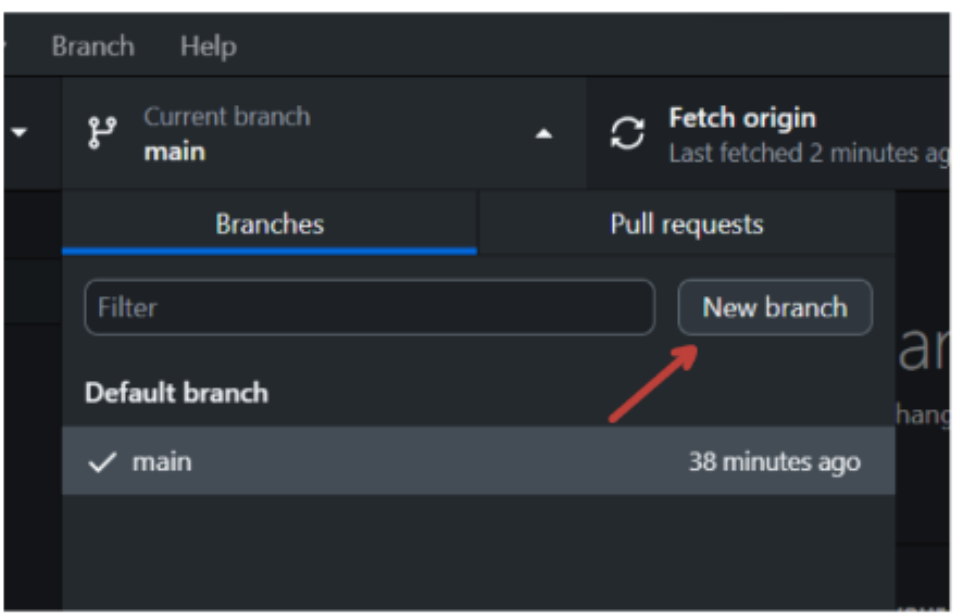
Fill in all the required fields and click on the “Create repository” button.

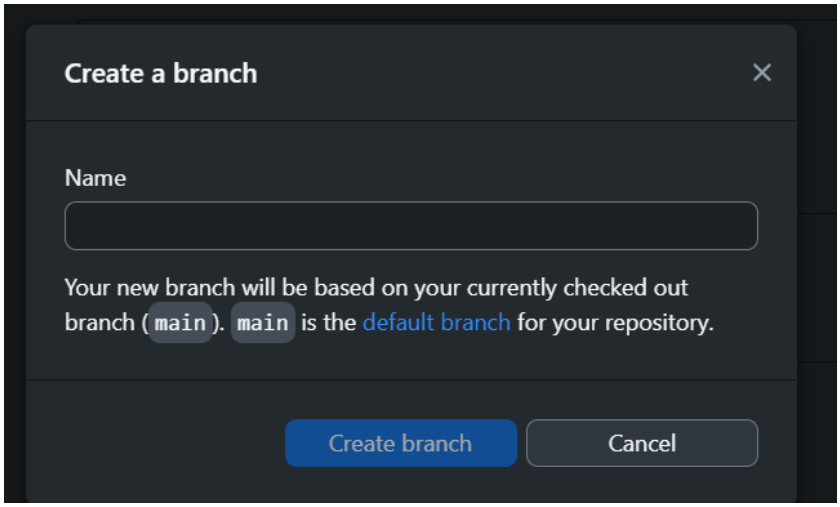
- Clone a Repository - click on the “Clone a repository from the internet”



Search for the repository in the search bar, select and click on the clone button, You can also paste the URL by clicking on the top right corner.

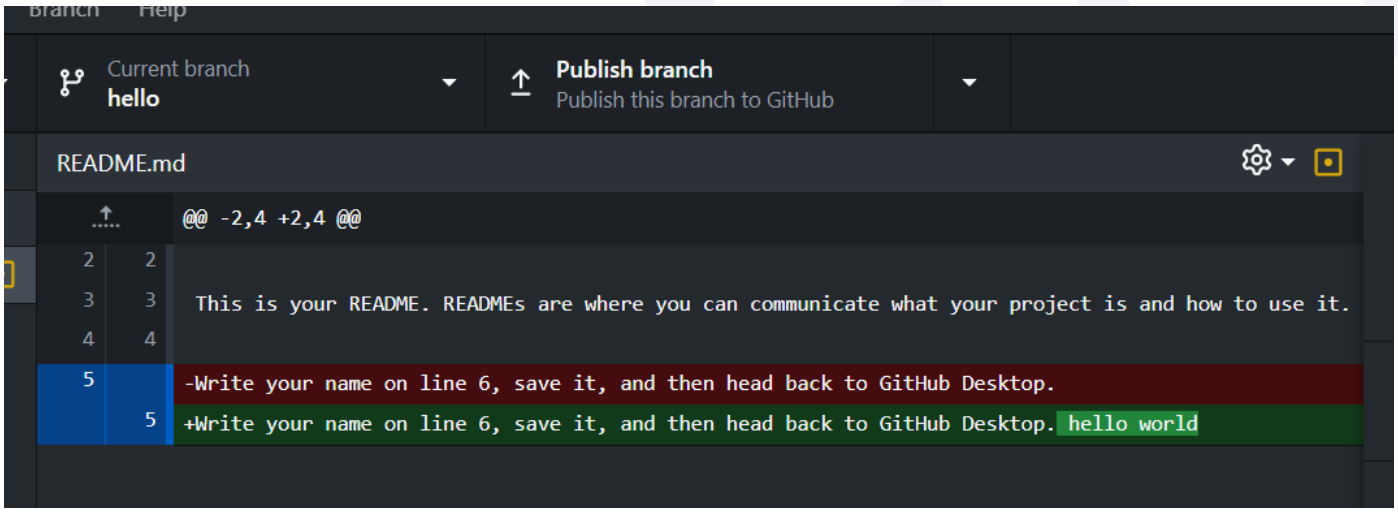
- **Create a new branch -** On clicking the “Current Branch” all the available branches will be displayed, and to create a new branch click on the “new branch” button as shown below -



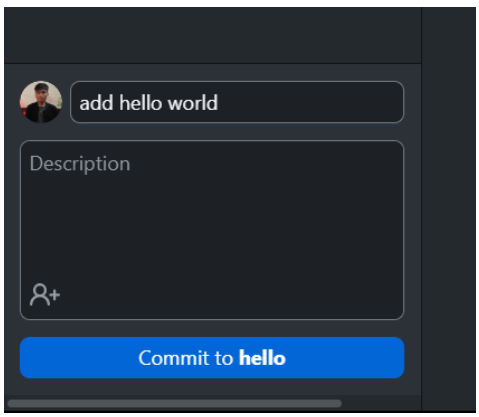


After entering the branch name click on “Create branch”

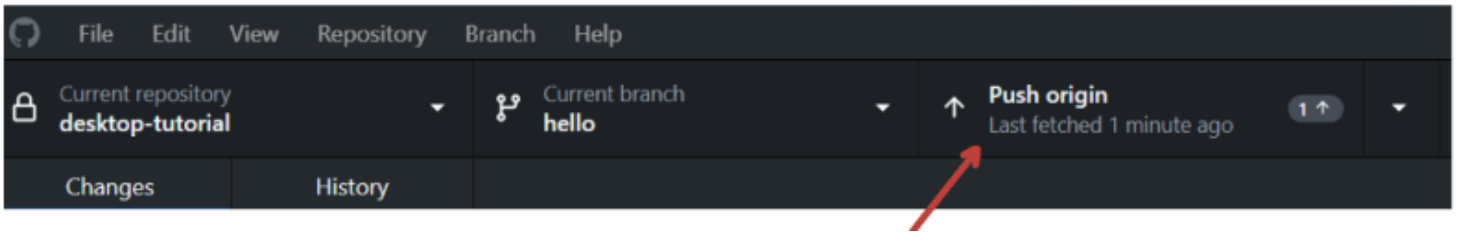
- **Make Changes and Commit –** open this created repository in your preferred text editor. Edit, add, or fix a file, save it,
  File changes will be displayed along with the file as shown below -



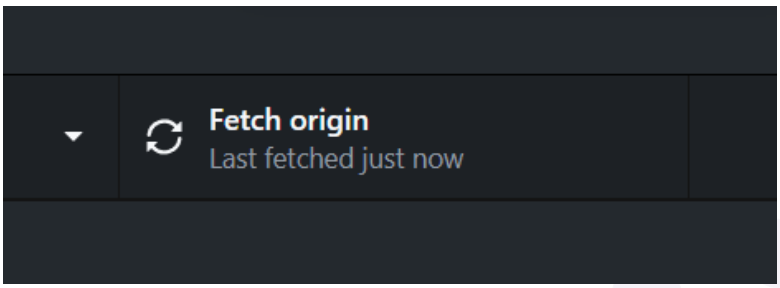
and then commit it with a suitable summary message in the input field at the bottom left corner as shown below -



- **Publish to GitHub –** after making the commit, you'll see a Push origin or Publish button as shown below, click to push your code to GitHub repository.



- **Pull Changes from GitHub –** In case others have made changes to the repository, click "Fetch origin" to get the latest updates as shown below -



This process repeats until the specific project is completed, allowing for continuous progress and updates until the project reaches its conclusion.