close this message

Asked 6 years, 9 months ago Active yesterday Viewed 411k times



I am using Git. I did a pull from a remote repo and got an error message:

524

Please enter a commit message to explain why this merge is necessary, especially if it merges an updated upstream into a topic branch.



I try to type a message and press Enter but nothing happens.



How do I tell Git/Terminal I am done typing in my message?



I am using Terminal on OS X.



git-merge

git-commit

git-commands





pkamb

23.8k • 18 • 108 • 141





- It appears that your GIT is configured to open a pre-configured template and that template is getting opened through default editor (vi/vim). - Shunya Sep 30 '13 at 9:26
 - Abort this merge & try to use git pull --rebase. Ankush Jain Jun 8 '18 at 6:21
- 4 Form me "Shift ZZ" solves the issue – papacico Oct 24 '18 at 10:46

12 Answers

Active Oldest Votes



It's not a Git error message, it's the editor as git uses your default editor.

1214

To solve this:



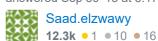
10

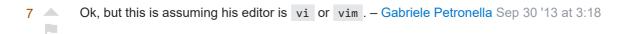
- 1. press "i" (i for insert)
- write your merge message
- 3. press "esc" (escape)
- 4. write ":wq" (write & quit)
- 5. then press enter





answered Sep 30 '13 at 3:17







that's hella complicated - Connor Leech Aug 21 '14 at 22:32

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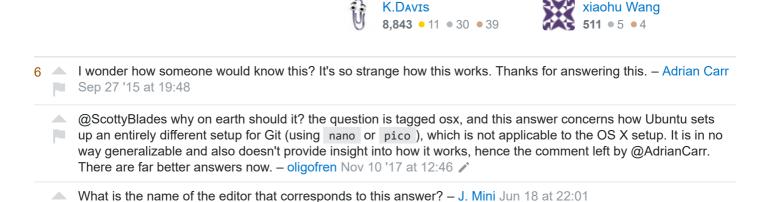


Actually it's not an error! It means you should enter some message to mark this merge. My OS is Ubuntu 14.04.If you use the same OS, you just need to do this as follows:



- 1. Type some message
- 2. Ctrl C O
- 3. Type the file name (such as "Merge_feature01") and press Enter
- 4. Ctrl X to exit

Now if you go to .git and you will find the file "Merge_feature01", that's the merge log actually.



edited Mar 30 '18 at 20:16

answered Jun 27 '15 at 7:53



28

tl;dr Set the editor to something nicer, like Sublime or Atom

Here *nice* is used in the meaning of an editor you *like or find more user friendly*.



The underlying problem is that Git by default uses an editor that is too unintuitive to use for most people: Vim. Now, don't get me wrong, I love Vim, and while you could set some time aside (like a month) to learn Vim and try to understand why some people think Vim is the greatest editor in existence, there is a quicker way of fixing this problem :-)

The fix is not to memorize cryptic commands, like in the accepted answer, but configuring Git to use an editor that you like and understand! It's really as simple as configuring either of these options

- 1. the git config setting core.editor (per project, or globally)
- 2. the VISUAL or EDITOR environment variable (this works for other programs as well)

I'll cover the first option for a couple of popular editors, but GitHub has an excellent <u>guide on this for many</u> <u>editors</u> as well.

To use Atom

Straight from its docs, enter this in a terminal: git config --global core.editor "atom --wait"

close this message

For the same reasons as in the Atom case, you need a special flag to signal to the process that it shouldn't fork to the background:

git config --global core.editor "subl -n -w"

edited May 1 '18 at 10:01

answered Nov 10 '17 at 12:42



oligofren

13.5k • 10 • 64 • 122



Vim doesn't take a month. it takes two days and you never forget as long as you keep a handy cheat sheet you'll need from time to time, at first. – user264431 Jun 17 '19 at 16:14 🖍



Just Do.



CTRL + X



CTRL + C



It will ask you to save file, Press Y, then you are done.



answered May 10 '18 at 7:39



This is if your default editor is "pico" or "nano" The above comments should be used if your default editor is vim. JacKeown Oct 17 '19 at 17:07



Here its asking you for a message which connect with your merge for future reference why you done this merge.











answered May 14 '18 at 8:05





Instead, you could git Ctrl Z and retry the commit but this time add " -m " with a message in quotes after it, then it will commit without prompting you with that page.







(1)



edited Mar 30 '18 at 20:16



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commit --message "message", still the editor pop ups from time to time, requesting a message. Does anypogy knows why the "-m" switch is ignored? - pglpm Aug 2 '18 at 11:36



Since your local repository is few commits ahead, git tries to merge your remote to your local repo. This can be handled via merge, but in your case, perhaps you are looking for rebase, i.e. add your commit to the top. You can do this with



git rebase Or git pull --rebase



Here is a good article explaining the difference between git pull & git pull --rebase.



https://www.derekgourlay.com/blog/git-when-to-merge-vs-when-to-rebase/

answered Jun 8 '18 at 6:25





It's not a Git error message, it's the editor git uses your default editor.

To solve this:



1. press "i"



2. write your merge message



4. write ":wq"

and press enter

Explanation

The way you remember this is that "i" is for "insert", "esc" is the exit the insertion, and ":wq" is just "write" and "quit".

edited Apr 6 at 5:30

answered Apr 6 at 5:24





In my case i got this message after merge. **Decision:** press esc, after this type :qa!



answered yesterday







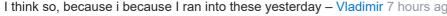


Is this really a helpful answer after over 6 years?... – mate00 yesterday



I think so, because i because I ran into these yesterday – Vladimir 7 hours ago



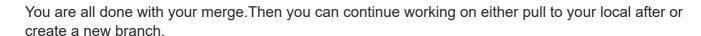


close this message





- Step two Enter you message after "#"
- Step three- Press "esc"
- Step four- at the very bottom write ":wq"
- Step five- Press "Enter"



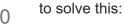
answered Mar 21 '19 at 17:05





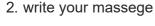
this is not an error. you have to add a massege for this merge















5. press "enter"

answered Apr 12 at 19:08





I found the error because i was new to git you must check whether you have entered the correct syntax



i made a mistake and wrote git commit



and got the same error



USE git commit -m 'some comment'



and you wont be seeing the page with

answered Apr 30 at 20:33

