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Version Control refers to keeping a record of the source code managed online. It keeps track of changes made with the code. While recording being the main purpose of version control the reasons to and features when doing version control widely varies.

The features of version control are helpful from an individual standpoint to a group perspective. It allows you to go back on changes that broke the code. It allows you to reference old code as you now have a record of it. It can be used to have backups in case of unfortunate events. A lot of the current version control applications allow you to work on code with others.

The history of version control spans back to 1959, but the way or recording the code than referred to keeping track of it on paper. Unix, being produced a decade later allowed for file system in order to keep track of code along with being able to restrict and give access to the data.

Traversing onto a more current date one application of version control is Git. Git allows people to move files, commit to server/repositories, branch and merge. It is helpful to name the code with version number as it allows you to put a date on changes at a glance versus searching for it.Git keeps track of who makes changes and commits so you'll know who committed the code. If you have access to someone's repository you can clone code from it and use it yourself. Whenever the code is updated, and you wish to access it you must pull the code. A popular place to store the code is GitHub. It is important to note that Git does not equal GitHub and that they are two separate entities. GitHub is a common place to store Git repositories though.