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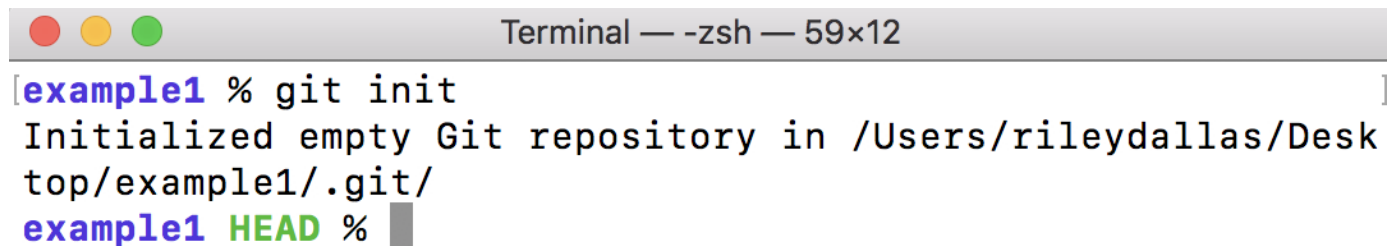
## Creating a Git Repository

We now have a project on our computer, but it is not yet a Git repository.

To create one, type:

```
git init
```

You should see something like this:

A screenshot of a macOS terminal window. The title bar shows three colored window control buttons (red, yellow, green) and the text "Terminal — -zsh — 59x12". The terminal content shows a prompt "example1 %" followed by the command "git init". The output is "Initialized empty Git repository in /Users/rileydallas/Desktop/example1/.git/". The prompt then changes to "example1 HEAD %" with a cursor.

```
example1 % git init
Initialized empty Git repository in /Users/rileydallas/Desktop/example1/.git/
example1 HEAD %
```

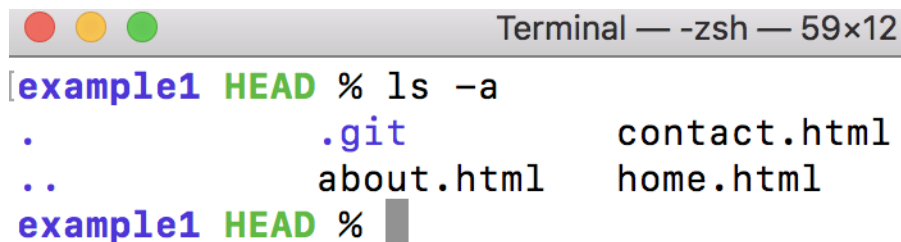
If you type `ls` again, you'll still see the three files you created before:



```
about.html  contact.html  home.html
example1 %
```

But, if you type `ls -a`, you should see a folder called `.git` in your directory.

Any files or directories that begin with `.` (as in `.git`) are hidden by default. When you add the `-a` flag to `ls`, you're saying, "Show me all the files:"



```
Terminal — -zsh — 59x12
[example1 HEAD % ls -a
.                .git                contact.html
..              about.html          home.html
example1 HEAD %
```

Now we have a **local repository** for our project. Git uses the `.git` directory to keep track of changes we make.

