

[← Pre-Course Work](#)

6 / 16

Branching and Pull Requests

Oftentimes when we work on a group project, collaborators will make changes to the same repo at different times. That's where branches come in.

With branches, we can create a copy of the main repo (master branch), perform our work (i.e., additions or alterations), and then merge the changes we've made back into the master.

As you can imagine, when multiple people try to merge their work into the master branch, it can get ugly. Fortunately, we can use pull requests to queue and validate our merges: Rather than having a branch merge automatically, the changes go through an administrator who reviews and then approves or denies individual pull requests.

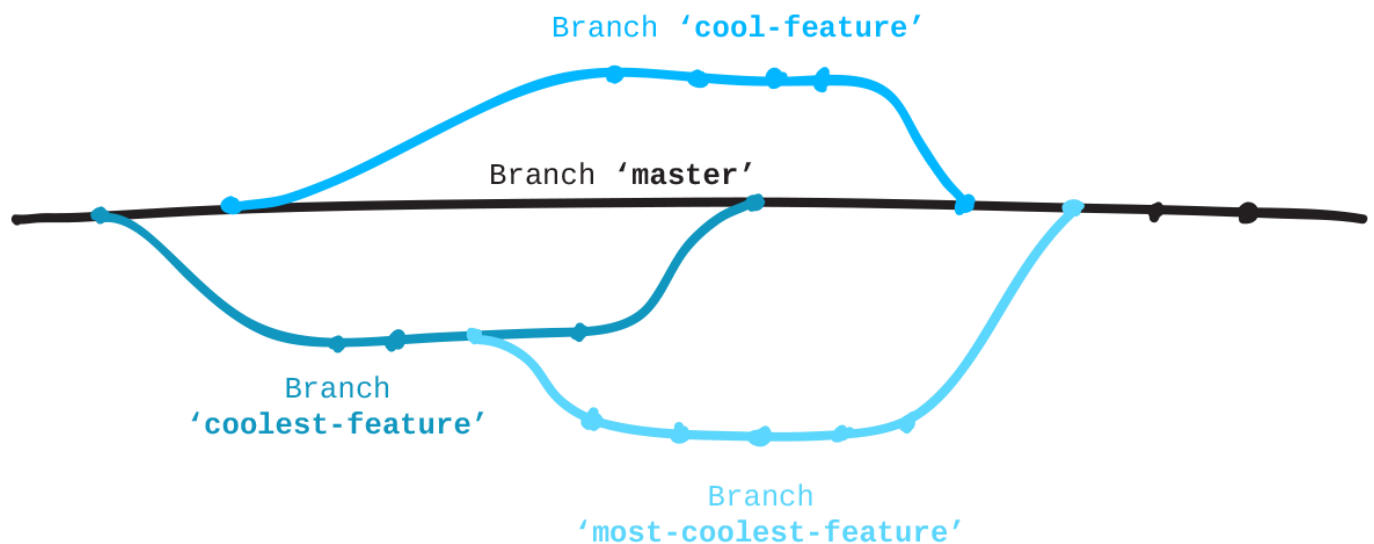


Image courtesy of GitHub user [Rafase282](#)

Pro tip: Even though we are trying to “push” our information into the master branch, we call it a pull request because we are asking an administrator to “pull” our branch into the master.