

skillcrush

GIT ERRORS

cheatsheet

WHEN DISASTER STRIKES

As you're learning Git, you will inevitably run into some confusing and possibly even infuriating errors. These errors get even the best of developers, so it's important that you learn how to read Git errors and understand how to fix them.

Lucky for you, we've created this handy cheatsheet that outlines common Git errors and how to solve them!

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT GIT & GITHUB

For more information about Git, check out the [Git documentation](#).

For more information about GitHub, check out [GitHub's help guide](#).

COMMON GIT ERRORS & HOW TO FIX THEM

merge conflicts

Before you can push your code up to your remote repository, you have to pull down any changes and merge them into your local repository. If the same lines in the same file have been changed in both locations, Git doesn't know which changes are authoritative and can't merge the two copies of the file together.

```
Automerging hello.html
CONFLICT (content): Merge conflict in hello.html
Automatic merge failed; fix conflicts and then commit the result.
```

How to fix: When this happens, Git adds text to the conflicting files so that you can edit them and choose which code to keep. The added text looks like this:

```
<<<<<< HEAD
changes made on branch you are merging into
=====
changes made on branch you are merging
>>>>>>
```

The easiest way to fix merge conflicts is to open the files in conflict, find the text that Git added, and choose which code to keep. After you save the file, you'll need to commit and push to completely fix the merge conflicts.

not a git command

This error happens when you misspell a Git command. For example, typing `git stauts` instead of `git status` will display the following error:

```
git: 'stauts' is not a git command. See 'git --help'.
Did you mean this?
    status
```

How to fix: When you get an error, first double check to make sure you typed all your commands correctly.

nothing specified, nothing added

Git is not a mind-reader (unfortunately). If you run the `git add` command without specifying a file or directory, it won't know what you want to add.

```
Nothing specified, nothing added.
Maybe you wanted to say 'git add .'?
```

How to fix: Always specify a file or a directory when using the `git add` command, or use a `.` to add all files and directories.

not a git repository

Oops! You just tried to add a file or run a Git command, and Git is confused because your current directory is not a Git repository.

```
fatal: Not a git repository (or any of the parent directories): .git
```

How to fix: First make sure you're in the correct directory. Also be sure you first initialize a Git repository using the `git init` command before trying to add any files.

repository not found

If you try to run the `git push` command and see this error, it means that Git doesn't know where you're trying to push to. You're either not being specific enough, or the location you specified does not exist.

```
ERROR: Repository not found. fatal: The remote end hung up unexpectedly
```

How to fix: Make sure that you have already added a remote connection by running `git remote -v`, that you are using the right name (typos matter!!) and that the remote address is correct.

'branch' does not match any

This error occurs when you try to push to a branch that does not exist, or you misspell your branch name.

```
error: src refspec mytopicbranch does not match any.  
error: failed to push some refs to  
'git@github.com:skillcrush/myproject.git'
```

How to fix: Make sure you didn't misspell anything in your command, and check your branch names with the `git branch -a` command.

git push rejected

If your local repository and the remote repository are out of sync and you try to push commits, Git will reject your push attempt.

```
! [rejected] master > master (nonfast forward) error: failed to push some  
refs to 'git@github.com:skillcrush/myproject.git'
```

How to fix: You have to first pull down any changes from the remote repository to merge them into your local repository, and then trying pushing your commits again.
