

GitHub

GIT CHEAT SHEET

Git is the free and open source distributed version control system that's responsible for everything GitHub related that happens locally on your computer. This cheat sheet features the most important and commonly used Git commands for easy reference.

INSTALLATION & GUIs

With platform specific installers for Git, GitHub also provides the ease of staying up-to-date with the latest releases of the command line tool while providing a graphical user interface for day-to-day interaction, review, and repository synchronization.

GitHub for Windows

<https://windows.github.com>

GitHub for Mac

<https://mac.github.com>

For Linux and Solaris platforms, the latest release is available on the official Git web site.

Git for All Platforms

<http://git-scm.com>

SETUP

Configuring user information used across all local repositories

git config --global user.name "[firstname lastname]"

set a name that is identifiable for credit when reviewing history

git config --global user.email "[valid-email]"

set an email address that will be associated with each history marker

git config --global color.ui auto

set automatic command line coloring for Git for easy reviewing

SETUP & INIT

Configuring user information, initializing and cloning repositories

git init

initialize an existing directory as a Git repository

git clone [url]

retrieve an entire repository from a hosted location via URL

STAGE & SNAPSHOT

Working with snapshots and the Git staging area

git status

show modified files in working directory, staged for your next commit

git add [file]

add a file as it looks now to your next commit (stage)

git reset [file]

unstage a file while retaining the changes in working directory

git diff

diff of what is changed but not staged

git diff --staged

diff of what is staged but not yet committed

git commit -m "[descriptive message]"

commit your staged content as a new commit snapshot

BRANCH & MERGE

Isolating work in branches, changing context, and integrating changes

git branch

list your branches. a * will appear next to the currently active branch

git branch [branch-name]

create a new branch at the current commit

git checkout

switch to another branch and check it out into your working directory

git merge [branch]

merge the specified branch's history into the current one

git log

show all commits in the current branch's history



INSPECT & COMPARE

Examining logs, diffs and object information

`git log`

show the commit history for the currently active branch

`git log branchB..branchA`

show the commits on branchA that are not on branchB

`git log --follow [file]`

show the commits that changed file, even across renames

`git diff branchB...branchA`

show the diff of what is in branchA that is not in branchB

`git show [SHA]`

show any object in Git in human-readable format

SHARE & UPDATE

Retrieving updates from another repository and updating local repos

`git remote add [alias] [url]`

add a git URL as an alias

`git fetch [alias]`

fetch down all the branches from that Git remote

`git merge [alias]/[branch]`

merge a remote branch into your current branch to bring it up to date

`git push [alias] [branch]`

Transmit local branch commits to the remote repository branch

`git pull`

fetch and merge any commits from the tracking remote branch

TRACKING PATH CHANGES

Versioning file removes and path changes

`git rm [file]`

delete the file from project and stage the removal for commit

`git mv [existing-path] [new-path]`

change an existing file path and stage the move

`git log --stat -M`

show all commit logs with indication of any paths that moved

REWRITE HISTORY

Rewriting branches, updating commits and clearing history

`git rebase [branch]`

apply any commits of current branch ahead of specified one

`git reset --hard [commit]`

clear staging area, rewrite working tree from specified commit

IGNORING PATTERNS

Preventing unintentional staging or committing of files

`logs/ *.notes pattern*/`

Save a file with desired patterns as .gitignore with either direct string matches or wildcard globs.

`git config --global core.excludesfile [file]`

system wide ignore pattern for all local repositories

TEMPORARY COMMITS

Temporarily store modified, tracked files in order to change branches

`git stash`

Save modified and staged changes

`git stash list`

list stack-order of stashed file changes

`git stash pop`

write working from top of stash stack

`git stash drop`

discard the changes from top of stash stack

GitHub Education

Teach and learn better, together. GitHub is free for students and teachers. Discounts available for other educational uses.

✉ education@github.com

☞ education.github.com

Git Cheat Sheet



01 Git configuration

<code>git config --global user.name "Your Name"</code>	Set the name that will be attached to your commits and tags.
<code>git config --global user.email "you@example.com"</code>	Set the e-mail address that will be attached to your commits and tags.
<code>git config --global color.ui auto</code>	Enable some colorization of Git output.

02 Starting a project

<code>git init [project name]</code>	Create a new local repository in the current directory. If [project name] is provided, Git will create a new directory named [project name] and will initialize a repository inside it.
<code>git clone <project url></code>	Downloads a project with the entire history from the remote repository.

03 Day-to-day work

<code>git status</code>	Displays the status of your working directory. Options include new, staged, and modified files. It will retrieve branch name, current commit identifier, and changes pending commit.
<code>git add [file]</code>	Add a file to the staging area . Use <code>.in</code> place of the full file path to add all changed files from the current directory down into the directory tree .
<code>git diff [file]</code>	Show changes between working directory and staging area .
<code>git diff --staged [file]</code>	Shows any changes between the staging area and the repository .
<code>git checkout -- [file]</code>	Discard changes in working directory . This operation is unrecoverable .
<code>git reset [<path>...]</code>	Revert some paths in the index (or the whole index) to their state in HEAD .
<code>git commit</code>	Create a new commit from changes added to the staging area . The commit must have a message!

<code>git rm [file]</code>	Remove file from working directory and staging area .
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04 Storing your work

<code>git stash</code>	Put current changes in your working directory into stash for later use.
<code>git stash pop</code>	Apply stored stash content into working directory , and clear stash .
<code>git stash drop</code>	Delete a specific stash from all your previous stashes .

05 Git branching model

<code>git branch [-a]</code>	List all local branches in repository. With -a : show all branches (with remote).
<code>git branch [branch_name]</code>	Create new branch, referencing the current HEAD .
<code>git rebase [branch_name]</code>	Apply commits of the current working branch and apply them to the HEAD of [branch] to make the history of your branch more linear.
<code>git checkout [-b] [branch_name]</code>	Switch working directory to the specified branch. With -b : Git will create the specified branch if it does not exist.
<code>git merge [branch_name]</code>	Join specified [branch_name] branch into your current branch (the one you are on currently).
<code>git branch -d [branch_name]</code>	Remove selected branch, if it is already merged into any other. -D instead of -d forces deletion.

Commit	a state of the code base
Branch	a reference to a commit; can have a tracked upstream
Tag	a reference (standard) or an object (annotated)
HEAD	a place where your working directory is now

06 Inspect history

<code>git log [-n count]</code>	List commit history of current branch. -n count limits list to last n commits.
<code>git log --oneline --graph --decorate</code>	An overview with reference labels and history graph. One commit per line.
<code>git log ref..</code>	List commits that are present on the current branch and not merged into ref . A ref can be a branch name or a tag name.
<code>git log ..ref</code>	List commit that are present on ref and not merged into current branch.
<code>git reflog</code>	List operations (e.g. checkouts or commits) made on local repository.

07 Tagging commits

<code>git tag</code>	List all tags.
<code>git tag [name] [commit sha]</code>	Create a tag reference named name for current commit. Add commit sha to tag a specific commit instead of current one.
<code>git tag -a [name] [commit sha]</code>	Create a tag object named name for current commit.
<code>git tag -d [name]</code>	Remove a tag from local repository.

08 Reverting changes

<code>git reset [--hard] [target reference]</code>	Switches the current branch to the target reference , leaving a difference as an uncommitted change. When --hard is used, all changes are discarded. It's easy to lose uncommitted changes with --hard .
<code>git revert [commit sha]</code>	Create a new commit, reverting changes from the specified commit. It generates an inversion of changes.

09 Synchronizing repositories

<code>git fetch [remote]</code>	Fetch changes from the remote , but not update tracking branches.
<code>git fetch --prune [remote]</code>	Delete remote Refs that were removed from the remote repository.
<code>git pull [remote]</code>	Fetch changes from the remote and merge current branch with its upstream.
<code>git push [--tags] [remote]</code>	Push local changes to the remote . Use --tags to push tags.
<code>git push -u [remote] [branch]</code>	Push local branch to remote repository. Set its copy as an upstream.

10 Git installation

For GNU/Linux distributions, Git should be available in the standard system repository. For example, in Debian/Ubuntu please type inthe terminal:

```
sudo apt-get install git
```

If you need to install Git from source, you can get it from git-scm.com/downloads.

An excellent Git course can be found in the great Pro Git book by Scott Chacon and Ben Straub. The book is available online for free at git-scm.com/book.

11 Ignoring files

```
cat <<EOF > .gitignore
/logs/*
!logs/.gitkeep
/tmp
*.swp
EOF
```

To ignore files, create a `.gitignore` file in your repository with a line for each pattern. File ignoring will work for the current and sub directories where `.gitignore` file is placed. In this example, all files are ignored in the `logs` directory (excluding the `.gitkeep` file), whole `tmp` directory and all files `*.swp`.