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GitHub Tutuorial

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Part 3: What is GitHub? When was it created? Why? By who? What similar platforms exist? Why would you use such a platform?

GitHub is a tool mainly for software developers. It is used to host various files and source code in different repositories, making it easy to make constant changes if need be. Created in 2008 by developers Tom Preston-Werner, Chris Wanstrath, and PJ Hyett, GitHub supports millions of users for many projects. GitHub uses Git, a “bare bones” version control system, to create, manipulate, and update repositories and files. There are many similar GitHub alternatives, such as Bitbucket, GitLab, and Beanstalk, but GitHub serves as the primary choice and industry standard in this field. While there are many uses for GitHub, including such light uses as simply hosting and downloading files, developers choose GitHub for both its accessibility and functionality.

Part 5: Define:

Repository

A specific directory that Git has been initialized in to manipulate files

Commit

A check of the current repository used to view a timeline of changes made. Can be used to make comments and see changes others have made.

Push

Used to place Git commits such as when local changes are made to a remote repository

Branch

A copy of the code used to make separate changes. Useful when making changes to already working code because changing things around in a master file can ruin the whole code

Fork

A copy of someone else’s code so you can edit their files without necessarily having the right permissions

Merge

Used to bring together changes made in different branches.

Clone

Like a fork, but on a repository level.

Pull

Used to see what pushes have been added over time. Other people can push things onto your repository, so it’s useful to keep track of changes.

Pull request

A request to someone else’s repository to add your files to their repository