Kodi Community Forum (http://forum.kodi.tv/index.php) Support (forumdisplay.php?fid=33) Tips, tricks, and step by step guides (forumdisplay.php?fid=110) [Windows] HOW TO - Clone/Fork a GitHub Repository and Remain Synced with the Original

### Windows - HOW TO - Clone/Fork a GitHub Repository and Remain Synced with the Original Thread Rating: [85858585a)

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2015-06-13 10:06

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### Warner306 (http://forum.kodi.tv/member.php? action=profile&uid=206670) A Posting Freak

Posts: 2,548 Joined: Feb 2014 Reputation: **88** (reputation.php?uid=206670) Location: Canada

How to Clone/Fork a Kodi GitHub Repository

\*Alternative approach using tortoisegit (http://forum.kodi.tv/showthread.php?tid=229467&pid=2028340#pid2028340).

This is a detailed tutorial on how to fork a GitHub repository and keep it in-sync with the original branch. This should be of particular interest to those interested in maintaining a personalized version of a skin without missing out on future updates. It can also be used to avoid having to download a repository repeatedly just to add new features.

### 1. SIGN-UP FOR A GITHUB ACCOUNT

https://github.com/join (https://github.com/join)

A GitHub account is required to fork a repository and rebrand it as your own. This sign-in also carries-over to GitHub Desktop.

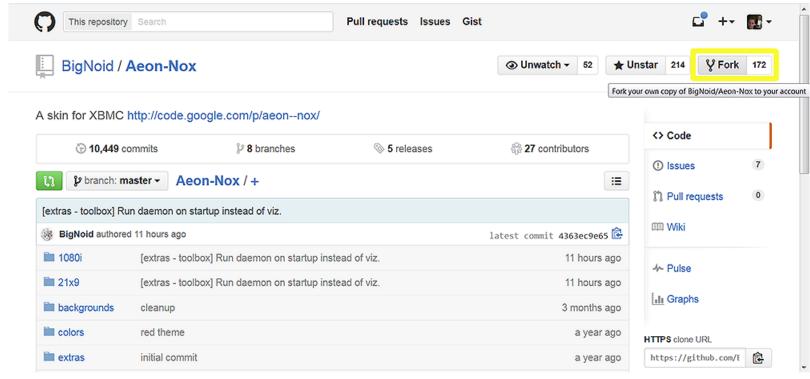
### 2. DOWNLOAD GITHUB DESKTOP

https://windows.github.com/ (https://windows.github.com/)

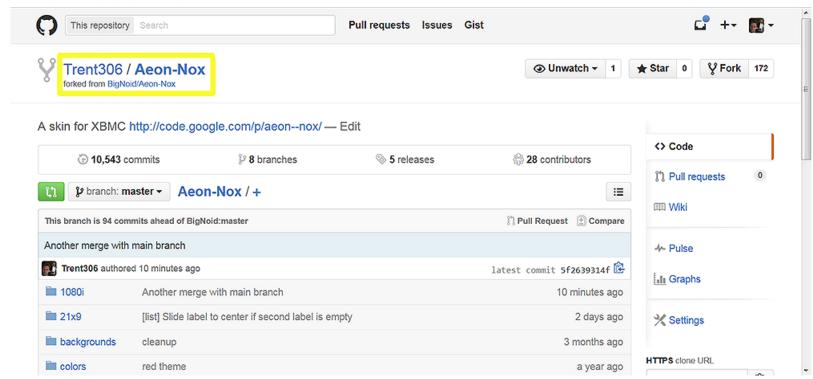
GitHub Desktop provides a desktop interface to manage your skin. A few antiquated command prompt entries remain necessary to keep up-to-date with the original repository, but this program will make working with GitHub a user-friendly experience. Here, you can keep track of and authorize new commits and sync these changes with your online GitHub account.

#### 3. FORK A REPOSITORY

To fork a repository, navigate to the GitHub page of your favorite skin and click the **Fork button**. An identical copy of the skin will be created with your GitHub moniker as the new lead designer. Any alterations of this repository can be of your own creation. While future changes to the original repository can also be mirrored/synced with your new fork:



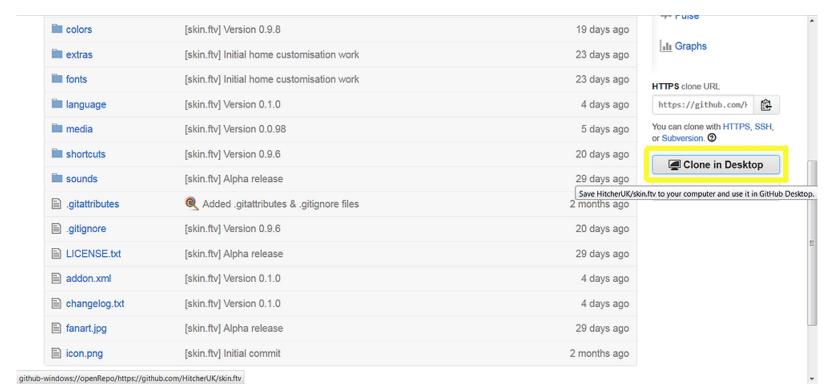
The forked repository should bear the name of the GitHub account owner:



# 4. CLONE THE REPOSITORY TO THE DESKTOP

Once the skin has been forked, click **Clone in Desktop** to create a copy of the forked repository in **GitHub Desktop** (choose *GitHub*). The program will ask you to select a folder for the skin to be copied. It can be convenient to place this folder in Kodi addons so downloaded changes are reflected immediately in the active skin (e.g. C:\Users\USERNAME\AppData\Roaming\Kodi\addons). The existing skin folder must first be deleted for the GitHub fork to take its place. Others may prefer to keep the GitHub folder separate from the active skin to avoid overwriting and losing local versions.

When making changes locally, adding files to the chosen folder location will be tracked and uploaded as new commits to your skin:



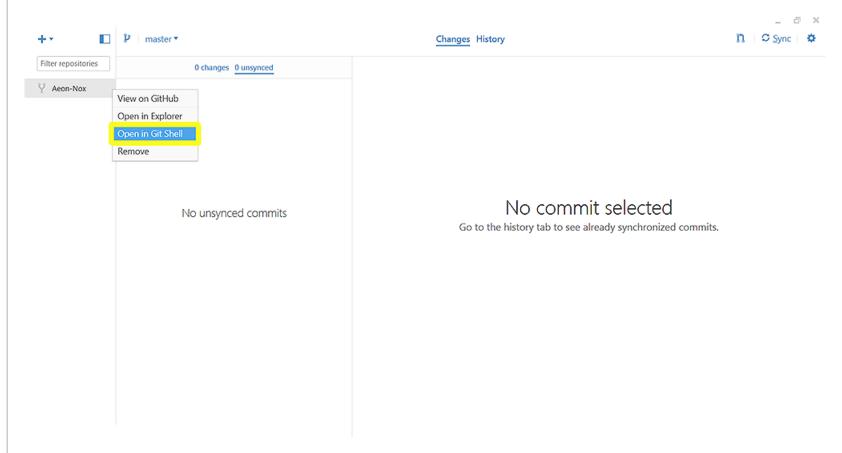
So, you may want to test a new feature by changing a skin xml file in the userdata folder and loading Kodi. Once satisfied with the change, as long as the xml is in your GitHub folder, opening GitHub Desktop will prepare a new commit. The program will display the additions or subtractions to the code and await confirmation of the change. This commit can then be synced to the online GitHub account.

# 5. REMAINING SYNCED WITH THE ORIGINAL REPOSITORY

You will likely want to keep up with future commits from the original repository including fixes and new features. Downloading updates is possible by syncing

the fork with the original. To accomplish this, the upstream (original) repository must first be declared in **Git Shell**.

Right-click the repository in GitHub Desktop and choose Open in Git Shell:



#### **Git Shell command prompt:**

```
## posh-git ~ Aeon-Nox [master]

## Mindows PowerShell
Copyright (C) 2009 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

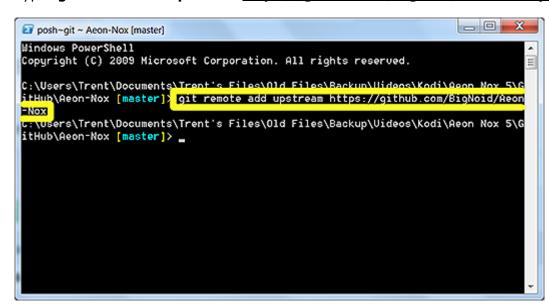
C:\Users\Trent\Documents\Trent's Files\Old Files\Backup\Uideos\Kodi\Aeon Nox 5\G

itHub\Aeon-Nox [master]> ____
```

## Step 1 - Add Upstream Repository

In this example, the upstream repository is Aeon Nox 5 (https://github.com/BigNoid/Aeon-Nox).

Type: git remote add upstream <a href="https://github.com/BigNoid/Aeon-Nox">https://github.com/BigNoid/Aeon-Nox</a>)

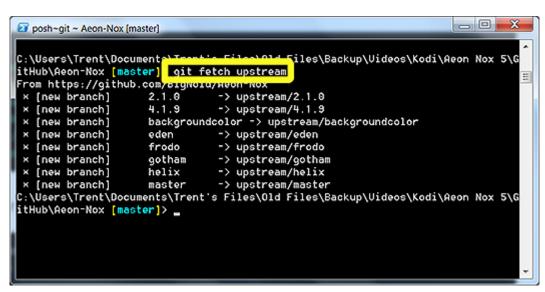


The upstream repository is added.

# Step 2 - Fetch Upstream Branches

To load remote branches before syncing, it is necessary to fetch this information from the remote server.

Type: git fetch upstream



Changes from all remote branches are loaded.

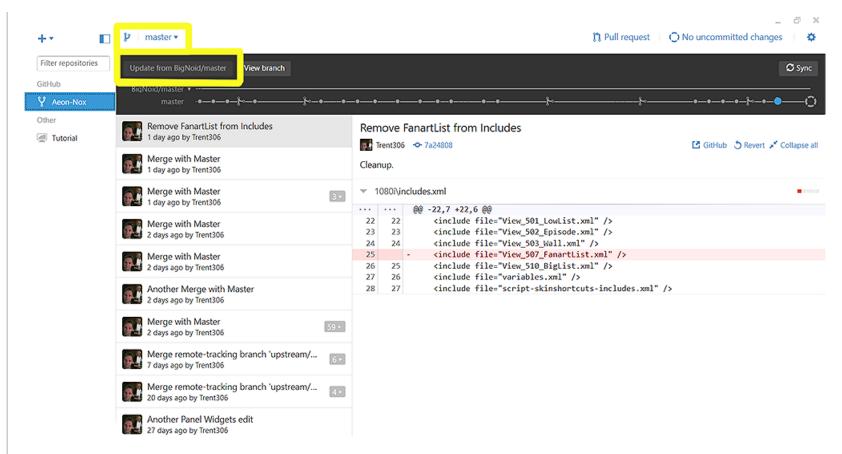
# Step 3 – Sync Changes with the Forked Repository

Close **Git Shell** and return to **GitHub Desktop**. You should now be presented with an option to update the current branch with the selected remote branch. Be careful when updating from this screen by ensuring the correct paths are chosen. The example below shows two choices are required before updating:

Top: Choose Local Branch (e.g. master)

Black: Choose Remote Branch (e.g. ORIGINAL/master)

After selecting the desired branches, click **Update** to download files from the remote server.



Changes from the original repository are synced to the fork. In this case, synced changes come from the **master branch**.

Opening GitHub Desktop will show the new commits on the fork's timeline. Local files in the GitHub folder are updated. Sync all local changes to the server.

#### **Alternative - Update with Git Shell**

It is possible to manually apply updates using **Git Shell** with the commands below:

### git fetch upstream

Changes from the upstream (forked repository) are loaded.

### git merge upstream/branch

The local branch is synced to the desired remote branch. For example, git merge upstream/master would download changes from the remote master branch.

### **6. DEALING WITH MERGE CONFLICTS**

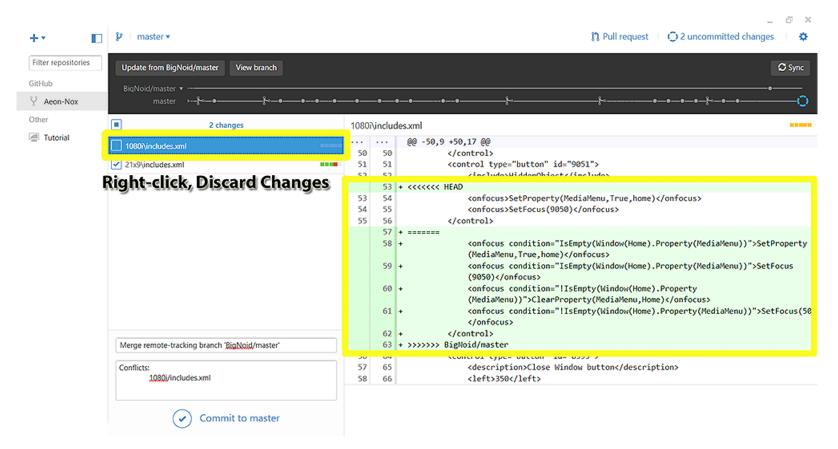
Merge conflicts may arise during merges with the original repository if common code is in conflict. These files can be ignored or edited manually at the discretion of the user. The more one edits a fork, the more likely merge conflicts will arise. If you are merely syncing with an online repository and not editing any files on your own, then merge conflicts will be unlikely.

### **Discarding Changes to Conflicting Files**

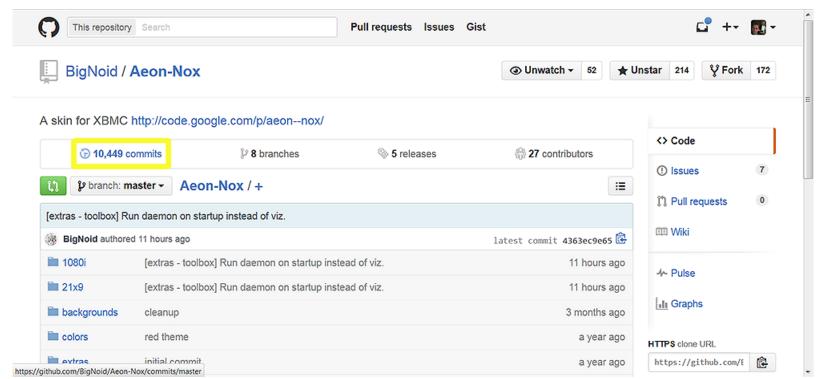
In this example, conflicting files will be discarded to allow the sync to be completed. A commit should be loaded after attempting a sync with the remote branch. This is an extra commit on top of those downloaded from the main branch, which provides a summary of all files involved including those in conflict.

Any file not checked by default is in conflict. The code on the right clearly indicates where code conflicts are apparent. Any commit attempted with these conflicts will be rejected.

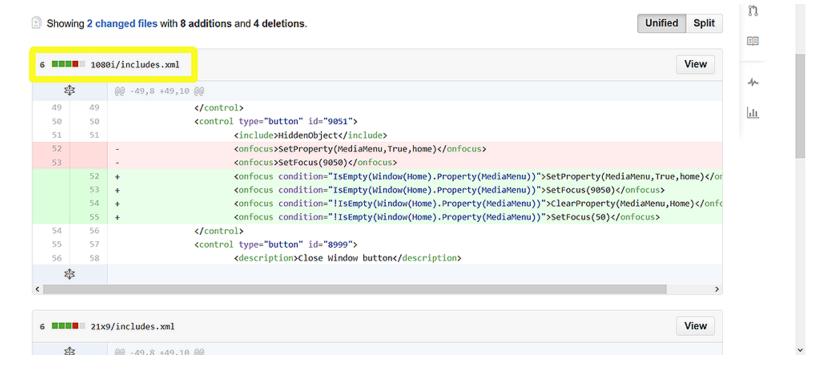
The recommendation is to right-click each conflict and select Discard Changes. These commits will be dealt with manually:



# Add Changes Marked as Conflicts as Manual Edits

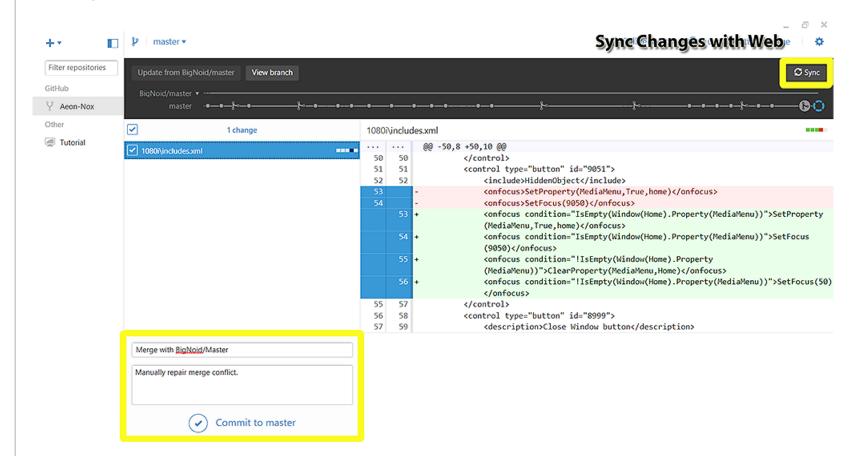


A list of commits will be loaded. Choose the commit with the conflicting file and open the same file in Notepad++ or another xml editor. Add each desired change to the xml. This can mean hunting down line numbers and cutting and pasting text. It may be easiest to download the file from the original repository and paste the changes from downloaded file:



#### **Create a New Commit**

When finished, close the file and return to GitHub Desktop. The program should detect the edited file and ready a new commit. Commit to master and Sync the changes to the Web:



That's it! Rinse and repeat as desired. With a combination of GitHub, GitHub Desktop and Git Shell, you can enjoy editing and maintaining your very own custom Kodi skin.

#### **FURTHER READING**

https://processwire.com/talk/topic/1565-...r-windows/ (https://processwire.com/talk/topic/1565-github-for-windows/)

### **SKINNING TIP**

Add **ReloadSkin()** to your keyboard.xml to allow instant loading of your skinning changes in Kodi. This is a major time saver!

Windows - HOW TO - Configure a Logitech Harmony Remote for Kodi (http://forum.kodi.tv/showthread.php?tid=220677)
Windows - HOW TO - Configure Kodi DSPlayer with LAV Filters, XySubFilter & madVR (http://forum.kodi.tv/showthread.php?tid=222576)

(This post was last modified: 2016-06-27 00:45 by Warner306 (http://forum.kodi.tv/member.php?action=profile&uid=206670).)

# <u>BigNoid</u>

(http://forum.kodi.tv/member.php? 



action=profile&uid=71110) Posts: 3,757

Joined: Jul 2010 Reputation: **147** (reputation.php?uid=71110) Location: Below sea level

Nice! Small comment; instead of

FIND (SEARCH.PHP?ACTION=FINDUSER&UID=206670)

Code: git merge upstream/master

2015-06-13 12:11

Code:

git rebase upstream/master

to avoid merge commits.

Aeon Nox (https://github.com/BigNoid/Aeon-Nox/)

Always read the online manual (http://kodi.wiki/view/online manual) (wiki), FAQ (http://kodi.wiki/view/FAQ) (wiki) and search the forum before posting.

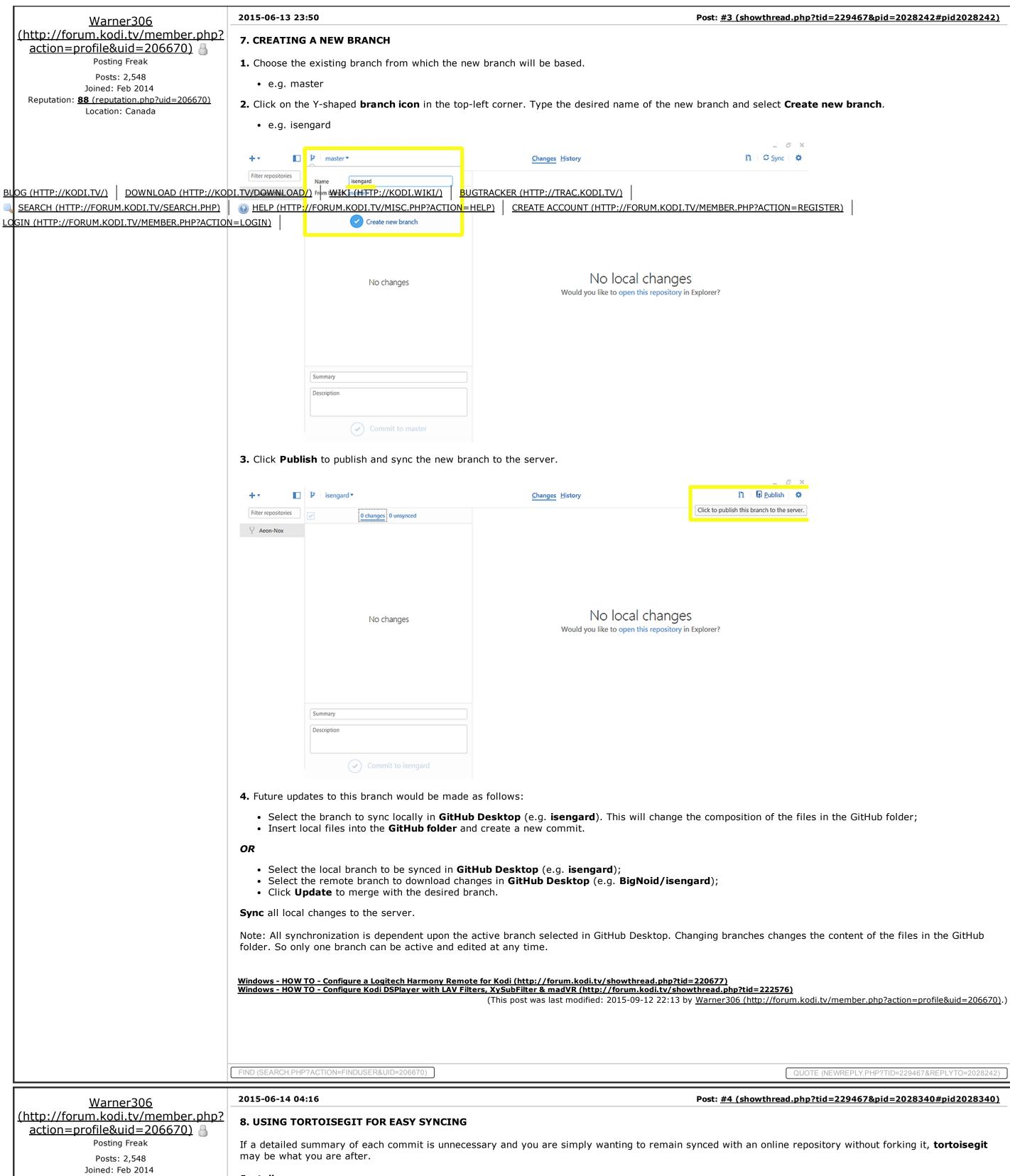
Do not e-mail Team Kodi members directly asking for support. Read/follow the forum rules (http://kodi.wiki/view/forum rules) (wiki).

Please read the pages on troubleshooting (http://kodi.wiki/view/troubleshooting) (wiki) and bug reporting (http://kodi.wiki/view/bug reporting) (wiki) before reporting issues.

FIND (SEARCH.PHP?ACTION=FINDUSER&UID=71110)

QUOTE (NEWREPLY.PHP?TID=229467&REPLYTO=2027865)

Post: #2 (showthread.php?tid=229467&pid=2027865#pid2027865)



Reputation: **88** (reputation.php?uid=206670) Location: Canada

# Install:

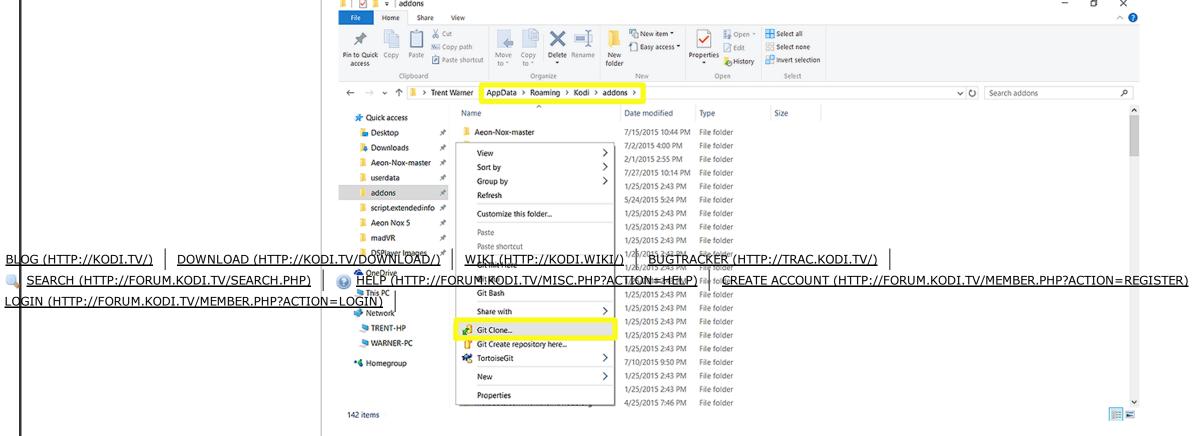
- git for Windows (https://git-for-windows.github.io/)
- tortoisegit (https://tortoisegit.org/)

# 1. Clone the Repository

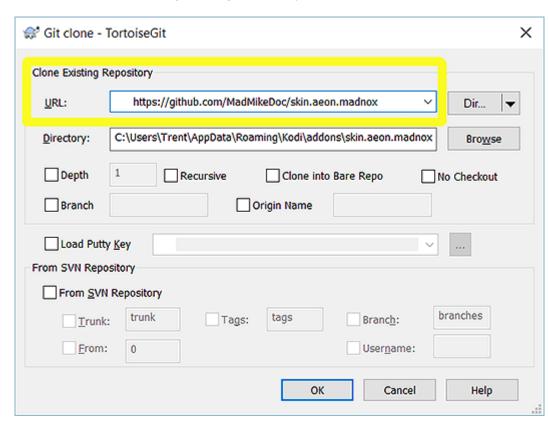
The cloned repository should be placed in the **Kodi addons** folder with all other active Kodi addons.

e.g. C:\Users\USERNAME\AppData\Roaming\Kodi\addons

**Right-click** on an empty space in the addons folder and select **Git Clone...** 



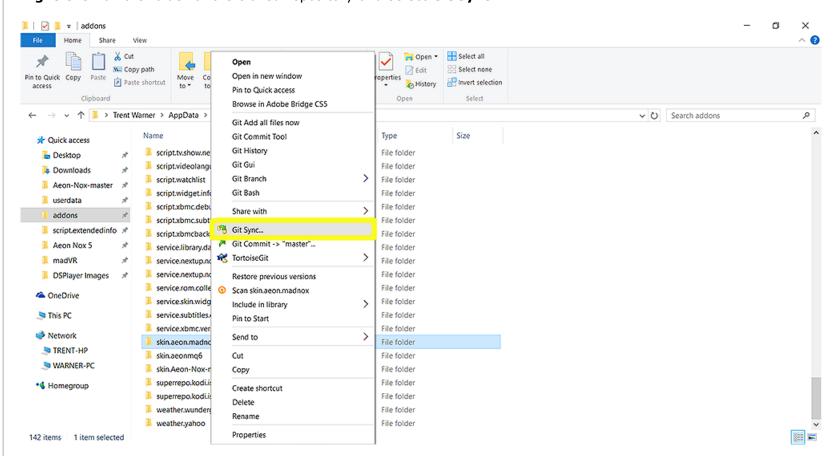
Enter the **URL of the repository** in the top address bar:



The repository will be cloned to the addons folder. This may take some time depending on the size of the repository.

### 2. Sync the Downloaded Repository with the Original

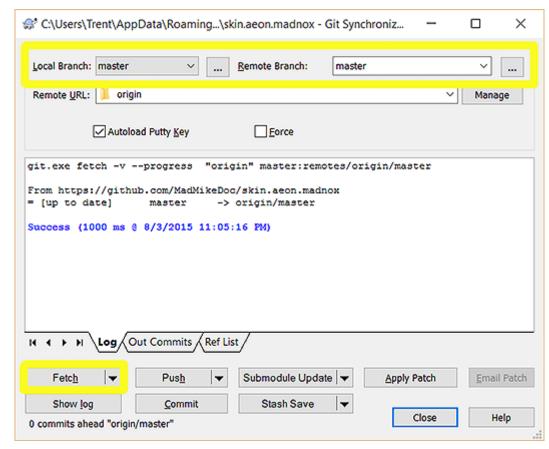
Right-click on the folder of the cloned repository and select Git Sync...



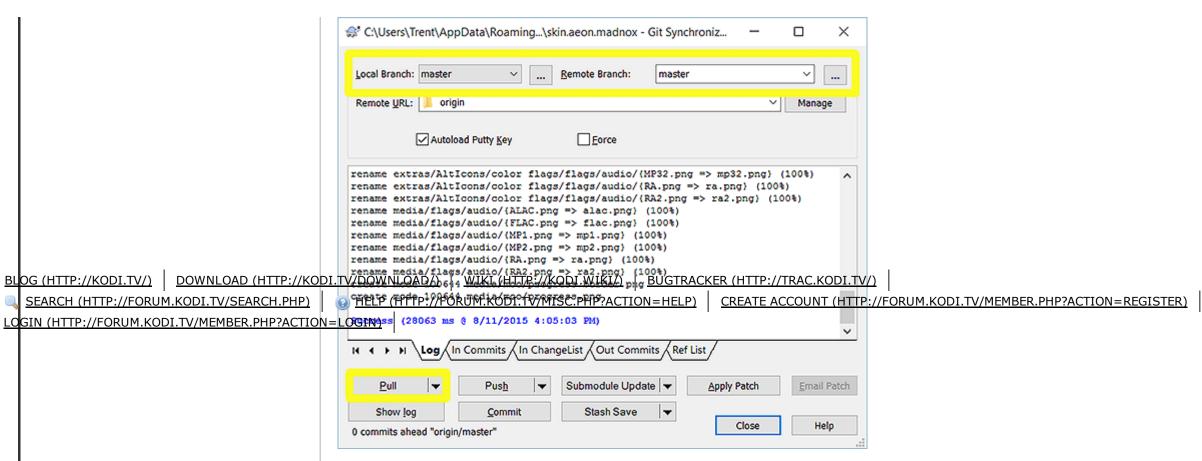
A menu will pop-up. From here, it is possible to select what **Local Branch** will be updated from the chosen **Remote Branch** of the original repository.

Two commands are of use:

**Fetch:** Loads a list of the most recent commits from the selected **Remote Branch**.



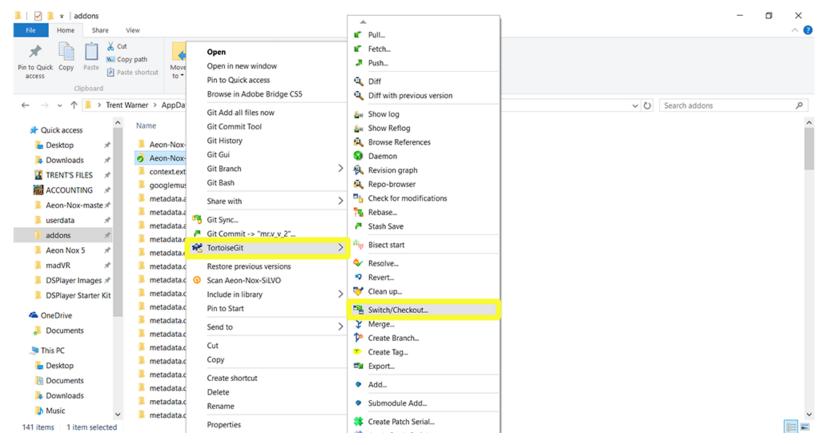
**Pull:** Completes a local sync of all changed files from the selected **Remote Branch**.



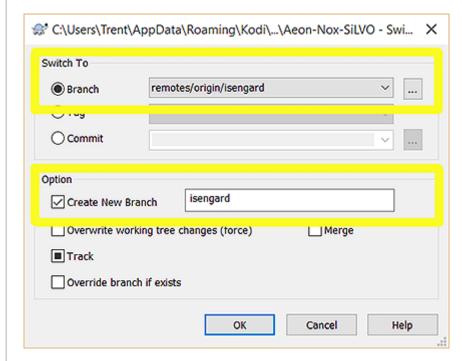
## 3. Change & Add New Branches

BLOG (HTTP://KODI.TV/)

Git Clone downloads the master branch by default. To switch to additional branches, Right-click on the folder of the cloned repository and select TortoiseGit -> Switch/Checkout...



Choose the branch and leave the checkbox Create New Branch ticked. The contents of the folder in Kodi addons will be changed to reflect the new branch.

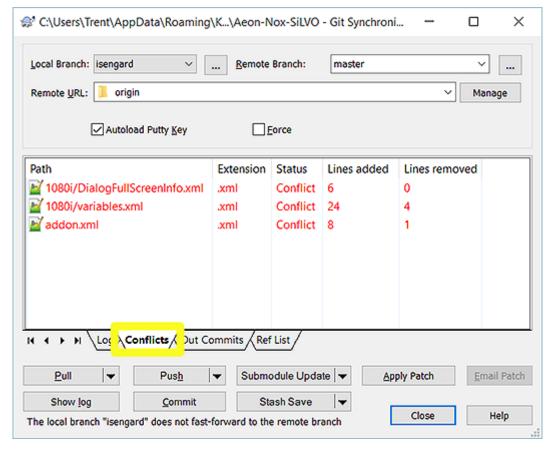


Switching between branches is possible with the context menu.

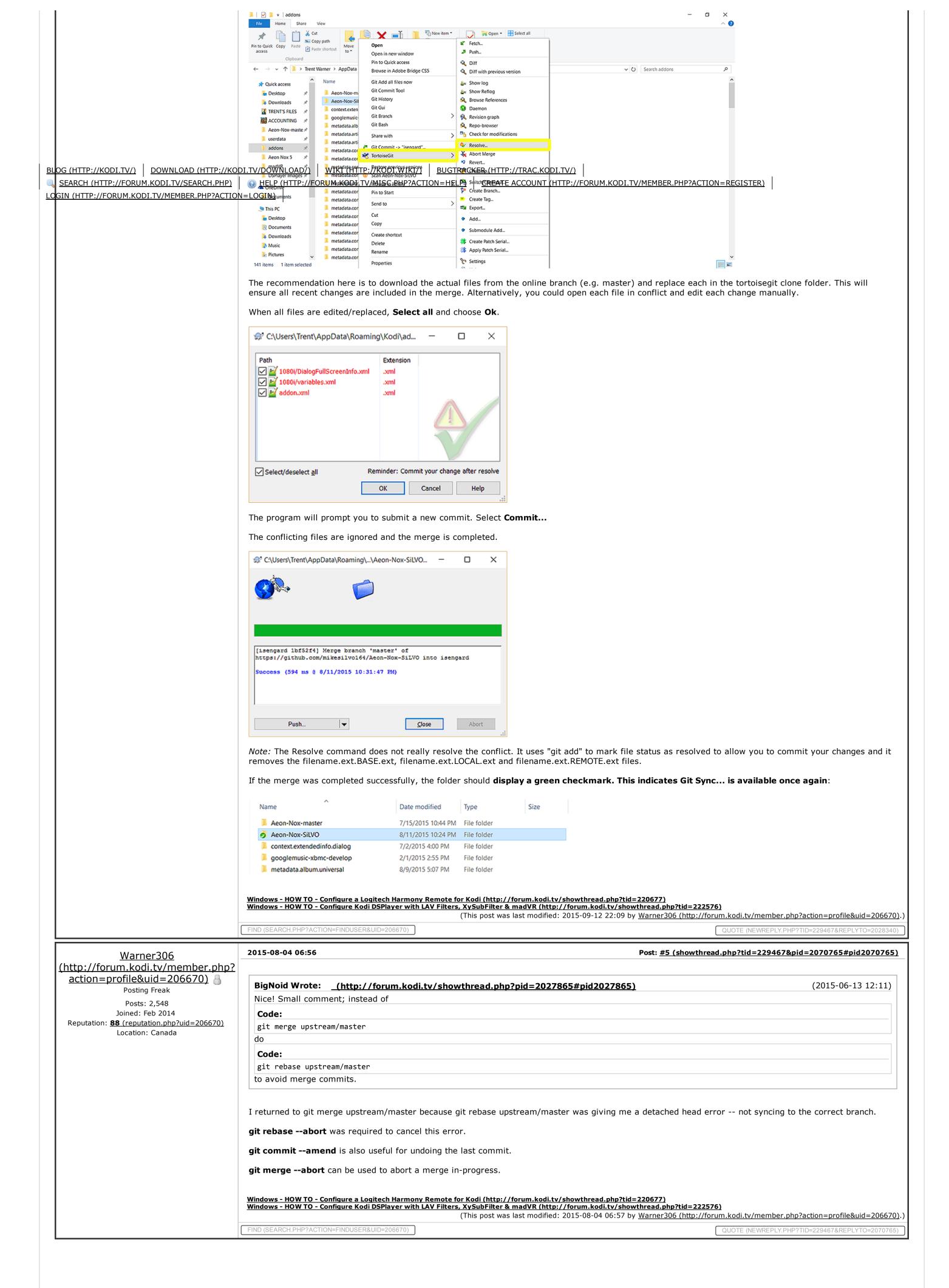
# **4. Resolving Merge Conflicts**

During the process of switching branches and merging, it is possible to encounter merge conflicts where tortoisegit is unable to merge changed files due to code conflicts. These exceptions must be dealt with separately. If not, **Git Sync...** will be unavailable until conflicts are resolved.

After the **Pull** request, problem files will be highlighted in red in the **Conflicts** tab. These files have common code incapable of being updated because the line numbers of each document are in conflict:



To correct this, **Right-click** on the folder of the cloned repository and select **TortoiseGit -> Resolve...** 



(http://forum.kodi.tv/member.php? all I want to do is automatically update the MADNOX skin with new updates. action=profile&uid=59442) I am not a computer expert. Senior Member I tried your instructions by installing GIT and tortoise in section 8 above but when I right click on empty space I do not see GIT Clone. Posts: 128 I get GIT commit Master and Tortoise. Joined: Dec 2009 I dunno how to paste images here. Reputation: **0** (reputation.php?uid=59442) please any help will be appreciated. Location: Lahore, Pakistan Regards ΡJ QUOTE (NEWREPLY.PHP?TID=229467&REPLYTO=2267060 BLOG (HTTP://KODI.TV/) DOWNLOAD (HTTP://KO WIKI (HTTP://KODI.WIKI/) | BUGTRACKER (HTTP://TRAC.KODI.TV/) 2016-03-03 22:47 HELP (HTTP://FORUM.KODI.TV/MISC.PHP?ACTION=HELP) Post: #7 (showthread.php?tid=229467&pid=2267830#pid2267830)

CREATE ACCOUNT (HTTP://FORUM.KODI.TV/MEMBER.PHP?ACTION=REGISTER) SEARCH (HTTP:///Warmer306TV/SEARCH.PHP) LOGINTED TO THE LOGIN LOGIN LOGIN LOGIN action=profile&uid=206670) P\_Jamula Wrote: (http://forum.kodi.tv/showthread.php?pid=2267060#pid2267060) (2016-03-03 10:04) Posting Freak all I want to do is automatically update the MADNOX skin with new updates. Posts: 2,548 I am not a computer expert. Joined: Feb 2014 I tried your instructions by installing GIT and tortoise in section 8 above but when I right click on empty space I do not see GIT Clone. Reputation: **88** (reputation.php?uid=206670) Location: Canada I get GIT commit Master and Tortoise. I dunno how to paste images here. please any help will be appreciated. Did you install Git for Windows? Try opening Tortoisegit from Program Files and attempt to clone from there. Windows - HOW TO - Configure a Logitech Harmony Remote for Kodi (http://forum.kodi.tv/showthread.php?tid=220677)
Windows - HOW TO - Configure Kodi DSPlayer with LAV Filters, XySubFilter & madVR (http://forum.kodi.tv/showthread.php?tid=222576) (This post was last modified: 2016-03-03 22:49 by Warner306 (http://forum.kodi.tv/member.php?action=profile&uid=206670).) FIND (SEARCH.PHP?ACTION=FINDUSER&UID=206670) 2016-03-04 03:45 Post: #8 (showthread.php?tid=229467&pid=2268190#pid2268190) P Jamula (http://forum.kodi.tv/member.php? action=profile&uid=59442) A Warner306 Wrote: (http://forum.kodi.tv/showthread.php?pid=2267830#pid2267830) (2016-03-03 22:47) Senior Member Did you install Git for Windows? Posts: 128 Joined: Dec 2009 Try opening Tortoisegit from Program Files and attempt to clone from there. Reputation: **0** (reputation.php?uid=59442) Location: Lahore, Pakistan Thanks for the response... yes GIT for windows... in program files many exe's for tortoise ... none for clone... really lost here. just a thought when installing GIT what options should I have used? maybe some of my choices could have been the wrong ones. Regards, ΡJ (This post was last modified: 2016-03-04 03:46 by P Jamula (http://forum.kodi.tv/member.php?action=profile&uid=59442).) 2016-03-04 05:27 Post: #9 (showthread.php?tid=229467&pid=2268276#pid2268276) Warner306 (http://forum.kodi.tv/member.php? action=profile&uid=206670) P\_Jamula Wrote: \_(http://forum.kodi.tv/showthread.php?pid=2268190#pid2268190) (2016-03-04 03:45) Posting Freak Posts: 2,548 (2016-03-03 22:47) Warner306 Wrote: <a href="http://forum.kodi.tv/showthread.php?pid=2267830#pid2267830">(http://forum.kodi.tv/showthread.php?pid=2267830#pid2267830)</a> Joined: Feb 2014 Reputation: **88** (reputation.php?uid=206670) Did you install Git for Windows? Location: Canada Try opening Tortoisegit from Program Files and attempt to clone from there. Thanks for the response... yes GIT for windows... in program files many exe's for tortoise ... none for clone... really lost here. just a thought when installing GIT what options should I have used? maybe some of my choices could have been the wrong ones. I'll have to open the program myself to be of further help. <u>Windows - HOW TO - Configure a Logitech Harmony Remote for Kodi (http://forum.kodi.tv/showthread.php?tid=220677)</u> <u>Windows - HOW TO - Configure Kodi DSPlayer with LAV Filters, XySubFilter & madVR (http://forum.kodi.tv/showthread.php?tid=222576)</u> FIND (SEARCH.PHP?ACTION=FINDUSER&UID=206670) QUOTE (NEWREPLY.PHP?TID=229467&REPLYTO=2268276) Post: #10 (showthread.php?tid=229467&pid=2268592#pid2268592) 2016-03-04 13:39 P Jamula (http://forum.kodi.tv/member.php? action=profile&uid=59442) Warner306 Wrote: (http://forum.kodi.tv/showthread.php?pid=2268276#pid2268276) (2016-03-04 05:27) Senior Member I'll have to open the program myself to be of further help. Posts: 128 Joined: Dec 2009 Reputation: **0** (reputation.php?uid=59442) Location: Lahore, Pakistan OK i'll wait for your assistance... thanks a lot Regards, ΡJ FIND (SEARCH.PHP?ACTION=FINDUSER&UID=59442) 2016-03-05 06:05 Post: #11 (showthread.php?tid=229467&pid=2269721#pid2269721) Warner306 (http://forum.kodi.tv/member.php? action=profile&uid=206670) A (2016-03-04 13:39) P\_Jamula Wrote: <a href="http://forum.kodi.tv/showthread.php?pid=2268592#pid2268592">(http://forum.kodi.tv/showthread.php?pid=2268592#pid2268592)</a> Posting Freak Posts: 2,548 Warner306 Wrote: <a href="http://forum.kodi.tv/showthread.php?pid=2268276#pid2268276">(http://forum.kodi.tv/showthread.php?pid=2268276#pid2268276)</a> (2016-03-04 05:27) Joined: Feb 2014 Reputation: **88** (reputation.php?uid=206670) I'll have to open the program myself to be of further help. Location: Canada OK i'll wait for your assistance... thanks a lot I sent you a PM describing how to use Git for Windows (using the Git GUI) to clone an online repository. Updates to the cloned folder should work as described in this guide. Windows - HOW TO - Configure a Logitech Harmony Remote for Kodi (http://forum.kodi.tv/showthread.php?tid=220677)
Windows - HOW TO - Configure Kodi DSPlayer with LAV Filters, XySubFilter & madVR (http://forum.kodi.tv/showthread.php?tid=222576) FIND (SEARCH PHP?ACTION=FINDUSER&UID=206670) QUOTE (NEWREPLY.PHP?TID=229467&REPLYTO=2269721)

2016-03-03 10:04

P Jamula

Post: #6 (showthread.php?tid=229467&pid=2267060#pid2267060)

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