

Being New to Git

Let's make git beginner-friendly!

Lyzi Diamond, PDXGit, February 27, 2013

Let's be real, guys.

For beginners, git can be
really hard.



<— WTF?

My experience.

1. Signed up for a GitHub account!
2. Forked a repo!
3. ??????????????
4. I gave up.

github

Explore GitHub



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🕒 Joined on Oct 09, 2012

Second try!

PUBLIC  lyzidiomond / lyzidiomond.github.com

1. Moved from Wordpress to GitHub Pages!
2. Made a repo and set up a default site!
3. Ignored it for a while.
4. Learned about Jekyll, decided to try again.
5. Typed some stuff into the command line.
6. It didn't work. Gave up again.

Third try!



1. I went to a PyLadies meetup sesh about git. It was great.
2. We talked about the process, we drew it out.
3. Selena made flashcards and we discussed the different commands and what they do.
4. We had homework: fork the pyladiespdx repo, add something to the GitHub page within, and make a pull request.

And then...

IT CLICKED!!!

Now...



I'm teaching coworkers and friends how to use git and GitHub, I'm using GitHub pages to host my website, and I am using git for most projects.

PyLadies PDX continues to use git and GitHub to teach about APIs, command line, and git-specific tasks. Portland PyLadies are using git and GitHub to contribute to pyladies.com all the time, both content and design.

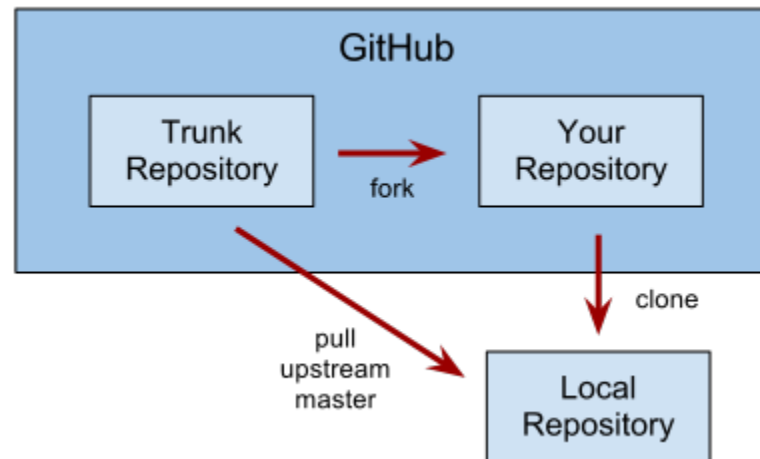
So... what was hard?

1. Documentation.



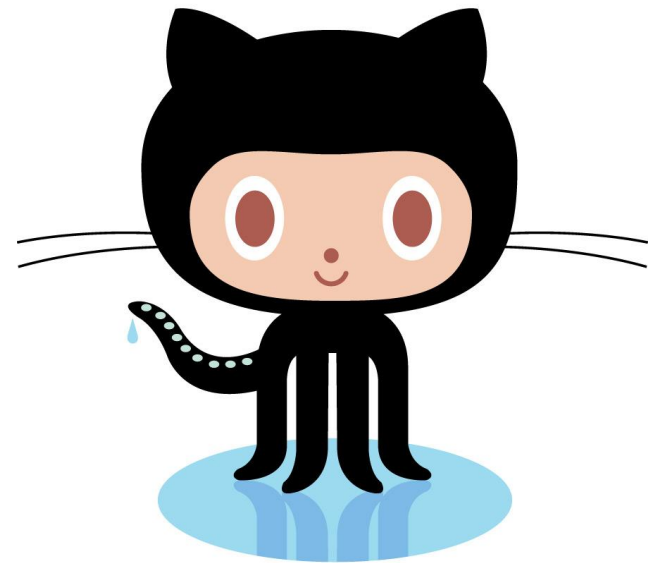
What else was hard?

2. Remote vs. Local, Upstream vs. Origin.



And...

3. git vs. GitHub.



Oh, also...

4. Staging, Committing, and Pushing.

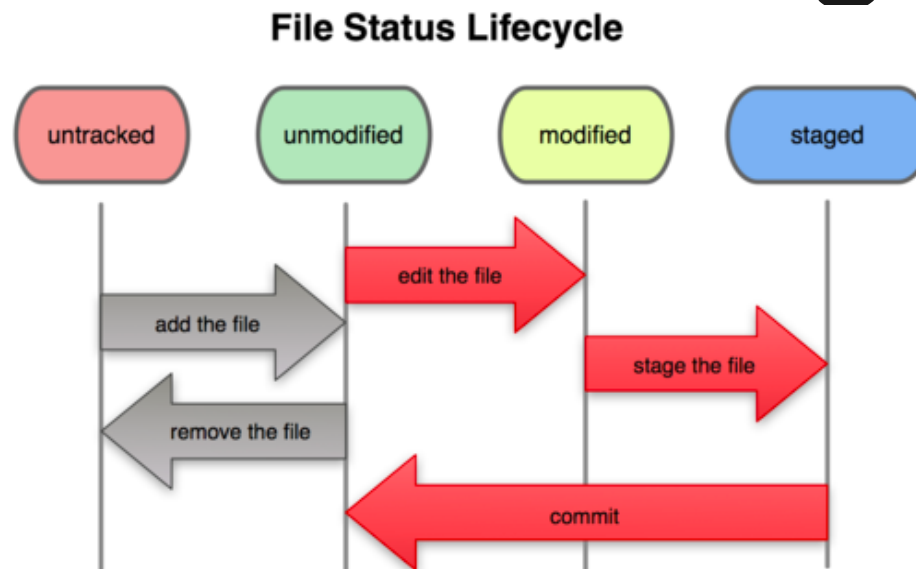


photo from https://aws2012-claytondev.rhcloud.com/pics/scp_gitFlow.png

Plus...

5. Different methods for using git... fork & pull vs. shared repo model.

In addition....

6. Command line
beginners are at a
significant
disadvantage.

Finally...

7. Leveling up is
difficult – where do you
go next?

Why does this matter?

Git is a gateway drug!

CAUTION: MAY CAUSE EMPOWERMENT

What can we do about it?

1. Keep having these meetings!
2. Make new documentation, tutorials, and games oriented towards beginners.
3. Employ git and GitHub while teaching beginners how to code (not explicitly git).
4. Be open to answering questions and explaining things.
5. Come up with tutorials and reference guides that appeal to different types of learners.

It's true.

**WE HAVE
THE POWER!**

Holler at me!

Thanks for listening!

(I also like to help beginners learn, because I know how hard it can be. Holler, srsly.)

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