Cloning the repo (using vscode version control UI):

Provide repository URL or pick a repository source.

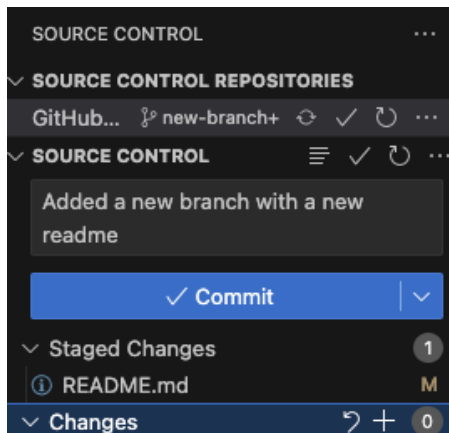⦿ Clone from GitHub                                    remote sources
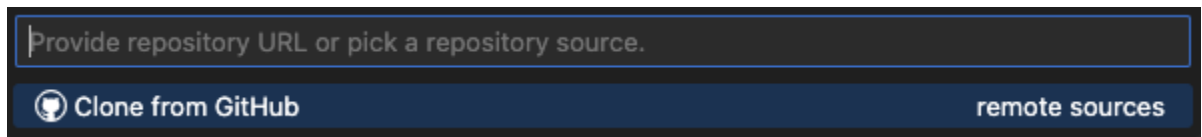
Creating a new branch using vscode:

new-branch

Please provide a new branch name (Press 'Enter' to confirm or 'Escape' to cancel)
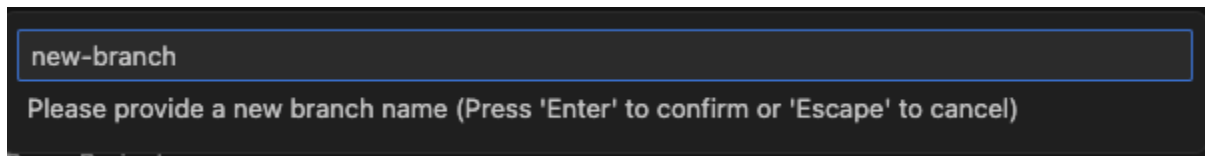
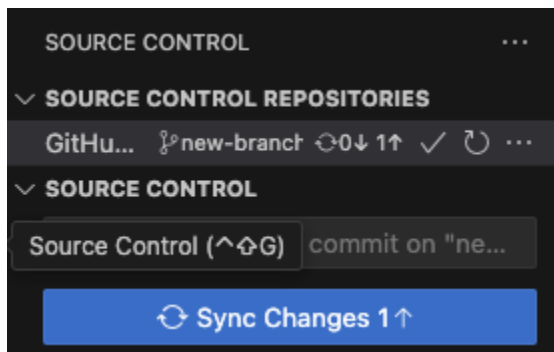Screen right before staging the changes to the README.md file (Before git add):

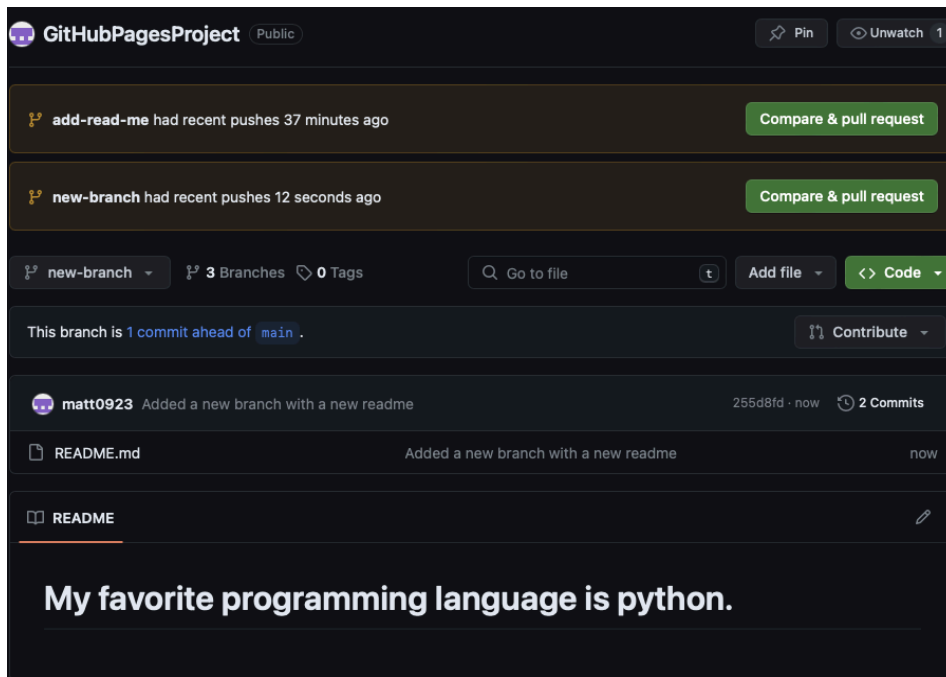∨ Changes                                    1
  ⓘ README.md                          🗐 ⤺ ＋ M

After staging the changes to the README.md file (after git add) and pre git commit (commit message is already written):

SOURCE CONTROL                              …

∨ SOURCE CONTROL REPOSITORIES
GitHub...  ⑂ new-branch+  ⟳ ✓ ⟲  …
∨ SOURCE CONTROL          ≡ ✓ ⟲  …

Added a new branch with a new readme

✓ Commit              ∨

∨ Staged Changes                            1
  ⓘ README.md                                M
∨ Changes                      ⤺ ＋  0

After git commit (sync changes is basically git push here):

SOURCE CONTROL                              …

∨ SOURCE CONTROL REPOSITORIES
GitHu...  ⑂ new-branch  ⟳ 0↓ 1↑  ✓ ⟲  …
∨ SOURCE CONTROL

Source Control (^⇧G)  commit on "ne...
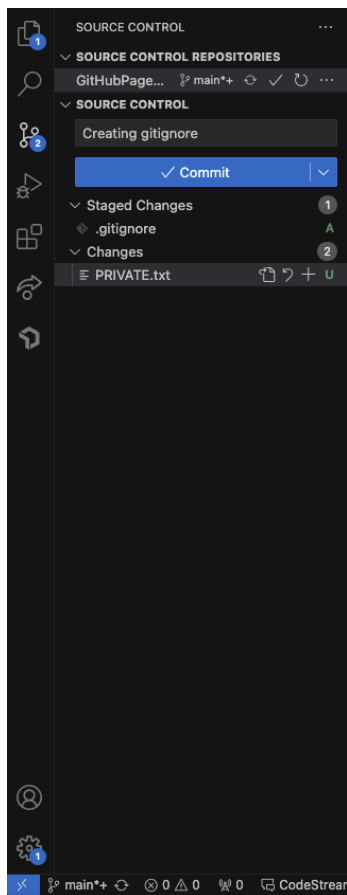
⟳ Sync Changes 1↑

Proof that everything actually worked:

GitHubPagesProject before commit of the creation of gitignore:
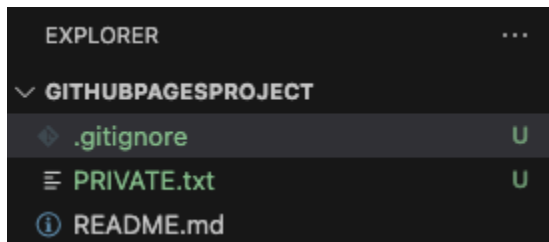


Staging the commit of creating gitignore, commit message is "Creating gitignore", and the screen shows that we are in the main branch:



GitHubPages project after the commit of the creation of gitignore (shows that PRIVATE.txt is ignored like it is supposed to be):