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# Unable to mark file in git

Asked 2 years, 10 months ago   Active 2 years, 10 months ago   Viewed 4k times



3



I am trying to ignore the changes made to .gitignore file. For achieving this I am using this command `git update-index --assume-unchanged bin/.gitignore` on git bash.

When I execute, I see `Unable to mark file bin/.gitignore` response on my git bash.

How to solve this and why am I facing this problem?

I tried this link too but didn't help

[git update-index --assume-unchanged returns "fatal unable to mark file"](#)

git

bash

edited May 23 '17 at 12:17



Community ♦

1 1

asked Feb 17 '17 at 10:16



BeginnersSake

518 2 12 22

are you sure the given relative path correct? is `bin/.gitignore` file under your CWD? – Kent Feb 17 '17 at 10:25

@Kent Yes I have used correct path and it is under CWD. – BeginnersSake Feb 17 '17 at 10:26 ✎

1 if the path is correct, has the file already been in git stage? If it was never added, you got error too – Kent Feb 17 '17 at 10:29

1 simply, pls report the output of cmd: `git ls-files --error-unmatch /yourPath/file` – Kent Feb 17 '17 at 10:38

1 I know that doesn't help with your current problem, but if you want to locally exclude files, put their patterns into `.git/info/exclude`. That file will never be committed and is perfectly suited for telling git to ignore some files only in this work tree. – Boldewyn Feb 17 '17 at 12:17

## 3 Answers



after talking in comments and getting more information, I am posting this as an answer.

5

Very likely the cause is, the file you want to set `assume-unchanged` bit was not tracked by git. In comment, I mention the command:

```
git ls-files --error-unmatch /yourPath/file
```



Which you can check if a file is tracked by git.



If it is not tracked, you cannot update the index, since it is not indexed yet. You can just add it to your `.gitignore` file, so that it will be ignored by git.

answered Feb 17 '17 at 11:20



Kent

156k

28

174

237



2

I think your `.gitignore` is untracked file. Check it using **git status**. If it is untracked one you won't be able to **update-index** for that file. Better add and commit then **update-index** or physically delete it and then pull the changes from your repo.

edited Feb 17 '17 at 11:00

answered Feb 17 '17 at 10:48



Vishal Jain

21

5



2

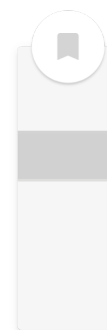
Make sure your file's relative path is correct.

Try this:

```
$ pwd # see working directory
$ ls -la ./bin/ # see if .gitignore file exist!
$ git update-index --assume-unchanged ./bin/.gitignore
```

And also see if your `bin/.gitignore` file is listed in `git ls-files -o`.

```
$ git ls-files -o # Show other (i.e. untracked) files in the output
```



If `.gitignore` file is found then `add` , `commit` . Then try `update-index` .

```
$ git add .
```

```
$ git commit -m 'Message'
```

```
$ git update-index --assume-unchanged ./bin/.gitignore
```

edited Feb 17 '17 at 11:29



answered Feb 17 '17 at 10:25

[Sajib Khan](#)

14.3k 4 38 52

