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How to clone/pull a git repository, ignoring LFS?

Asked 2 years, 9 months ago   Active 2 years, 2 months ago   Viewed 11k times

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Is there a way to explicitly ignore all git-lfs files on `clone` and `pull` ?
(besides uninstalling `git-lfs` which I ended up doing).

In this case git-lfs just contains pre-compiled libs for a platform I don't use... so there is absolutely no use in getting them.

☆

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git   git-lfs

edited Feb 3 '17 at 9:43   asked Feb 3 '17 at 8:07

                                                               ideasman42
                                                               21.4k   10   86   169

Are they in a particular directory? You could try sparse checkout in that case. – Mayur Nagekar Feb 3 '17 at 9:57

I'm not sure, they seem to be scattered about, irrespective, if there were a way to opt-out it would be preferable. – ideasman42 Feb 3 '17 at 10:32

stackoverflow.com/questions/41716509/… has required steps. – avp Mar 5 '18 at 1:54

2 Answers

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I'm currently struggling myself to find a clean way to download (and remove afterwards) large files with git-lfs.

However, there is a third alternative to the post of @Marcelo Ávila de Oliveira:

```
git lfs install --skip-smudge
```

EDIT: I've created a tutorial for basic git-lfs handling. Any feedback and suggestions are very welcome.

You can find it at:

https://sabicalija.github.io/git-lfs-intro/

or pull it via:

```
git clone https://github.com/sabicalija/git-lfs-intro.git
```

edited Sep 18 '17 at 21:54   answered Sep 17 '17 at 17:46

Alija
81   2   3

After such cloning can I add new big files to the cloned repo and push them? – Vitaly Zdanevich Feb 15 '18 at 5:26

1   Sure, you can add more files and push them to a new repository or to the current one - with sufficient access rights of course. – Alija Jan 19 at 16:26 ✎

Two alternatives:

27   1) Using the GIT_LFS_SKIP_SMUDGE variable:

```
GIT_LFS_SKIP_SMUDGE=1 git clone SERVER-REPOSITORY
```

2) Configuring the git-lfs smudge:

```
git config --global filter.lfs.smudge "git-lfs smudge --skip"
git clone SERVER-REPOSITORY
```

To undo this configuration, execute:

```
git config --global filter.lfs.smudge "git-lfs smudge -- %f"
```

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2   It would be good if this were possible without installing `git-lfs` at all. Currently this means if I want to make a source package, it needs to depend on `go`, `ruby` + some extras... adding up to over 220mb of deps, simply so I can tell it to be ignored :S –   ideasman42   Oct 10 '17 at 3:22 ✎

3   Actually it is. This is the alternative number 0, if you don't install git-lfs all lfs files will be just ignored. – Marcelo Ávila de Oliveira Oct 10 '17 at 11:07

1   Not on my test with github.com/opentoonz/opentoonz I get the errors: `git-lfs: command not found` `error: external filter 'git-lfs smudge --%f' failed 127` `warning: Clone succeeded, but checkout failed.` –   ideasman42   Oct 10 '17 at 12:43 ✎

3   Update, turns out I had once used git-lfs and it was left in by `.gitconfig`. So this can work, it's just not ideal if others are expected to build the package. –   ideasman42   Oct 10 '17 at 12:51