

# TortoiseGit modified sign (icon overlay) is not updating



66



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I have made a small change in some code but TortoiseGit shows it as modified (red exclamation sign) although I have committed, pulled, pushed, but it stays. What should I do here? I have not seen this issue before.

git

tortoisegit

edited Jul 28 '15 at 2:58



Simon East

36k

11

109

103

asked Nov 15 '11 at 14:32



Booksman

660

5

13

29

Take a diff of it, you should be able to see what changed. It can be also a TortoiseGit icon refresh issue – [CharlesB](#) Nov 15 '11 at 14:34

## 13 Answers



108



I'm assuming you are using tortoise git? I've had the issue before, sometimes pressing **F5** fixes it other times it just goes away after tortoise resyncs itself.

Here is another possible fix [link](#).

The current workaround is to kill TGitCache.exe with the Windows task manager.

edited Mar 5 '16 at 22:19



MrTux

22.5k

15

63

100

answered Nov 15 '11 at 14:35



Andy

29.8k

12


60

64

1 I think its tortoise - thanks I will try that. All i did was copy back a backfile file copy after I had made a mess of the code. – [Booksman](#) Nov 15 '11 at

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- 3 Vote up for killing TGitCache.exe. In a few seconds it will start again automatically. – [Sasha](#) Dec 12 '14 at 7:23
- 5 4 years later, the problem still exists, and still no better workaround than killing TGitCache... the TortoiseGit team really needs to fix this one. Overlays are useless if they don't reflect the current state of the repo. – [Thomas Levesque](#) Oct 20 '15 at 14:57 

What helped for me was the following:

24

1. Go to "Settings -> Icon Overlays" Check under "Status cache" the option "none"
2. Refresh the explorer F5
3. Go back and change the cache option back to "Default"

edited Mar 13 '17 at 7:01



[g00glen00b](#)


25.1k 10 54 84

answered Mar 13 '17 at 6:51



[neutcomp](#)

364 2 4

- 2 It does not work... it returns wrong status back when Default is selected... Update: it was necessary to "walk" through directory tree.. now it shows correct icons. – [Maxim](#) Mar 24 '17 at 18:14 
- 1 solved my problem, thanks! – [Eric](#) Feb 24 '18 at 7:26

There is a workaround that I have tried:

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Rename the directory of the repository and then change it back and you are good to go!

As an example: *MyComplexProject* can be changed to *MyComplexProject1* then back to *MyComplexProject*.

edited Dec 6 '16 at 14:59

answered Jun 9 '16 at 9:33



[meJustAndrew](#)

3,336 4 27 53

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Kill TGitCache.exe works for me. .... I put this as an answer because I don't have enough reputation points to add it as a comment. But wanted to help further iterate that it is a working solution.

answered May 5 '15 at 20:07

**Mike Gibson****192** 2 13

1 If this is a valid answer then there is no harm in putting it as an answer. Maybe you might want to provide a bit more detail on how this solves the problem though. – [Kmeixner](#) May 5 '15 at 20:44

This is the only thing that worked for me, but I don't know if it's safe to just kill TGitCache.exe. I seems safe, but maybe I'm just kicking the can down the road. – [Lucas](#) May 29 '15 at 8:48

Duplicate solution to Andy's solution from 5 years before. – [Thalia](#) Oct 8 '18 at 15:11



8



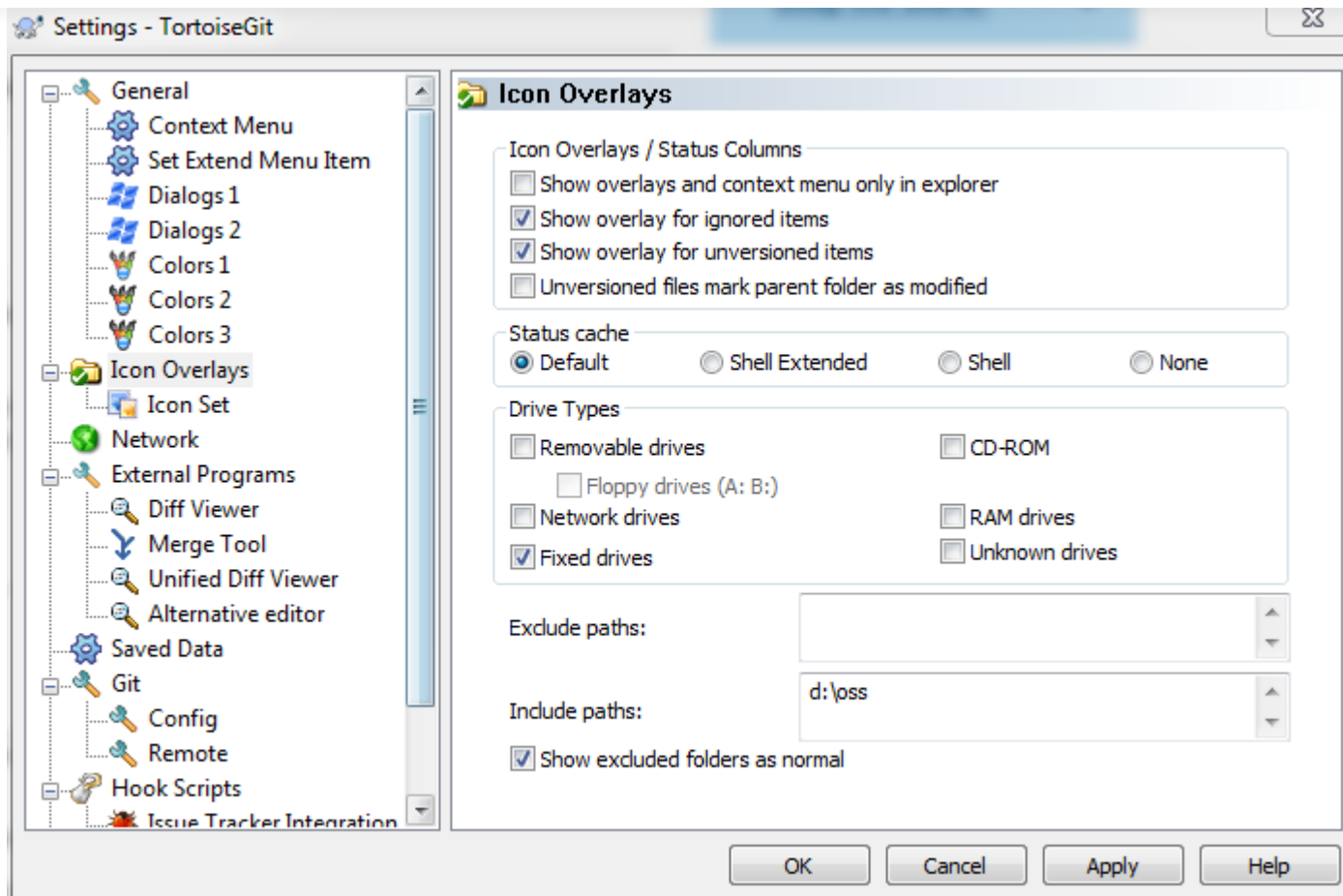
Apart from what [@Andy](#) mentioned, you can make the overlays work faster by limiting the folders that it has to monitor.

Right click-> TortoiseGit -> Settings -> Icon Overlays

Here enter include and exclude paths. I usually explicitly point to the my repos / working copies:

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answered Nov 15 '11 at 16:39

[manojlds](#)

223k 48 392 374

Please check your path to see if it matches in case.

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some/DIR/someFILE.EXT

But to Git they are in different locations. This is remedied by navigating back from the top with the proper casing.

edited Dec 21 '11 at 16:29

answered Nov 15 '11 at 19:09

me **meagar** ♦  
186k 32 282 296



**Adam Dymitruk**  
90.8k 12 125 132

In my case, a file called "resource.h" was renamed to "Resource.h" by Visual Studio. – [kol](#) 2 days ago

When the icons are not updating you can quickly kill the icon overlay cache using the following "Run" command:

4 `taskkill /f /im tgitcache.exe`

The cache process should restart itself automatically. You can even turn this into a desktop shortcut if you notice it happening frequently.

answered Jul 28 '15 at 2:52



**Simon East**  
36k 11 109 103

I had the same issue at Windows.

2 Killing TGitCache did work for a couple of seconds but the red icon appeared again.

It turned out the file was renamed (first letter was changed from uppercase to lower case) locally but was not changed in Git. Windows is case insensitive but Git is! So the icon overlay did not match anymore. I did find this out by removing the specific file and selecting "revert" from the Tortoise Git context menu. In the list, two files did show up, one with first letter uppercase, the other complete lowercase.

Finally renaming the file from the Git context menu did resolve the issue for me


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3 This thread started on Nov 15 '11. Today is Mar 27, 2018. Well, more than 6 years and there is no solution? C'mon Tortoise! – [JohnCz](#) Mar 27 '18 at 11:35 

in my case gitlab GUI showed two files with different cases. Removeng one of them in GUI, pulling changes, and reverting changes solved problem. – [aleha](#) Feb 12 at 9:58

This was my problem. I changed the case of image extension in my project I just reverted back to old names. – [TazAstroSpacial](#) Jul 5 at 7:47

I think this issue happened for me to due to applications competing for Windows limit icon overlays (I believe it allows a maximum of 15).

1 This is what I had to do to resolve this issue:

1. Open `regedit` and browse to the `Computer\HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\ShellIconOverlayIdentifiers` key.
2. Rearrange the subkeys to that the Tortoise\* keys were at the top by prefixing with spaces.
3. Restart Windows Explorer using Task Manager.

See also: [TortoiseGit not showing icon overlays](#)

answered May 21 '18 at 10:55



[Dan Stevens](#)

2,950 5 37 57

It's a known issue in TortoiseGit. It exists for years and will apparently never be fixed. I don't know whether it's because the TortoiseGit developer is unwilling or unable to do it. (I've also reported it before but can't find the issue anymore now.)

1 Anyway, here's what I do to resolve it:

```
git gc --prune=all --quiet
```

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To make it easier, I've created a batch file `git-gcall.cmd` in an accessible path that calls the command shown above. I have to run it after virtually every single commit and after 2–3 seconds the icons update themselves. No killing involved. Just waking up TortoiseGit a bit harder to actually observe the repository and update its status.

Here's a PowerShell script that runs this command in a set of configured directories recursively, if necessary, for use before making a backup. It can also be run on a regular basis, for example over night, to resolve this outdated icons issue in the background.

gc-all-git.ps1:

```
Write-Host "Packing Git repositories where necessary..."

function Git-Gc($path)
{
    cd $path
    Get-ChildItem . -Recurse -Hidden .git | Foreach-Object {
        cd $_.FullName
        if ((Get-ChildItem objects -File -Recurse).Count -gt 50)
        {
            cd ../
            Write-Host $(Get-Location).Path
            git gc --prune=all --quiet
        }
    }
}

Git-Gc C:\Source
Git-Gc C:\xampp\htdocs
```

Call it with the usual required accompanying batch file:

gc-all-git.cmd:

```
@echo off
cd /d "%~dp0"
%SystemRoot%\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe -ExecutionPolicy
unrestricted -File gc-all-git.ps1
exit /b %errorlevel%
```

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None of the other options here could make the problem go away. (I wasn't able to identify any file that had a change in casing) I was pretty confident that everything was checked in as it should be so I just **deleted my repo and checked it out again**. Poof, works again.

If you're not as confident (or you just don't want to risk it, as is best), rename your repo folder locally and check out your repo again, then you can pull a diff to see if anything odd is missing/changed between the two repo folders.

answered Jun 1 '18 at 8:21

[Thomas Mulder](#)

330 5 19



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This might help... My drive letter was B: and the overlay icons would not update. I changed it to beyond C:, (I used M:) and it started working. Looks like TGIT does not drives below C:

answered Dec 20 '18 at 2:18

[Wireless](#)

11 4

There's a separate setting under icon overlays to include "Drives A: and B:" - those letters were always traditionally used for floppy disk drives. – [PeterJ](#)  
Dec 24 '18 at 2:37



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The thing that solved this issue for us was that we had moved our Git repos to a mapped network drive, thus changing the drive letter.

It seems that TortoiseGit needs to be set to monitor network drives - it is not the default behaviour.

So to solve this issue you would:

- Right click a repo folder
- Choose "TortoiseGit"

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Job done.

answered Jan 13 at 16:07



[UKcentric](#)

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