STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE: INSTALL & CONFIGURE GIT LFS ON WINDOWS (USING GIT BASH)

1. Download and Install Git for Windows

   a. Go to: https://git-scm.com/downloads

   b. Download the latest 64-bit Windows installer (e.g., Git-2.xx.x-64-bit.exe).

   c. During installation, use the following recommended options:

      - Keep defaults; ensure "Git Bash" is selected.

      - Choose "Git from the command line and also from 3rd-party software".

      - Select "Checkout Windows-style, commit Unix-style" for line endings.

      - Enable file system caching and long paths.

   After installation, open Git Bash and verify:

   git --version

   Example output:

   git version 2.45.2.windows.1

2. Install Git LFS

   Option A (Recommended) - Using Git Bash:

   git lfs install

   If you get an error such as "git: 'lfs' is not a git command", follow Option B.

   Option B - Manual installation:

   1. Go to https://git-lfs.com/

   2. Download the Windows Git LFS installer (.exe)

   3. Run it and complete setup

Verify installation:

git lfs version

Example:

git-lfs/3.5.1 (GitHub; windows amd64; go 1.21.0)

3. Initialize Git LFS

Run once globally to configure LFS filters:

git lfs install

Check configuration:

git lfs env

4. Enable LFS Tracking for Specific File Types

Navigate to your repository:

cd path/to/your/repo

Track large file types (example for ZIP files):

git lfs track "*.zip"

git add .gitattributes

git commit -m "Track ZIP files using Git LFS"

(You can replace "*.zip" with "*.psd", "*.csv", "*.h5", etc.)

5. Push LFS-Tracked Files to Remote Repository

git add largefile.zip

git commit -m "Add large file via Git LFS"

git push origin main

Note: Most remotes (GitHub, GitLab, Bitbucket, Azure Repos) already support LFS.

6. Validate Installation

Run all checks:

git --version

git lfs version

git lfs env

If all return valid results, Git LFS is configured successfully.

SUMMARY

- Installed Git Bash

- Installed Git LFS

- Initialized LFS globally

- Configured file tracking

- Verified LFS setup