**GITHUB – A VALUE**

Git is a version control that allows you to record changes to your file over time. Github is the web server – it is a platform that provides hosting service for software development version control making Git to be more powerful.

This tool helps us work on new features without messing up the main code base and to easily collaborate with other developers.

When I started learning how to code in 2018, I created a Github account but did not use it. I didn’t understand the platform itself neither did I know its importance. I had worked on different projects on my older laptop and lost most things after it was taken away from me on the 17th of December 2019. I began to use my junior sister’s laptop.

In May 2020 I joined HNG’s … program and realized the very important thing about Github as we were asked to upload our tasks on the platform. What if I had used the Github account I had created to upload my projects and even make it private if I wanted, it would be easier for me to go back and download a project to either correct it, add more features to it, share it with a team and easily reupload my edits and merge it with the main code base.

This is what Github can do and even more. While using Github there are several terms which I’ve learnt and will briefly explain some.

**Repositories**: A Repository is a container for a project you want to track with Git. It’s more like a folder which git tracks its contents for us.

**Branches:** Creating a branch is important because when you’re collaborating with other developers, you’ll want to be working on your own branch meaning that you do have a copy of whatever is in ‘Master’. The Master branch is the branch you’re on when you first create a new project.

**Commits:** This is like a pointsaver. When on a project you’ll surely make changes to it and committing in git is like a comment – for every commit you make you leave a message.

**Fork:** This is having a copy of a repository on Github owned by another user. When working in a team, your teammates can fork the repo you created on Github.

**Clone:** A clone is a local version of a repository, which includes all commits and branches.

**Remote:** This is a common repository on Github that a team can use in exchanging their changes.

**READ ME:** When creating a new repo, you will have a Read Me file. This is where you input the different technologies you’re using in your project and you can also give instructions to your users here.

In my next article I will share a beginner’s guide to using Github.