

About Version Control

What is “version control”, and why should you care? Version control is a system that records changes to a file or set of files over time so that you can recall specific versions later. For the examples in this book, you will use software source code as the files being version controlled, though in reality you can do this with nearly any type of file on a computer.

If you are a graphic or web designer and want to keep every version of an image or layout (which you would most certainly want to), a Version Control System (VCS) is a very wise thing to use. It allows you to revert selected files back to a previous state, revert the entire project back to a previous state, compare changes over time, see who last modified something that might be causing a problem, who introduced an issue and when, and more. Using a VCS also generally means that if you screw things up or lose files, you can easily recover. In addition, you get all this for very little overhead.

Connecting to GitHub Repo

Now you should see instructions on how to connect your local repo to the remote one you just created on GitHub. Looking at just the first option, the set of git commands should look very familiar. We've already done the first four or five commands, though with some differences. We only need to perform the last two commands to link our local repository with the remote.

Quick setup — if you've done this kind of thing before

[Set up in Desktop](#) or [HTTP](#) [SSH](#) `https://github.com/joesmith2444/my-first-repository.git`

We recommend every repository include a [README](#), [LICENSE](#), and [.gitignore](#).

...or create a new repository on the command line

```
touch README.md
git init
git add README.md
git commit -m "first commit"
git remote add origin https://github.com/joesmith2444/my-first-repository.git
git push -u origin master
```

...or push an existing repository from the command line

```
git remote add origin https://github.com/joesmith2444/my-first-repository.git
git push -u origin master
```

...or import code from another repository

You can initialize this repository with code from a Subversion, Mercurial, or TFS project.

[Import code](#)

<> Code

[Issues](#) 0

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[Settings](#)