

GitHub

GIT CHEAT SHEET

Git is the open source distributed version control system that facilitates GitHub activities on your laptop or desktop. This cheat sheet summarizes commonly used Git command line instructions for quick reference.

INSTALL GIT

GitHub provides desktop clients that include a graphical user interface for the most common repository actions and an automatically updating command line edition of Git for advanced scenarios.

GitHub for Windows

<https://windows.github.com>

GitHub for Mac

<https://mac.github.com>

Git distributions for Linux and POSIX systems are available on the official Git SCM web site.

Git for All Platforms

<http://git-scm.com>

CONFIGURE TOOLING

Configure user information for all local repositories

\$ git config --global user.name "[name]"
Sets the name you want attached to your commit transactions
\$ git config --global user.email "[email address]"
Sets the email you want attached to your commit transactions
\$ git config --global color.ui auto
Enables helpful colorization of command line output

CREATE REPOSITORIES

Start a new repository or obtain one from an existing URL

\$ git init [project-name]
Creates a new local repository with the specified name
\$ git clone [url]
Downloads a project and its entire version history

MAKE CHANGES

Review edits and craft a commit transaction

\$ git status
Lists all new or modified files to be committed
\$ git diff
Shows file differences not yet staged
\$ git add [file]
Snapshots the file in preparation for versioning
\$ git diff --staged
Shows file differences between staging and the last file version
\$ git reset [file]
Unstages the file, but preserve its contents
\$ git commit -m "[descriptive message]"
Records file snapshots permanently in version history

GROUP CHANGES

Name a series of commits and combine completed efforts

\$ git branch
Lists all local branches in the current repository
\$ git branch [branch-name]
Creates a new branch
\$ git checkout [branch-name]
Switches to the specified branch and updates the working directory
\$ git merge [branch]
Combines the specified branch's history into the current branch
\$ git branch -d [branch-name]
Deletes the specified branch

GIT CHEAT SHEET

REFACTOR FILENAMES

Relocate and remove versioned files

\$ git rm [file]
Deletes the file from the working directory and stages the deletion
\$ git rm --cached [file]
Removes the file from version control but preserves the file locally
\$ git mv [file-original] [file-renamed]
Changes the file name and prepares it for commit

SUPPRESS TRACKING

Exclude temporary files and paths

.log build/ temp-
A text file named .gitignore suppresses accidental versioning of files and paths matching the specified patterns
\$ git ls-files --other --ignored --exclude-standard
Lists all ignored files in this project

SAVE FRAGMENTS

Shelve and restore incomplete changes

\$ git stash
Temporarily stores all modified tracked files
\$ git stash pop
Restores the most recently stashed files
\$ git stash list
Lists all stashed changesets
\$ git stash drop
Discards the most recently stashed changeset

REVIEW HISTORY

Browse and inspect the evolution of project files

\$ git log
Lists version history for the current branch
\$ git log --follow [file]
Lists version history for a file, including renames
\$ git diff [first-branch]...[second-branch]
Shows content differences between two branches
\$ git show [commit]
Outputs metadata and content changes of the specified commit

REDO COMMITS

Erase mistakes and craft replacement history

\$ git reset [commit]
Undoes all commits after [commit], preserving changes locally
\$ git reset --hard [commit]
Discards all history and changes back to the specified commit

SYNCHRONIZE CHANGES

Register a repository bookmark and exchange version history

\$ git fetch [bookmark]
Downloads all history from the repository bookmark
\$ git merge [bookmark]/[branch]
Combines bookmark's branch into current local branch
\$ git push [alias] [branch]
Uploads all local branch commits to GitHub
\$ git pull
Downloads bookmark history and incorporates changes

GitHub Training

Learn more about using GitHub and Git. Email the Training Team or visit our web site for learning event schedules and private class availability.

✉ training@github.com
🌐 training.github.com

COMMAND LINE CHEAT SHEET

presented by **TOWER** > Version control with Git - made easy



DIRECTORIES

```
$ pwd
Display path of current working directory

$ cd <directory>
Change directory to <directory>

$ cd ..
Navigate to parent directory

$ ls
List directory contents

$ ls -la
List detailed directory contents, including hidden files

$ mkdir <directory>
Create new directory named <directory>
```

OUTPUT

```
$ cat <file>
Output the contents of <file>

$ less <file>
Output the contents of <file> using the less command (which supports pagination etc.)

$ head <file>
Output the first 10 lines of <file>

$ <cmd> > <file>
Direct the output of <cmd> into <file>

$ <cmd> >> <file>
Append the output of <cmd> to <file>

$ <cmd1> | <cmd2>
Direct the output of <cmd1> to <cmd2>

$ clear
Clear the command line window
```

FILES

```
$ rm <file>
Delete <file>

$ rm -r <directory>
Delete <directory>

$ rm -f <file>
Force-delete <file> (add -r to force-delete a directory)

$ mv <file-old> <file-new>
Rename <file-old> to <file-new>

$ mv <file> <directory>
Move <file> to <directory> (possibly overwriting an existing file)

$ cp <file> <directory>
Copy <file> to <directory> (possibly overwriting an existing file)
```

```
$ cp -r <directory1> <directory2>
Copy <directory1> and its contents to <directory2> (possibly overwriting files in an existing directory)

$ touch <file>
Update file access & modification time (and create <file> if it doesn't exist)
```

PERMISSIONS

```
$ chmod 755 <file>
Change permissions of <file> to 755

$ chmod -R 600 <directory>
Change permissions of <directory> (and its contents) to 600

$ chown <user>:<group> <file>
Change ownership of <file> to <user> and <group> (add -R to include a directory's contents)
```

SEARCH

```
$ find <dir> -name "<file>"
Find all files named <file> inside <dir> (use wildcards [*] to search for parts of filenames, e.g. "file.*")

$ grep "<text>" <file>
Output all occurrences of <text> inside <file> (add -i for case-insensitivity)

$ grep -rl "<text>" <dir>
Search for all files containing <text> inside <dir>
```

NETWORK

```
$ ping <host>
Ping <host> and display status

$ whois <domain>
Output whois information for <domain>

$ curl -O <url/to/file>
Download <file> (via HTTP[S] or FTP)

$ ssh <username>@<host>
Establish an SSH connection to <host> with user <username>

$ scp <file> <user>@<host>:/remote/path
Copy <file> to a remote <host>
```

PROCESSES

```
$ ps ax
Output currently running processes

$ top
Display live information about currently running processes

$ kill <pid>
Quit process with ID <pid>
```

COMMAND LINE TIPS & TRICKS

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GETTING HELP

On the command line, help is always at hand: you can either type `man <command>` or `<command> --help` to receive detailed documentation about the command in question.

FILE PERMISSIONS

On Unix systems, file permissions are set using three digits: the first one representing the permissions for the owning user, the second one for its group, and the third one for anyone else.

Add up the desired access rights for each digit as following:

- 4 – access/read (r)
- 2 – modify/write (w)
- 1 – execute (x)

For example, `755` means “`rw`” for owner and “`rx`” for both group and anyone. `740` represents “`rw`” for owner, “`r`” for group and no rights for other users.

COMBINING COMMANDS

If you plan to run a series of commands after another, it might be useful to combine them instead of waiting for each command to finish before typing the next one. To do so, simply separate the commands with a semicolon (`;`) on the same line.

Additionally, it is possible to execute a command only if its predecessor produces a certain result. Code placed after the `&&` operator will only be run if the previous command completes successfully, while the opposite `||` operator only continues if the previous command fails. The following command will create the folder “`videos`” only if the `cd` command fails (and the folder therefore doesn't exist):

```
$ cd ~/videos || mkdir ~/videos
```

THE “CTRL” KEY

Various keyboard shortcuts can assist you when entering text: Hitting `CTRL+A` moves the caret to the beginning and `CTRL+E` to the end of the line.

In a similar fashion, `CTRL+K` deletes all characters after and `CTRL+U` all characters in front of the caret.

Pressing `CTRL+L` clears the screen (similarly to the `clear` command). If you should ever want to abort a running command, `CTRL+C` will cancel it.

THE “TAB” KEY

Whenever entering paths and file names, the `TAB` key comes in very handy. It autocompletes what you've written, reducing typos quite efficiently. E.g. when you want to switch to a different directory, you can either type every component of the path by hand:

```
$ cd ~/projects/acmedesign/docs/
```

...or use the `TAB` key (try this yourself):

```
$ cd ~/pr[TAB]objects/
ac[TAB]medesign/d[TAB]ocs/
```

In case your typed characters are ambiguous (because “`ac`” could point to the “`acmedesign`” or the “`actionscrip`” folder), the command line won't be able to autocomplete. In that case, you can hit `TAB` twice to view all possible matches and then type a few more characters.

THE ARROW KEYS

The command line keeps a history of the most recent commands you executed. By pressing the `ARROW UP` key, you can step through the last called commands (starting with the most recent). `ARROW DOWN` will move forward in history towards the most recent call.

Bonus tip: Calling the `history` command prints a list of all recent commands.

HOME FOLDER

File and directory paths can get long and awkward. If you're addressing a path inside of your home folder though, you can make things easier by using the `~` character. So instead of writing `cd /Users/your-username/projects/`, a simple `cd ~/projects/` will do.

And in case you should forget your user name, `whoami` will remind you.

OUTPUT WITH “LESS”

The `less` command can display *and paginate* output. This means that it only displays one page full of content and then waits for your explicit instructions. You'll know you have `less` in front of you if the last line of your screen either shows the file's name or just a colon (`:`).

Apart from the arrow keys, hitting `SPACE` will scroll one page forward, `b` will scroll one page backward, and `q` will quit the `less` program.

DIRECTING OUTPUT

The output of a command does not necessarily have to be printed to the command line. Instead, you can decide to direct it to somewhere else.

Using the `>` operator, for example, output can be directed to a file. The following command will save the running processes to a text file in your home folder:

```
$ ps ax > ~/processes.txt
```

It is also possible to pass output to another command using the `|` (pipe) operator, which makes it very easy to create complex operations. E.g., this chain of commands will list the current directory's contents, search the list for PDF files and display the results with the `less` command:

```
$ ls | grep ".pdf" | less
```

MARKDOWN SYNTAX



GITHUB FLAVORED MARKDOWN



Markdown is a way to style text on the web. You control the display of the document; formatting words as bold or italic, adding images, and creating lists are just a few of the things we can do with Markdown. Mostly, Markdown is just regular text with a few non-alphabetic characters thrown in, like `#` or `*`.

GitHub.com uses its own version of the Markdown syntax that provides an additional set of useful features, many of which make it easier to work with content on GitHub.com.

HEADERS

```
# This is an <h1> tag
## This is an <h2> tag
##### This is an <h6> tag
```

EMPHASIS

```
*This text will be italic*
_This will also be italic_

**This text will be bold**
__This will also be bold__

*You can combine them*
```

BLOCKQUOTES

```
As Grace Hopper said:

> I've always been more interested
> in the future than in the past.
```

```
As Grace Hopper said:

| I've always been more interested
| in the future than in the past.
```

LISTS

Unordered

```
* Item 1
* Item 2
  * Item 2a
  * Item 2b
```

Ordered

```
1. Item 1
2. Item 2
3. Item 3
  * Item 3a
  * Item 3b
```

IMAGES

```
![GitHub Logo](/images/logo.png)

Format: ![Alt Text](url)
```

LINKS

```
http://github.com - automatic!

[GitHub](http://github.com)
```

BACKSLASH ESCAPES

Markdown allows you to use backslash escapes to generate literal characters which would otherwise have special meaning in Markdown's formatting syntax.

```
\*literal asterisks*

*literal asterisks*
```

Markdown provides backslash escapes for the following characters:

\ backslash	() parentheses
` backtick	# hash mark
* asterisk	+ plus sign
_ underscore	- minus sign (hyphen)
{ curly braces	. dot
[] square brackets	! exclamation mark

USERNAME @MENTIONS

Typing an `@` symbol, followed by a username, will notify that person to come and view the comment. This is called an “@mention”, because you’re mentioning the individual. You can also `@mention` teams within an organization.

ISSUE REFERENCES

Any number that refers to an Issue or Pull Request will be automatically converted into a link.

```
#1
github-flavored-markdown#1
defunkt/github-flavored-markdown#1
```

EMOJI

To see a list of every image we support, check out www.emoji-cheat-sheet.com

```
GitHub supports emoji!
:~: :sparkles: :camel: :tada:
:rocket: :metal: :octocat:
```

```
GitHub supports emoji!
👉 🌟 🐫 🚀 🦄 🍌 🙌
```

FENCED CODE BLOCKS

Markdown covers text with four leading spaces into a code block; with GFM you can wrap your code with ````` to create a code block without the leading spaces. Add an optional language identifier and your code with get syntax highlighting.

```
```javascript
function test() {
 console.log("look ma', no spaces");
}
```
```

```
function test() {
  console.log("look ma', no spaces");
}
```

TASK LISTS

```
- [x] this is a complete item
- [ ] this is an incomplete item
- [x] @mentions, #refs, [links](),
**formatting**, and <del>tags</del>
supported
- [x] list syntax required (any
unordered or ordered list
supported)
```

```
☒ this is a complete item
☐ this is an incomplete item
☒ @mentions, #refs, links, formatting,
and tags supported
☒ list syntax required (any unordered or
ordered list supported)
```

TABLES

You can create tables by assembling a list of words and dividing them with hyphens `-` (for the first row), and then separating each column with a pipe `|`:

```
First Header	Second Header
Content cell 1 | Content cell 2
Content column 1 | Content column 2
```

| First Header | Second Header |
|------------------|------------------|
| Content cell 1 | Content cell 2 |
| Content column 1 | Content column 2 |