

Introduction to Git and Github: Tutorial 2 Pushing a repository to GitHub

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2 Introduction

In this tutorial, we'll learn how to link a repository to GitHub.

To start, open your terminal / GitBash and **navigate to the folder you made in tutorial 1**.

2.1 WARNINGS

GitHub repositories are **public** by default. That means that anything you upload to GitHub can be seen by others. It also means that other people can see **any data that exists in your commit history**. This can include old drafts of papers or data before it was anonymised.

If you pay for a github membership, you can create private repositories, or you can use other services. e.g.:

- [Apache Subversion \(svn\)](#). There's a local, secure repository available from the Nijmegen MPI TG, [svn.mpi.nl](#).
- [Gitlab](#) hosting service, available through MPG (<https://gitlab.gwdg.de>).

See the last tutorial for a way of making sure some files are not included in the repository.□

2.2 Set your git username

When collaborating, it's good to know who makes what changes. You can tell git what your github username and email address is using `git config`.

My github name is seannyD and my email is sean.roberts@hotmail.com, so I would use:

```
> git config --global user.name "seannyD"
> git config --global user.email "sean.roberts@hotmail.com"
```

Set your own username and email now.

Note that the “-global” command sets your username for all repositories. You can set the username just for the current repository by navigating to the repository and using e.g. `git config user.name "seannyD"`.

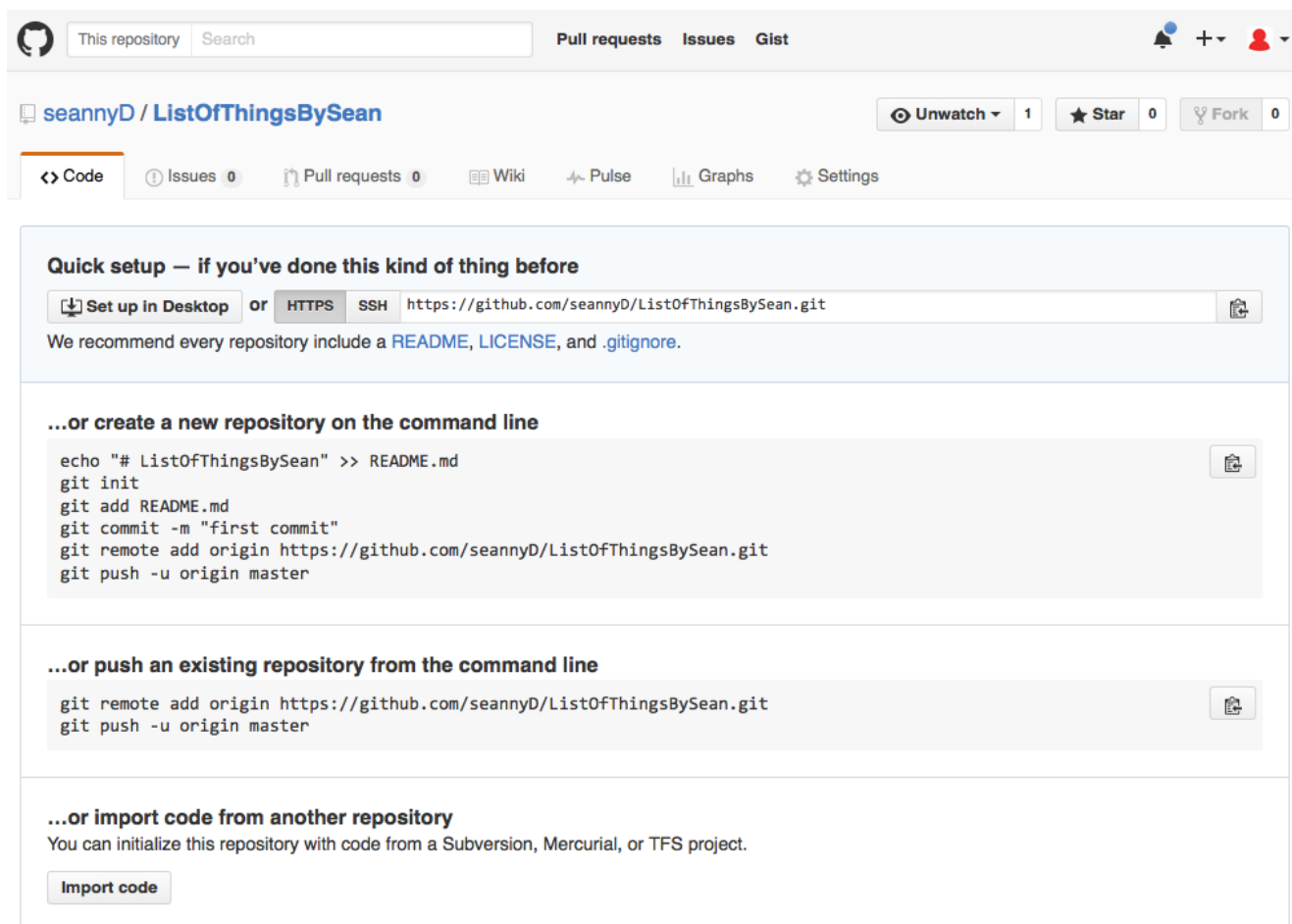
2.3 Adding a remote repository

In tutorial 1 we created a git repository. Let's link that to an online repository on GitHub.com.

- Go to www.github.com and log in.
- Click 'New repository'

- Choose a name for the repository. This must be unique for all of GitHub, so make it obvious. For this tutorial, make it something like “ListOfThingsBySean”.
- Click ‘Create repository’ (the default options are fine, and you can add a description later)□

You’ll get a page like this:



Currently, the repository is empty, so it gives you four options:

- quick setup details (if you know what you’re doing)
- create a new repository on the command line
- push an existing repository from the command line
- import code from another repository

It also gives some code. Note that the second option has some familiar commands: `git init`, `git add` and `git commit`.

But we already have a repository, so we want the third option: “push an existing repository from the command line”. Copy the two lines of code and paste them into your terminal / GitBash. My code looks like this, but you’ll need to **replace the web address** with your own repository address.

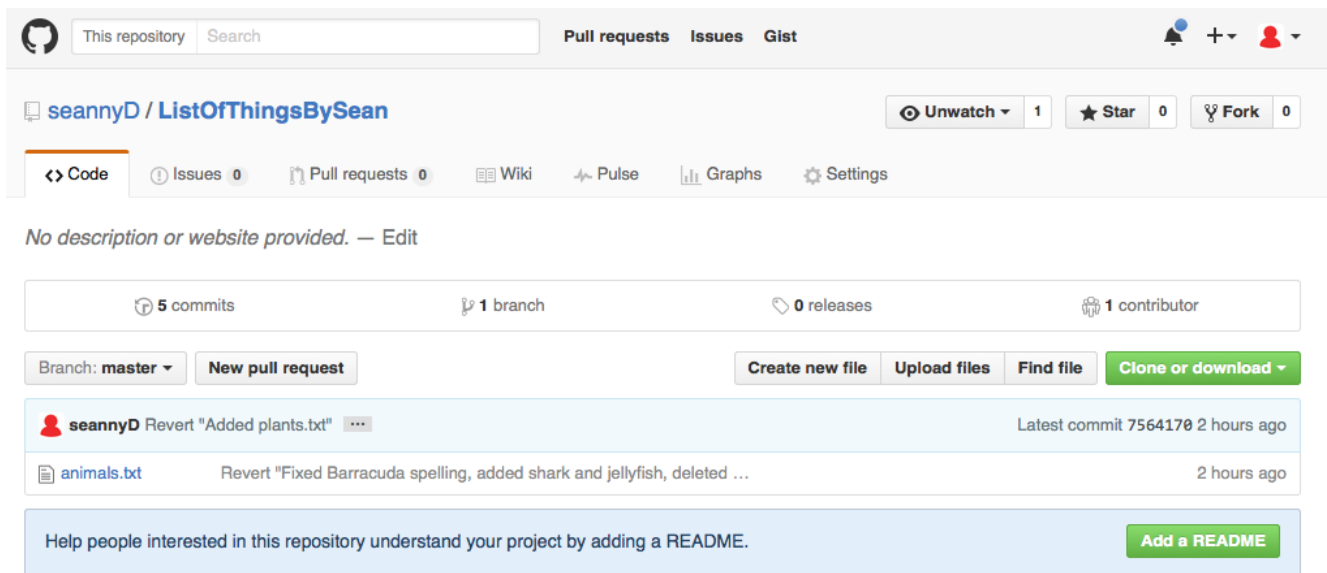
```
> git remote add origin https://github.com/seannyD/ListOfThingsBySean.git
> git push -u origin master
```

The first command tells git that you’re going to link the repository to the given web address.□

The second command tells git to upload the repository to GitHub. The `-u origin master` tells git to push the master branch to GitHub, and to remember this option for later. From now on, you can just use `git push` to send things to GitHub.

You’ll need to enter your GitHub password. There are a number of ways of avoiding doing this every time, see [here](#).

After the files have uploaded, go back to the GitHub page in your browser and refresh the page. You’ll see something like□ this:



The files in your directory are now copied to the GitHub page, and other people can access it. It will be updated every time you make a commit and push.

There are lots of options on this page, but one of the most useful for now is the ability to add collaborators - people who can edit and push to your online GitHub repository. To do this, go to *Settings > Collaborators* and enter the username/email address of collaborators.

2.4 Review

We've now learned the basics of git:

Initialise a repository

```
> git init
```

Make a GitHub repository on GitHub.com, then link your local repository to it:

```
> git remote add origin <repository url>
> git push -u origin master
```

You'll now be mainly using these three commands every time you make changes:

```
> git add *
> git commit -m "Commit description message"
> git push
```

You can now appreciate this comic:



From xkcd, <https://xkcd.com/1597/>

From xkcd <https://xkcd.com/1597/>

2.4.1 [Go on to the next section](#)