

# Changing the default branch

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If you have more than one branch in your repository, you can configure any branch as the default branch.

## Who can use this feature

People with admin access for a repository can change the default branch for the repository.

## About changing the default branch

You can choose the default branch for a repository. The default branch is the base branch for pull requests and code commits. For more information about the default branch, see "[About branches](#)."

**Note:** If you use the Git-Subversion bridge, changing the default branch will affect your `trunk` branch contents and the `HEAD` you see when you list references for the remote repository. For more information, see "[Support for Subversion clients](#)" and [git-ls-remote](#) in the Git documentation.

You can also rename the default branch. For more information, see "[Renaming a branch](#)."



You can set the name of the default branch for new repositories. For more information, see "[Managing the default branch name for your repositories](#)," "[Managing the default branch name for repositories in your organization](#)," and "[Enforcing repository management policies in your enterprise](#)."

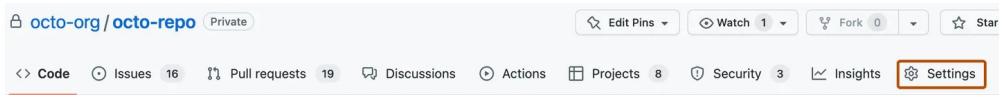
## Prerequisites

To change the default branch, your repository must have more than one branch. For more information, see "[Creating and deleting branches within your repository](#)."

Additionally, you need to have admin access to a repository to change the default branch.

## Changing the default branch

- 1 On GitHub.com, navigate to the main page of the repository.
- 2 Under your repository name, click  **Settings**. If you cannot see the "Settings" tab, select the  dropdown menu, then click **Settings**.



- 3 Under "Default branch", to the right of the default branch name, click ➦.
- 4 Select the branch dropdown menu and click a branch name.
- 5 Click **Update**.
- 6 Read the warning, then click **I understand, update the default branch**.

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