

Changing the default branch

In this article

About changing the default branch

Prerequisites

Changing the default branch

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](#)."

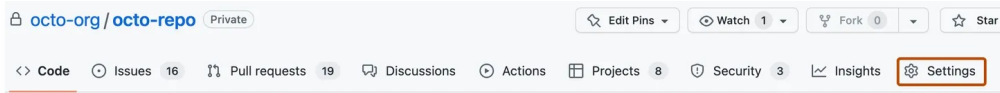
Prerequisites

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 your GitHub Enterprise Server instance, 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**.

Legal