



LEIDEN UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

Git Basics

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Starting a project.

Creating a new repository is easy. You do not need a server, no registration, etc.

```
1 $ git init
2 Initialized empty Git repository in <path>/.
```

Listing 1 : Make a new repository.

Starting a project.

Creating a new repository is easy. You do not need a server, no registration, etc.

```
1 $ git init
2 Initialized empty Git repository in <path>/.git/
```

Listing 1 : Make a new repository.

Or you can “clone” an existing repository.

```
1 $ git clone <path-to-repository>
```

Listing 2 : Clone an existing repository.

Starting a project.

You can see a hidden directory in a Git repository.

```
1 $ ls -a
2 . .. .git
```

Listing 3 : A hidden directory is added.

This directory contains almost everything that Git stores and manipulates.

Local operations.

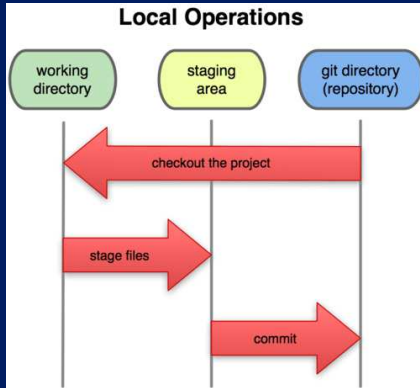


Figure 1 : Working directory, staging area, and Git directory.

Checking the status of your files.

```
1 $ git status
2 nothing to commit (working directory clean)
```

Listing 4 : Check status.

“**git status**” can tell you whether your files are:

- Untracked.
- Unmodified.
- Modified.
- Staged.

Checking the status of your files.

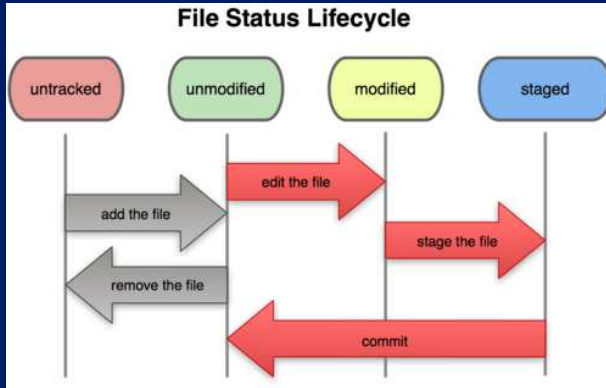


Figure 2 : The lifecycle of the status of your files.

Adding, removing, renaming.

```
1 $ echo First version. > README
2 $ git status
3 # Untracked files:
4 #   README
```

Listing 5 : This file is not tracked.

Adding, removing, renaming.

```
1 $ echo First version. > README
2 $ git status
3 # Untracked files:
4 #     README
```

Listing 5 : This file is not tracked.

```
1 $ git add README
2 $ git status
3 # Changes to be committed:
4 #     new file:   README
```

Listing 6 : Now the file will be tracked.

To rename a file, use “`git mv`”, to remove, use “`git rm`”.

commit

Once you have modified your files and added them to the *staging area*, you can commit them (add them to the repository).

```
1 $ git commit
```

Listing 7 : Commit a new version.

This will open an editor, give a short description (50 characters) and a list of the changes (72 column format).

- Useful when you want to search.

commit

Once you have modified your files and added them to the *staging area*, you can commit them (add them to the repository).

```
1 $ git commit
```

Listing 7 : Commit a new version.

This will open an editor, give a short description (50 characters) and a list of the changes (72 column format).

- Useful when you want to search.

```
1 $ git commit -m "Solved the counting bug."
```

Listing 8 : Commit a new version.

Undoing changes.

Sometimes you will accidentally add a file.

```
1 $ echo Second version. > README
2 $ git add README
3 $ git status
4 # Changes to be committed:
5 #       modified:   README
```

Listing 9 : Adding a new version of a file.

Undoing changes.

Sometimes you will accidentally add a file.

```
1 $ echo Second version. > README
2 $ git add README
3 $ git status
4 # Changes to be committed:
5 #       modified:   README
```

Listing 9 : Adding a new version of a file.

If you want to undo this, you can use “`git reset`”.

```
1 $ git reset README
2 $ git status
3 # Changes not staged for commit:
4 #       modified:   README
```

Listing 10 : Unstage a file.

Viewing the history.

To see the history of your project, use “`git log`”.

```
1  $ git add README
2  $ git commit
3  $ git log
4  commit cc61ee7cd72590f3bebcc9e1ff3e9435c7f7dd28
5  Author: J.F.J. Laros <j.f.j.laros@lumc.nl>
6  Date:   Fri Oct 11 14:18:13 2013 +0200
7
8      Second version.
9
10 commit 8e10be812fd78f69a5e3bac7670c62438161b6b0
11 Author: J.F.J. Laros <j.f.j.laros@lumc.nl>
12 Date:   Fri Oct 11 14:17:51 2013 +0200
13
14      First version.
```

Listing 11 : The log of our project.

Undo a commit.

Sometimes we want to undo an entire commit. This is done with “`git revert`”.

```
1 $ git revert cc61ee7cd72590f3bebcc9e1ff3e9435c7f7dd28
2 $ cat README
3 First version.
```

Listing 12 : Revert a commit.

The hash can be found with “`git log`”.

Undo a commit.

Sometimes we want to undo an entire commit. This is done with “`git revert`”.

```
1 $ git revert cc61ee7cd72590f3bebcc9e1ff3e9435c7f7dd28
2 $ cat README
3 First version.
```

Listing 12 : Revert a commit.

The hash can be found with “`git log`”.

You can also use an unique prefix of this hash, usually six characters is enough.

Viewing changes in detail.

If you want to see what has changed, use “`git diff`”.

```
1  $ echo Third version. > README
2  $ git diff
3  --- a/README
4  +++ b/README
5  @@ -1 +1 @@
6  -First version.
7  +Third version.
```

Listing 13 : Difference between the working copy and the staging area.

Viewing changes in detail.

If you want to see what has changed, use “`git diff`”.

```
1 $ echo Third version. > README
2 $ git diff
3 --- a/README
4 +++ b/README
5 @@ -1 +1 @@
6 -First version.
7 +Third version.
```

Listing 13 : Difference between the working copy and the staging area.

For staged files, use the “`--cached`” or “`--staged`” option.

```
1 $ git diff --cached
```

Listing 14 : Difference between the staging area and the last commit.

Viewing changes in detail.

You can see the differences between any two versions.

```
1 $ git diff cc61ee
2 — a/README
3 +++ b/README
4 @@ -1 +1 @@
5 -Second version.
6 +Third version.
```

Listing 15 : Difference between the working copy and an other commit.

Viewing changes in detail.

You can see the differences between any two versions.

```
1 $ git diff cc61ee
2 — a/README
3 +++ b/README
4 @@ -1 +1 @@
5 -Second version.
6 +Third version.
```

Listing 15 : Difference between the working copy and an other commit.

```
1 $ git diff 8e10be cc61ee
```

Listing 16 : Difference between two committed versions.

Explicit no tracking.

Sometimes you do not want to track certain files:

- Executables.
- **pdf** files (if you still have the \LaTeX source).
- Python bytecode (**.pyc**) files.
- Files containing passwords.

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Sometimes you do not want to track certain files:

- Executables.
- pdf files (if you still have the \LaTeX source).
- Python bytecode (`.pyc`) files.
- Files containing passwords.

Use the special “`.gitignore`” file.

```
1 $ touch notrack.txt
2 $ echo notrack.txt > .gitignore
3 $ git add .gitignore
4 $ git commit
5 $ git status
6 nothing to commit, working directory clean
```

Listing 17 : Ignoring certain files.

Help.

With the “**help**” command get the manual of a particular subcommand.

```
1 $ git help <command>
```

Listing 18 : Get the full manual.

Help.

With the “**help**” command get the manual of a particular subcommand.

```
1 $ git help <command>
```

Listing 18 : Get the full manual.

Example.

```
1 $ git help diff
```

Listing 19 : Get the manual for the diff subcommand.



Acknowledgements:

Martijn Vermaat
Zuotian Tatum

<http://git-scm.com/book>