



GIT Commands Cheatsheet

Command	Sample Command	Explanation	Interview Question	What Interviewer Expects
git init	git init	Initializes a Git repository	How do you start version control for a project?	Creates .git and enables tracking
git clone	git clone url	Copies remote repo locally	How do you get code from GitHub?	Full repo + history cloned
git status	git status	Shows repo status	How do you check file state?	Modified, staged, untracked
git add	git add file.txt	Stages changes	How do you prepare files for commit?	Moves changes to staging
git add .	git add .	Stages all files	How do you stage everything quickly?	Stages all modified files
git commit	git commit -m "msg"	Saves changes	How do you save code in Git?	Creates snapshot with message
git log	git log	Commit history	How do you see commit history?	Shows commit timeline
git log --oneline	git log --oneline	Compact history	How do you quickly review commits?	Short commit view
git diff	git diff	Unstaged changes	How do you see changes before commit?	Working tree diff
git diff --staged	git diff --staged	Staged changes	How do you review staged code?	Staging vs HEAD
git branch	git branch	Lists branches	How do you manage parallel work?	Feature isolation
git branch feature1	git branch feature1	Creates branch	How do you create a new branch?	New branch pointer
git checkout	git checkout main	Switch branch	How do you move between branches?	Moves HEAD
git checkout -b	git checkout -b f1	Create + switch	How do you create & switch branch?	One-step branching
git switch	git switch dev	Switch branch (modern)	Alternative to checkout?	Cleaner branch switching
git merge	git merge feature1	Merge branches	How do you integrate feature code?	Combines histories
git rebase	git rebase main	Reapply commits	Merge vs rebase?	Linear history, local use
git pull	git pull origin main	Fetch + merge	How do you sync local repo?	Updates local branch
git fetch	git fetch origin	Fetch only	Pull vs fetch?	Fetch without merge
git push	git push origin main	Push commits	How do you share your code?	Uploads commits
git push -u	git push -u origin main	Set upstream	Why set upstream?	Simplifies future push
git stash	git stash	Save uncommitted work	What if work is incomplete?	Temporary storage
git stash pop	git stash pop	Restore stash	How do you bring back changes?	Applies & removes stash
git stash list	git stash list	List stashes	How do you see saved stashes?	Shows stash entries
git reset	git reset file.txt	Unstage file	How do you unstage a file?	Removes from staging
git reset --soft	git reset --soft HEAD~1	Undo commit, keep code	Undo commit safely?	Commit removed, code intact
git reset --hard	git reset --hard HEAD~1	Delete commit	When NOT to use reset?	Dangerous for shared branches
git revert	git revert id	Safe undo	Reset vs revert?	Revert for shared repos
git rm	git rm file.txt	Delete file	How do you remove file from Git?	Deletes + stages
git mv	git mv a b	Rename file	Why use git mv?	Preserves history
git show	git show id	Commit details	How do you inspect a commit?	Diff + metadata
git tag	git tag v1.0	Version tag	How do you mark a release?	Release labeling
git tag -a	git tag -a v1.0	Annotated tag	Difference in tags?	Metadata support
git blame	git blame file	Line ownership	Who changed this line?	Author per line
git cherry-pick	git cherry-pick id	Pick commit	Apply one commit only?	Selective merge
git clean	git clean -f	Remove untracked files	How do you clean workspace?	Deletes untracked files
git config	git config --global user.name	Configure Git	How do you set user details?	Global/local config
git reflog	git reflog	HEAD history	Recover deleted commit?	Shows commit movements
git bisect	git bisect start	Bug hunt	How do you find breaking commit?	Binary search
git remote -v	git remote -v	List remotes	How do you verify remote URLs?	Shows fetch/push URLs
git remote add	git remote add origin url	Add remote	How do you connect remote repo?	Links remote
git submodule	git submodule add url	External repo	How do you manage shared libs?	Nested repositories

