A quick reference guide to Azure Repos, covering essential commands and concepts for version control.



Getting Started with Azure Repos

Setting Up Your Environment

Creating a New Repository:

- 1. Navigate to your Azure DevOps project.
- 2. Select 'Repos' from the left-hand menu.
- Click on the dropdown next to the current repository name and select 'New repository'.
- 4. Choose a name for your repository and click 'Create'.

Cloning an Existing Repository:

- 1. Navigate to the repository you want to clone in Azure Repos.
- 2. Click the 'Clone' button.
- 3. Copy the clone URL (HTTPS or SSH).
- 4. In your local terminal, use the command: git clone <clone_url>

Connecting with SSH:

- 1. Generate an SSH key pair if you don't already have one (ssh-keygen -t rsa -b 4096).
- 2. Add the public key to your Azure DevOps profile.
- 3. Use the SSH clone URL to clone and interact with the repository.

Branching and Merging

Branch Management

| git branch <branch_name></branch_name> | Create a new branch. |
|---|--|
| <pre>git checkout <branch_name></branch_name></pre> | Switch to an existing branch. |
| git branch -d <branch_name></branch_name> | Delete a branch locally (if merged). |
| git push origindelete <branch_name></branch_name> | Delete a branch remotely. |
| git branch -a | List all branches (local and remote). |
| <pre>git checkout -b <new_branch> origin/<remote_branch></remote_branch></new_branch></pre> | Create a new local branch and track a remote branch. |

Basic Git Commands

| git init | Initialize a new Git repository. |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| git clone <url></url> | Clone a repository from a remote URL. |
| git add <file></file> | Add a file to the staging area. |
| git commit -m " <message>"</message> | Commit changes with a descriptive message. |
| git push origin <branch></branch> | Push changes to a remote branch. |
| git pull origin <branch></branch> | Pull changes from a remote branch. |

Merging Strategies

Basic Merge:

- 1. Checkout the target branch (e.g., main).
- 2. Run git merge <feature_branch> to merge the feature branch into the target branch.
- 3. Resolve any merge conflicts.
- 4. Commit the merge.

Merge with Pull Request (Recommended):

- 1. Create a pull request in Azure Repos from the feature branch to the target branch.
- 2. Review the changes and resolve any conflicts in the web interface.
- 3. Approve the pull request and complete the merge.

Resolving Merge Conflicts:

- Use git status to identify conflicting files.
- Open the conflicting files and manually resolve the conflicts, looking for <<<<<,,
 ======, and >>>>>> markers.
- After resolving, git add the files and git commit the changes.

Working with Remote Repositories

Managing Remotes

| git remote -v | List configured remote connections. |
|--|---|
| git remote add <name></name> | Add a new remote connection. |
| git remote remove <name></name> | Remove a remote connection. |
| <pre>git remote rename <old_name> <new_name></new_name></old_name></pre> | Rename a remote connection. |
| git fetch <remote></remote> | Fetch branches and/or tags (plus associated objects) from another repository. |
| git remote update | Fetch updates from all remotes. |

Pull Requests in Azure Repos

Creating a Pull Request:

- 1. Push your branch to Azure Repos.
- 2. In Azure Repos, navigate to the 'Pull requests' section.
- 3. Click 'New pull request'.
- 4. Select the source branch and target branch.
- 5. Add a title and description for the pull request.
- 6. Assign reviewers and click 'Create'.

Reviewing a Pull Request:

- 1. Navigate to the 'Pull requests' section in Azure Repos.
- 2. Select the pull request you want to review.
- Review the changes, add comments, and vote (Approve, Approve with suggestions, Wait, Reject).
- 4. Complete the pull request when all reviewers have approved the changes.

Completing a Pull Request:

- Once the required reviewers have approved the pull request, you can complete it.
- Options for completing include merging, squashing, and deleting the source branch.
- Azure Repos provides options to automatically complete pull requests based on branch policies.

Advanced Features

Stashing Changes

| git stash | Stash your uncommitted changes. |
|--|---|
| git stash save " <message>"</message> | Stash changes with a message. |
| git stash list | List all stashed changes. |
| git stash apply | Apply the latest stashed changes. |
| <pre>git stash apply stash@{<n>}</n></pre> | Apply a specific stashed change (e.g., <pre>stash@{0}).</pre> |
| <pre>git stash drop stash@{<n>}</n></pre> | Delete a specific stashed change. |

Ignoring Files

Use a .gitignore file to specify intentionally untracked files that Git should ignore.

Example .gitignore :

| *.log | |
|--------|--|
| /temp/ | |
| huild/ | |

Common .gitignore Patterns:

- *.log : Ignore all files with the .log extension.
- /temp/ : Ignore the temp directory at the root of the repository.
- build/ : Ignore the build directory (recursively).
- config.ini : Ignore a specific file named config.ini .

To ignore a file that has already been committed, you must first remove it from the index:

git rm --cached <file>
git commit -m "Remove file from index"