

# Git - Environment Setup

Before you can use Git, you have to install and do some basic configuration changes. Below are the steps to install Git client on Ubuntu and Centos Linux.

## Installation of Git Client

If you are using Debian base GNU/Linux distribution, then **apt-get** command will do the needful.

```
[ubuntu ~]$ sudo apt-get install git-core
[sudo] password for ubuntu:

[ubuntu ~]$ git --version
git version 1.8.1.2
```

And if you are using RPM based GNU/Linux distribution, then use **yum** command as given.

```
[CentOS ~]$
su -
Password:

[CentOS ~]# yum -y install git-core

[CentOS ~]# git --version
git version 1.7.1
```

## Customize Git Environment

Git provides the git config tool, which allows you to set configuration variables. Git stores all global configurations in **.gitconfig** file, which is located in your home directory. To set these configuration values as global, add the **--global** option, and if you omit **--global** option, then your configurations are specific for the current Git repository.

You can also set up system wide configuration. Git stores these values in the **/etc/gitconfig** file, which contains the configuration for every user and repository on the system. To set these values, you must have the root rights and use the **--system** option.

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result –

## Setting username

This information is used by Git for each commit.

```
[jerry@CentOS project]$ git config --global user.name "Jerry Mouse"
```

## Setting email id

This information is used by Git for each commit.

```
[jerry@CentOS project]$ git config --global user.email "jerry@tutorialspoint.com"
```

## Avoid merge commits for pulling

You pull the latest changes from a remote repository, and if these changes are divergent, then by default Git creates merge commits. We can avoid this via following settings.

```
jerry@CentOS project]$ git config --global branch.autosetuprebase always
```

## Color highlighting

The following commands enable color highlighting for Git in the console.

```
[jerry@CentOS project]$ git config --global color.ui true  
[jerry@CentOS project]$ git config --global color.status auto  
[jerry@CentOS project]$ git config --global color.branch auto
```

## Setting default editor

By default, Git uses the system default editor, which is taken from the VISUAL or EDITOR environment variable. We can configure a different one by using git config.

```
[jerry@CentOS project]$ git config --global core.editor vim
```

## Setting default merge tool

Git does not provide a default merge tool for integrating conflicting changes into your working tree. We can set default merge tool by enabling following settings.

```
[jerry@CentOS project]$ git config --global merge.tool vimdiff
```

## Listing Git settings

To verify your Git settings of the local repository, use **git config -list** command as given below.

```
[jerry@CentOS ~]$ git config --list
```

The above command will produce the following result.

```
user.name=Jerry Mouse
user.email=jerry@tutorialspoint.com
push.default=nothing
branch.autosetuprebase=always
color.ui=true
color.status=auto
color.branch=auto
core.editor=vim
merge.tool=vimdiff
```

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