English

8. COMMITING THE CHANGES

Goals

- To learn to commit to the repository

Committing changes

Well, enough about staging. Let's commit the staged changes to the repository.

When you previously used `git commit` for committing the first `hello.html` version to the repository, you included the `-m` flag that gives a comment on the command line. The commit command allows interactively editing comments for the commit. And now, let's see how it works.

If you omit the `-m` flag from the command line, git will pop you into the editor of your choice from the list (in order of priority):

- GIT_EDITOR environment variable
- core.editor configuration setting
- VISUAL environment variable
- EDITOR environment variable

I have the EDITOR variable set to `emacsclient` (available for Linux and Mac).

Let us commit now and check the status.

RUN:

```
git commit
```

You will see the following in your editor:

RESULT:

```
|
# Please enter the commit message for your changes. Lines starting
# with '#' will be ignored, and an empty message aborts the commit.
# On branch master
# Changes to be committed:
#   (use "git reset HEAD <file>..." to unstage)
#
```

```
#        modified:    hello.html
#
```

On the first line, enter the comment: "Added HI TAG". Save the file and exit the editor (to do it in default editor, press ESC and then type `:wq` and hit Enter). You should see …

RESULT:

```
git commit
Waiting for Emacs...
[master 569aa96] Added h1 tag
 1 files changed, 1 insertions(+), 1 deletions(-)
```

"Waiting for Emacs..." is obtained from the `emacsclient` program sending the file to a running emacs program and waiting for it to be closed. The rest of the data is the standard commit messages.

Checking the status

At the end let us check the status.

RUN:

```
git status
```

You will see …

RESULT:

```
$ git status
# On branch master
nothing to commit (working directory clean)
```

The working directory is clean, you can continue working.

We plan to roll-out a major upgrade to this tutorial pretty soon. We can keep you posted if you want.

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