
GitPython Documentation

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CONTENTS

1 Overview / Install	3
1.1 Requirements	3
1.2 Installing GitPython	3
1.3 Getting Started	3
1.4 API Reference	4
1.5 Source Code	4
1.6 License Information	4
2 GitPython Tutorial	5
2.1 Initialize a Repo object	5
2.2 Getting a list of commits	5
2.3 The Commit object	6
2.4 The Tree object	7
2.5 The Blob object	8
2.6 What Else?	9
3 API Reference	11
3.1 Actor	11
3.2 Blob	11
3.3 Git	11
3.4 Commit	12
3.5 Diff	13
3.6 Errors	13
3.7 Head	13
3.8 Lazy	14
3.9 Repo	14
3.10 Stats	17
3.11 Tag	17
3.12 Tree	18
3.13 Utils	18
4 Indices and tables	19
Module Index	21
Index	23

Contents:

Overview / Install

GitPython is a python library used to interact with Git repositories.

GitPython is a port of the [grit](#) library in Ruby created by Tom Preston-Werner and Chris Wanstrath.

1.1 Requirements

- [Git](#) tested with 1.5.3.7
- [Python Nose](#) - used for running the tests
- [Mock](#) by Michael Foord used for tests. Requires 0.4

1.2 Installing GitPython

Installing GitPython is easily done using [setuptools](#). Assuming it is installed, just run the following from the command-line:

```
# easy_install GitPython
```

This command will download the latest version of GitPython from the [Python Package Index](#) and install it to your system. More information about `easy_install` and `pypi` can be found here:

- [setuptools](#)
- [install setuptools](#)
- [pypi](#)

Alternatively, you can install from the distribution using the `setup.py` script:

```
# python setup.py install
```

1.3 Getting Started

- [GitPython Tutorial](#) - This tutorial provides a walk-through of some of the basic functionality and concepts used in GitPython. It, however, is not exhaustive so you are encouraged to spend some time in the [API Reference](#).

1.4 API Reference

An organized section of the GitPthon API is at [*API Reference*](#).

1.5 Source Code

GitPython's git repo is available on Gitorious, which can be browsed at:

<http://gitorious.org/projects/git-python/>

and cloned from:

`git://gitorious.org/git-python/mainline.git`

1.6 License Information

GitPython is licensed under the New BSD License. See the LICENSE file for more information.

GitPython Tutorial

GitPython provides object model access to your git repository. Once you have created a repository object, you can traverse it to find parent commit(s), trees, blobs, etc.

2.1 Initialize a Repo object

The first step is to create a `Repo` object to represent your repository.

```
>>> from git import *
>>> repo = Repo("/Users/mtrier/Development/git-python")
```

In the above example, the directory `/Users/mtrier/Development/git-python` is my working repository and contains the `.git` directory. You can also initialize GitPython with a bare repository.

```
>>> repo = Repo.create("/var/git/git-python.git")
```

2.2 Getting a list of commits

From the `Repo` object, you can get a list of `Commit` objects.

```
>>> repo.commits()
[<git.Commit "207c0c4418115df0d30820ab1a9acd2ea4bf4431">,
 <git.Commit "a91c45eee0b41bf3cdaad3418ca3850664c4a4b4">,
 <git.Commit "e17c7e11aed9e94d2159e549a99b966912ce1091">,
 <git.Commit "bd795df2d0e07d10e0298670005c0e9d9a5ed867">]
```

Called without arguments, `Repo.commits` returns a list of up to ten commits reachable by the master branch (starting at the latest commit). You can ask for commits beginning at a different branch, commit, tag, etc.

```
>>> repo.commits('mybranch')
>>> repo.commits('40d3057d09a7a4d61059bca9dca5ae698de58cbe')
>>> repo.commits('v0.1')
```

You can specify the maximum number of commits to return.

```
>>> repo.commits('master', max_count=100)
```

If you need paging, you can specify a number of commits to skip.

```
>>> repo.commits('master', max_count=10, skip=20)
```

The above will return commits 21-30 from the commit list.

2.3 The Commit object

Commit objects contain information about a specific commit.

```
>>> head = repo.commits()[0]

>>> head.id
'207c0c4418115df0d30820ab1a9acd2ea4bf4431'

>>> head.parents
[<git.Commit "a91c45eee0b41bf3cdaad3418ca3850664c4a4b4">]

>>> head.tree
<git.Tree "563413aedbeda425d8d9dcbb744247d0c3e8a0ac">

>>> head.author
<git.Actor "Michael Trier <mtrier@gmail.com>">

>>> head.authored_date
(2008, 5, 7, 5, 0, 56, 2, 128, 0)

>>> head.committer
<git.Actor "Michael Trier <mtrier@gmail.com>">

>>> head.committed_date
(2008, 5, 7, 5, 0, 56, 2, 128, 0)

>>> head.message
'cleaned up a lot of test information. Fixed escaping so it works with
subprocess.'
```

Note: date time is represented in a struct_time format. Conversion to human readable form can be accomplished with the various time module methods.

```
>>> import time
>>> time.asctime(head.committed_date)
'Wed May 7 05:56:02 2008'

>>> time.strftime("%a, %d %b %Y %H:%M", head.committed_date)
'Wed, 7 May 2008 05:56'
```

You can traverse a commit's ancestry by chaining calls to parents.

```
>>> repo.commits()[0].parents[0].parents[0].parents[0]
```

The above corresponds to `master^3` or `master~3` in git parlance.

2.4 The Tree object

A tree records pointers to the contents of a directory. Let's say you want the root tree of the latest commit on the master branch.

```
>>> tree = repo.commits()[0].tree
<git.Tree "a006b5b1a8115185a228b7514cdcd46fed90dc92">

>>> tree.id
'a006b5b1a8115185a228b7514cdcd46fed90dc92'
```

Once you have a tree, you can get the contents.

```
>>> contents = tree.values()
[<git.Blob "6a91a439ea968bf2f5ce8bb1cd8ddf5bf2cad6c7">,
 <git.Blob "e69de29bb2d1d6434b8b29ae775ad8c2e48c5391">,
 <git.Tree "eaa0090ec96b054e425603480519e7cf587adfc3">,
 <git.Blob "980e72ae16b5378009ba5dfd6772b59fe7ccd2df">]
```

The tree implements a dictionary protocol so it can be used and acts just like a dictionary with some additional properties.

```
>>> tree.items()
[('lib', <git.Tree "310ebc9a0904531438bdde831fd6a27c6b6be58e">),
 ('LICENSE', <git.Blob "6797c1421052efe2ded9efdbb498b37aeae16415">),
 ('doc', <git.Tree "a58386dd101f6eb7f33499317e5508726dfd5e4f">),
 ('MANIFEST.in', <git.Blob "7da4e346bb0a682e99312c48a1f452796d3fb988">),
 ('.gitignore', <git.Blob "6870991011cc8d9853a7a8a6f02061512c6a8190">),
 ('test', <git.Tree "c6f6ee37d328987bc6fb47a33fed16c7886df857">),
 ('VERSION', <git.Blob "9faa1b7a7339db85692f91ad4b922554624a3ef7">),
 ('AUTHORS', <git.Blob "9f649ef5448f9666d78356a2f66ba07c5fb27229">),
 ('README', <git.Blob "9643dcf549f34fb09503d4c941a5d04157570fe">),
 ('ez_setup.py', <git.Blob "3031ad0d119bd5010648cf8c038e2bbe21969ecb">),
 ('setup.py', <git.Blob "271074302aee04eb0394a4706c74f0c2eb504746">),
 ('CHANGES', <git.Blob "0d236f3d9f20d5e5db86daefe1e3balce68e3a97">) ]
```

This tree contains three Blob objects and one Tree object. The trees are subdirectories and the blobs are files. Trees below the root have additional attributes.

```
>>> contents = tree["lib"]
<git.Tree "clc7214dde86f76bc3e18806ac1f47c38b2b7a3">

>>> contents.name
'test'

>>> contents.mode
'040000'
```

There is a convenience method that allows you to get a named sub-object from a tree with a syntax similar to how paths are written in an unix system.

```
>>> tree/"lib"
<git.Tree "c1c7214dde86f76bc3e18806ac1f47c38b2b7a30">
```

You can also get a tree directly from the repository if you know its name.

```
>>> repo.tree()
<git.Tree "master">

>>> repo.tree("c1c7214dde86f76bc3e18806ac1f47c38b2b7a30")
<git.Tree "c1c7214dde86f76bc3e18806ac1f47c38b2b7a30">
```

2.5 The Blob object

A blob represents a file. Trees often contain blobs.

```
>>> blob = tree['urls.py']
<git.Blob "b19574431a073333ea09346eaf64e7b1908ef49">
```

A blob has certain attributes.

```
>>> blob.name
'urls.py'

>>> blob.mode
'100644'

>>> blob.mime_type
'text/x-python'

>>> blob.size
415
```

You can get the data of a blob as a string.

```
>>> blob.data
"from django.conf.urls.defaults import *\nfrom django.conf..."
```

You can also get a blob directly from the repo if you know its name.

```
>>> repo.blob("b19574431a073333ea09346eaf64e7b1908ef49")
<git.Blob "b19574431a073333ea09346eaf64e7b1908ef49">
```

2.6 What Else?

There is more stuff in there, like the ability to tar or gzip repos, stats, log, blame, and probably a few other things. Additionally calls to the git instance are handled through a `__getattr__` construct, which makes available any git commands directly, with a nice conversion of Python dicts to command line parameters.

Check the unit tests, they're pretty exhaustive.

API Reference

3.1 Actor

```
class Actor (name, email)
```

from_string

Create an Actor from a string.

str is the string, which is expected to be in regular git format

Format John Doe <jdoe@example.com>

Returns Actor

3.2 Blob

```
class Blob (repo, id, mode=None, name=None)
```

basename**blame**

The blame information for the given file at the given commit

Returns list: [git.Commit, list: [<line>]]

data

The binary contents of this blob.

Returns str

mime_type

The mime type of this file (based on the filename)

Returns str

size

The size of this blob in bytes

Returns int

3.3 Git

```
class Git (git_dir)
```

The Git class manages communication with the Git binary

```
execute(command, istream=None, with_keep_cwd=False, with_extended_output=False, with_exceptions=True,
       with_raw_output=False)
Handles executing the command on the shell and consumes and returns the returned information (stdout)

command The command argument list to execute
istream Standard input filehandle passed to subprocess.Popen.
with_keep_cwd Whether to use the current working directory from os.getcwd(). GitPython uses
                 get_work_tree() as its working directory by default and get_git_dir() for bare repositories.
with_extended_output Whether to return a (status, stdout, stderr) tuple.
with_exceptions Whether to raise an exception when git returns a non-zero status.
with_raw_output Whether to avoid stripping off trailing whitespace.

Returns str(output) # extended_output = False (Default) tuple(int(status), str(output)) # extended_output
          = True

get_dir
transform_kwargs(**kwargs)
Transforms Python style kwargs into git command line options.
```

3.4 Commit

```
class Commit(repo, id, tree=None, author=None, authored_date=None, committer=None, committed_date=None,
            message=None, parents=None)

actor
Parse out the actor (author or committer) info
Returns [str(actor name and email), time(acted at time)]

count
Count the number of commits reachable from this ref
repo is the Repo
ref is the ref from which to begin (SHA1 or name)
path is an optional path
Returns int

diff
Show diffs between two trees:
repo is the Repo
a is a named commit
b is an optional named commit. Passing a list assumes you wish to omit the second named commit and
limit the diff to the given paths.
paths is a list of paths to limit the diff.
Returns git.Diff[]

diffs
find_all
Find all commits matching the given criteria. repo
Unexpected indentation.
is the Repo
ref is the ref from which to begin (SHA1 or name)
path is an optional path
options is a Hash of optional arguments to git where max_count is the maximum number of commits
to fetch skip is the number of commits to skip
```

```
Returns git.Commit[]

id_abbrev
list_from_string
    Parse out commit information into a list of Commit objects
    repo is the Repo
    text is the text output from the git command (raw format)
    Returns git.Commit[]

stats
summary
```

3.5 Diff

```
class Diff (repo, a_path, b_path, a_commit, b_commit, a_mode, b_mode, new_file, deleted_file, rename_from, rename_to, diff)
    A Diff contains diff information between two commits.

    list_from_string
```

3.6 Errors

```
exception GitCommandError
exception InvalidGitRepositoryError
exception NoSuchPathError
```

3.7 Head

```
class Head (name, commit)
    A Head is a named reference to a Commit. Every Head instance contains a name and a Commit object.

    Examples:
```

```
>>> repo = Repo("/path/to/repo")
>>> head = repo.heads[0]

>>> head.name
'master'

>>> head.commit
<git.Commit "1c09f116cbc2cb4100fb6935bb162daa4723f455">

>>> head.commit.id
'1c09f116cbc2cb4100fb6935bb162daa4723f455'
```

```
find_all
    Find all Heads
    repo is the Repo
    kargs is a dict of options
    Returns git.Head[]
```

```
from_string
    Create a new Head instance from the given string.

    repo is the Repo
    line is the formatted head information
    Format name: [a-zA-Z/_]+ <null byte> id: [0-9A-Fa-f]{40}
    Returns git.Head

list_from_string
    Parse out head information into an array of baked head objects

    repo is the Repo
    text is the text output from the git command
    Returns git.Head[]
```

3.8 Lazy

```
class LazyMixin():
```

3.9 Repo

```
class Repo(path=None)
```

```
active_branch
    The name of the currently active branch.

    Returns str (the branch name)
```

```
alternates
    The list of alternates for this repo
```

```
    Returns list[str] (pathnames of alternates)
```

```
archive_tar(treeish='master', prefix=None)
    Archive the given treeish
```

```
    treeish is the treeish name/id (default ‘master’)
```

```
    prefix is the optional prefix
```

```
    Examples:
```

```
>>> repo.archive_tar
<String containing tar archive>
```

```
>>> repo.archive_tar('a87ff14')
<String containing tar archive for commit a87ff14>
```

```
>>> repo.archive_tar('master', 'myproject/')
<String containing tar archive and prefixed with 'myproject/'>
```

```
    Returns str (containing tar archive)
```

```
archive_tar_gz(treeish='master', prefix=None)
    Archive and gzip the given treeish
```

```
    treeish is the treeish name/id (default ‘master’)
```

```
    prefix is the optional prefix
```

```
    Examples:
```

```
>>> repo.archive_tar_gz
<String containing tar.gz archive>

>>> repo.archive_tar_gz('a87ff14')
<String containing tar.gz archive for commit a87ff14>

>>> repo.archive_tar_gz('master', 'myproject/')
<String containing tar.gz archive and prefixed with 'myproject/'>
```

Returns str (containing tar.gz archive)

blob (*id*)
The Blob object for the given id
id is the SHA1 id of the blob
Returns git.Blob

branches
A list of Head objects representing the branch heads in this repo
Returns git.Head[]

commit (*id*, *path*=")
The Commit object for the specified id
id is the SHA1 identifier of the commit
path is an optional path
Returns git.Commit

commit_count (*start*=’master’, *path*=")
The number of commits reachable by the given branch/commit
start is the branch/commit name (default ‘master’)
path is an optional path
Returns int

commit_deltas_from (*other_repo*, *ref*=’master’, *other_ref*=’master’)
Returns a list of commits that is in *other_repo* but not in self
Returns git.Commit[]

commit_diff (*commit*)
commit is the commit name/id
Returns git.Diff[]

commits (*start*=’master’, *path*=”, *max_count*=10, *skip*=0)
A list of Commit objects representing the history of a given ref/commit
start is the branch/commit name (default ‘master’)
path is an optional path
max_count is the maximum number of commits to return (default 10)
skip is the number of commits to skip (default 0)
Returns git.Commit[]

commits_between (*frm*, *to*, *path*=")
The Commits objects that are reachable via *to* but not via *frm* Commits are returned in chronological order.
from is the branch/commit name of the younger item
to is the branch/commit name of the older item
path is an optional path
Returns git.Commit[]

The commit diff

commits_since (*start='master', path=', since='1970-01-01'*)
The Commits objects that are newer than the specified date. Commits are returned in chronological order.
start is the branch/commit name (default ‘master’)
path is an optional path
since is a string representing a date/time
Returns `git.Commit[]`

create
Initialize a bare git repository at the given path
path is the full path to the repo (traditionally ends with /<name>.git)
mkdir if specified will create the repository directory if it doesn’t already exists. Creates the directory with a mode=0755.
kwargs is any additional options to the git init command
Examples:
`git.Repo.init_bare('/var/git/myrepo.git')`
Returns `git.Repo` (the newly created repo)

daemon_export
git-daemon export of this repository

description
the project’s description

diff (*a, b, *paths*)
The diff from commit a to commit b, optionally restricted to the given file(s)
a is the base commit
b is the other commit
paths is an optional list of file paths on which to restrict the diff

fork_bare (*path, **kwargs*)
Fork a bare git repository from this repo
path is the full path of the new repo (traditionally ends with /<name>.git)
options is any additional options to the git clone command
Returns `git.Repo` (the newly forked repo)

heads
A list of Head objects representing the branch heads in this repo
Returns `git.Head[]`

init_bare
Initialize a bare git repository at the given path
path is the full path to the repo (traditionally ends with /<name>.git)
mkdir if specified will create the repository directory if it doesn’t already exists. Creates the directory with a mode=0755.
kwargs is any additional options to the git init command
Examples:
`git.Repo.init_bare('/var/git/myrepo.git')`
Returns `git.Repo` (the newly created repo)

is_dirty
Return the status of the working directory.
Returns `True`, if the working directory has any uncommitted changes, otherwise `False`

```
log(commit='master', path=None, **kwargs)
    The commit log for a treeish
    Returns git.Commit[]

tags
    A list of Tag objects that are available in this repo
    Returns git.Tag[]

tree(treeish='master')
    The Tree object for the given treeish reference
    treeish is the reference (default 'master')
    Examples:
        repo.tree('master')

    Returns git.Tree
```

3.10 Stats

```
class Stats(repo, total, files)

list_from_string
```

3.11 Tag

```
class Tag(name, commit)

find_all
    Find all Tags
    repo is the Repo
    kwargs is a dict of options
    Returns git.Tag[]

from_string
    Create a new Tag instance from the given string.
    repo is the Repo
    line is the formatted tag information
    Format name: [a-zA-Z/_]+ <null byte> id: [0-9A-Fa-f]{40}
    Returns git.Tag

list_from_string
    Parse out tag information into an array of baked Tag objects
    repo is the Repo
    text is the text output from the git command
    Returns git.Tag[]
```

3.12 Tree

```
class Tree (repo, id, mode=None, name=None)

    basename
    content_from_string
        Parse a content item and create the appropriate object
    repo      is the Repo
    text      is the single line containing the items data in git ls-tree format
    Returns  git.Blob or git.Tree

    get (key)
    items ()
    keys ()
    values ()
```

3.13 Utils

```
dashify (string)
is_git_dir (d)
    This is taken from the git setup.c:is_git_directory function.
touch (filename)
```

Indices and tables

- *Index*
- *Module Index*
- *Search Page*

MODULE INDEX

G

`git.actor`, 11
`git.blob`, 11
`git.cmd`, 11
`git.commit`, 12
`git.diff`, 13
`git.errors`, 13
`git.head`, 13
`git.lazy`, 14
`git.repo`, 14
`git.stats`, 17
`git.tag`, 17
`git.tree`, 18
`git.utils`, 18

INDEX

A

active_branch (Repo attribute), 14
Actor (class in git.actor), 11
actor (Commit attribute), 12
alternates (Repo attribute), 14
archive_tar() (Repo method), 14
archive_tar_gz() (Repo method), 14

B

basename (Blob attribute), 11
basename (Tree attribute), 18
blame (Blob attribute), 11
Blob (class in git.blob), 11
blob() (Repo method), 15
branches (Repo attribute), 15

C

Commit (class in git.commit), 12
commit() (Repo method), 15
commit_count() (Repo method), 15
commit_deltas_from() (Repo method), 15
commit_diff() (Repo method), 15
commits() (Repo method), 15
commits_between() (Repo method), 15
commits_since() (Repo method), 16
content_from_string (Tree attribute), 18
count (Commit attribute), 12
create (Repo attribute), 16

D

daemon_export (Repo attribute), 16
dashify() (in module git.utils), 18
data (Blob attribute), 11
description (Repo attribute), 16
Diff (class in git.diff), 13
diff() (Repo method), 16
diff (Commit attribute), 12
diffs (Commit attribute), 12

E

execute() (Git method), 12

F

find_all (Commit attribute), 12
find_all (Head attribute), 13
find_all (Tag attribute), 17
fork_bare() (Repo method), 16
from_string (Actor attribute), 11
from_string (Head attribute), 14
from_string (Tag attribute), 17

G

get() (Tree method), 18
get_dir (Git attribute), 12
Git (class in git.cmd), 11
git.actor (module), 11
git.blob (module), 11
git.cmd (module), 11
git.commit (module), 12
git.diff (module), 13
git.errors (module), 13
git.head (module), 13
git.lazy (module), 14
git.repo (module), 14
git.stats (module), 17
git.tag (module), 17
git.tree (module), 18
git.utils (module), 18
GitCommandError (exception in git.errors), 13

H

Head (class in git.head), 13
heads (Repo attribute), 16

I

id_abbrev (Commit attribute), 13
init_bare (Repo attribute), 16
InvalidGitRepositoryError (exception in git.errors), 13
is_dirty (Repo attribute), 16
is_git_dir() (in module git.utils), 18
items() (Tree method), 18

K

`keys()` (Tree method), 18

L

`LazyMixin` (class in `git.lazy`), 14
`list_from_string` (Commit attribute), 13
`list_from_string` (Diff attribute), 13
`list_from_string` (Head attribute), 14
`list_from_string` (Stats attribute), 17
`list_from_string` (Tag attribute), 17
`log()` (Repo method), 17

M

`mime_type` (Blob attribute), 11

N

`NoSuchPathError` (exception in `git.errors`), 13

R

`Repo` (class in `git.repo`), 14

S

`size` (Blob attribute), 11
`Stats` (class in `git.stats`), 17
`stats` (Commit attribute), 13
`summary` (Commit attribute), 13

T

`Tag` (class in `git.tag`), 17
`tags` (Repo attribute), 17
`touch()` (in module `git.utils`), 18
`transform_kwargs()` (Git method), 12
`Tree` (class in `git.tree`), 18
`tree()` (Repo method), 17

V

`values()` (Tree method), 18