Setting up git to use a client-server workflow

Setting up a new local repository

First, start using git in your local directory (skip this if you already have a repository):

cd root_of_project
git init
git add .
git commit -a -m 'initial commit'

Setting up a new repository on the server

Then set up an empty repository on your server (skip this if you are given a fresh server repository):

ssh user@server
mkdir project.git
cd project.git
git --bare init

The `--bare` tells it to make the server just a repository with no working directory tree.

Linking the client to the server

Then back on the client side, link the two.

If your repository was already linked to a server, first sever that link:

git remote rm origin

If not, skip that step. In either case, link the client to the new server:

git remote add origin ssh://user@server/~/project.git

Finally, push your local repository to the server. The first time you do this, use the command:

git push -u origin master

Using the server repository

Now you are set up. From now on, use “git push” to push (committed) changes to the server, and “git pull” to merge server changes into your local copy. To start another client, go to where you want it and use:

git clone ssh://user@server/~/project.git [local directory name]

If you don’t specify `[local directory name]`, it will copy the name from the server.

From then on I mainly use, “git status”, “git add”, “git commit -a”, “git push” and “git pull”. Every few months, you can throw in a “git repack & & git gc” for good measure.