

What's a Fast Forward Merge?

Master

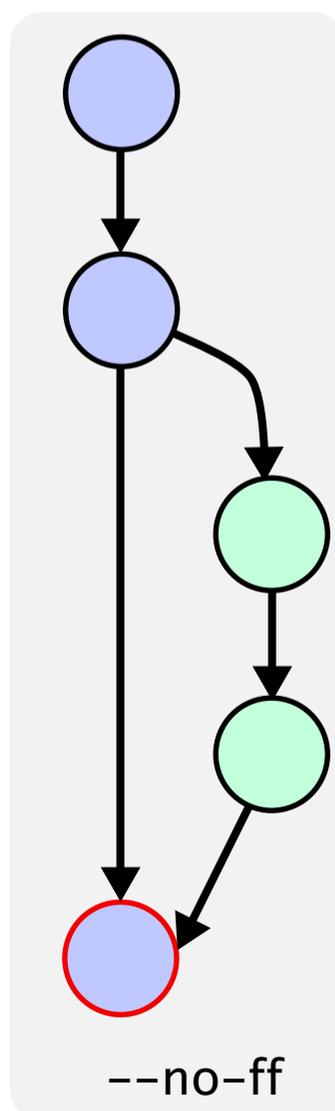
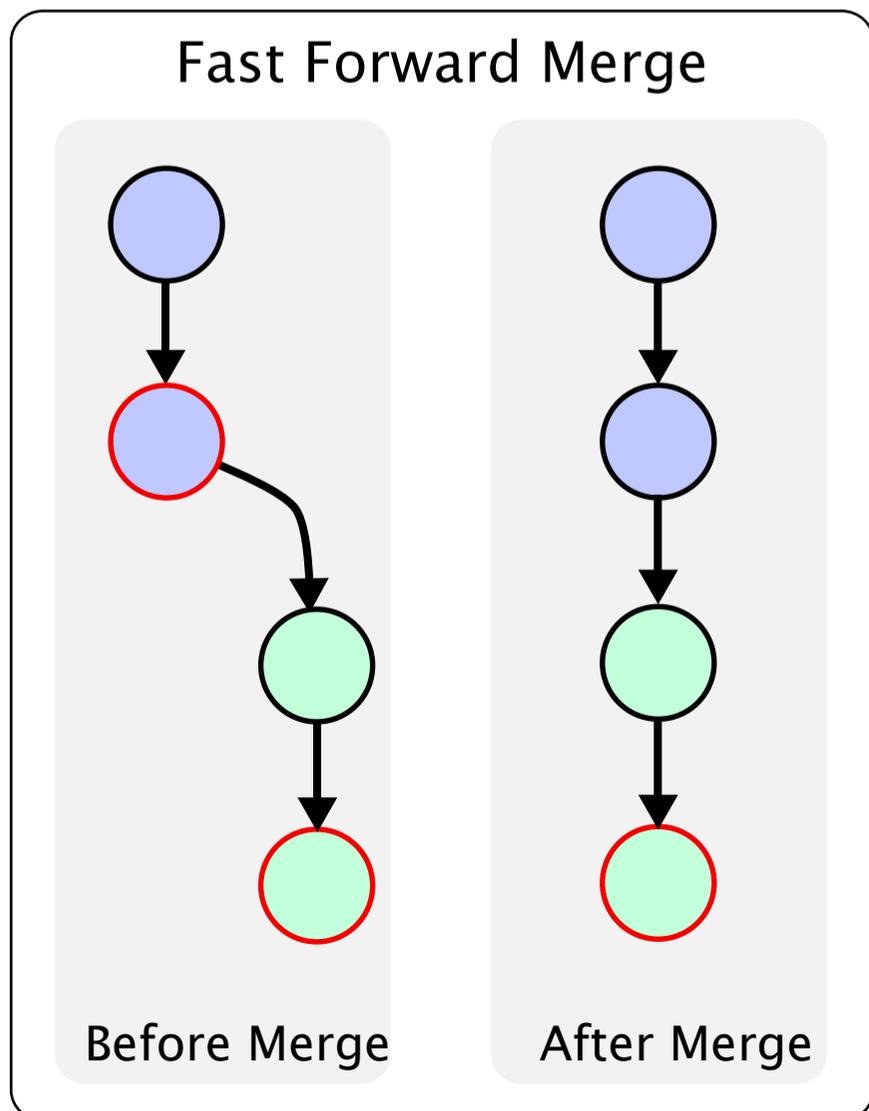
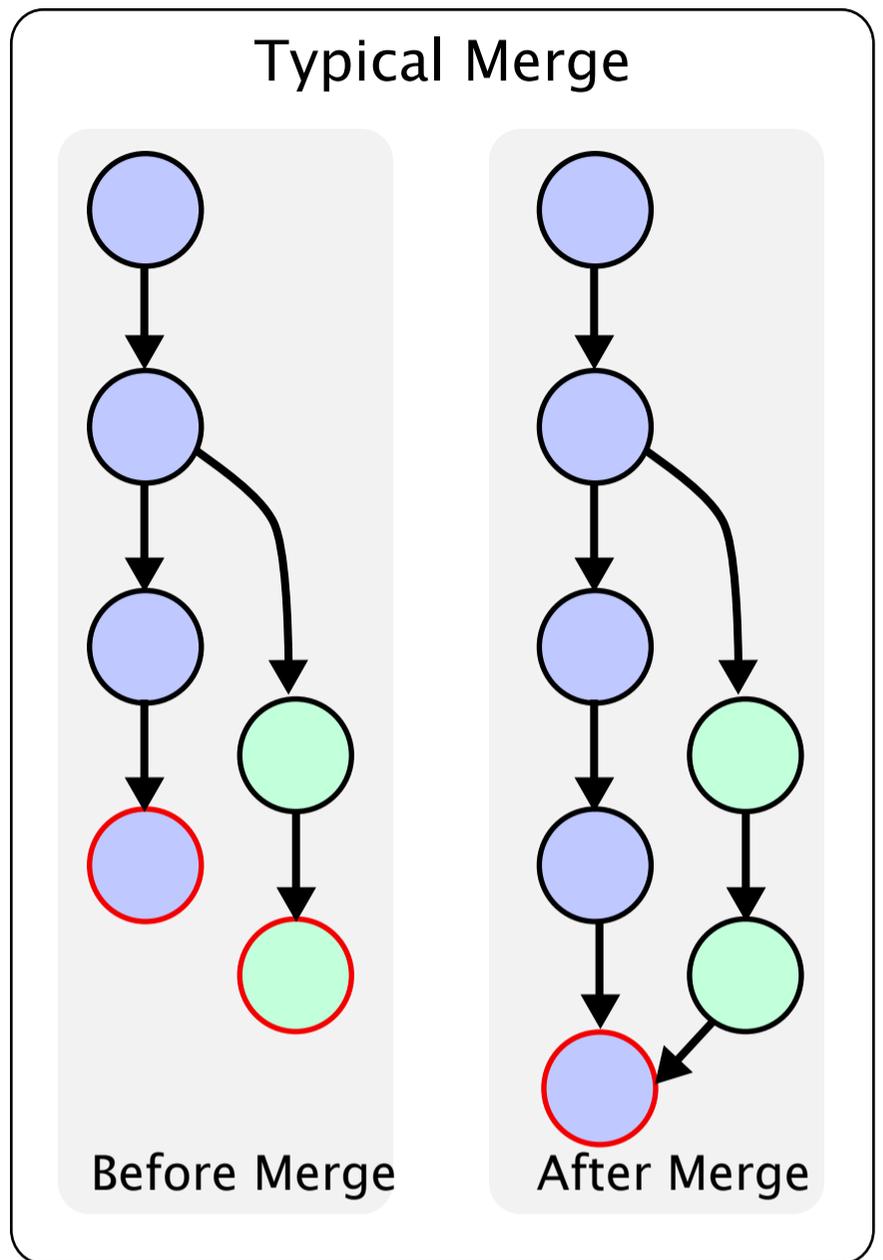
Feature

HEAD

If Master has diverged since the feature branch was created, then merging the feature branch into master will create a merge commit. This is a typical merge.

If Master has not diverged, instead of creating a new commit, git will just point master to the latest commit of the feature branch.

This is a "fast forward."



Passing "--no-ff" creates a new commit to represent the merge, even if git would normally fast forward.