

Version Control

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What is version control?

- management of revisions of a single unit of info/data/code
 - think of it as taking snapshots of your code in various states
 - you can revert to any of the snapshots at anytime or branch off of the main line to try something different without affecting the main line (or “trunk”)
- allows groups of developers to share and work on the same development code

Why version control?

- you're already doing it in rudimentary fashion:
index.php
index-old.php
index-oldest.php
or maybe
index20070110.php
- it's cleaner to use software for version control
- version control is a must for groups working on the same code

Flavors

- there are lots
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison_of_revision_control_software
- popular open source version control systems:
Git, CVS, SVN, Bazaar...
- a few proprietary version control systems:
BitKeeper, Visual SourceSafe

Client/server or distributed

- some version control software is designed around a distributed model (Git, Bazaar)
- other adhere to the client/server model (CVS, SVN)

Terms

- repository
- commit
- checkout / checkin
- main / trunk / head
- branch
- tag
- diff
- merge
- conflict

setup SVN on Windows

- TortoiseSVN: <http://tortoisesvn.net/downloads>
- SVN on Windows:
<http://lifehacker.com/software/subversion/hack-attack-how-to-set-up-a-personal-home-subversion-server-188582.php>
<http://tinyurl.com/2r96zc>
- Using TortoiseSVN:
<http://lifehacker.com/software/subversion/hack-attack-using-subversion-with-tortoisesvn-192367.php>
<http://tinyurl.com/2mjywz>

More info and Tutorials

- the best version control explanation out there:
<http://betterexplained.com/articles/a-visual-guide-to-version-control/>
- SVN demo?
 - install Apache on host machine
 - install SVN on host and client machines
(this adds SVN w/ command line access)
 - install TortoiseSVN for GUI tools
 - setup repository
 - start committing

Hosted solutions

- www.unfuddle.com
- www.assembla.com
- others...

(I only mention these because I've heard good things...)