

git ours and theirs

Which side wins a conflict

blog.andrelademann.de

In a rebase, “theirs” means your own commits. `-Xours` and `-Xtheirs` point at opposite sides depending on whether you merge or rebase.

YOU ARE ON BRANCH-A, THE ARGUMENT IS BRANCH-B

Command	ours is	theirs is
<code>git merge -X... branch-b</code>	branch-a – the branch you are on	branch-b – the one being merged in
<code>git rebase -X... branch-b</code>	branch-b – the branch you replay onto	branch-a – your own commits

WHY IT IS INVERTED

Rebase replays your commits onto the target The target branch is what already exists – “ours” – and each replayed commit arrives as an incoming change, so it is “theirs”. The naming reflects the mechanics, not whose code it is.

THE TWO YOU ACTUALLY NEED

```
# Rebasing your feature branch onto master, your branch wins
git rebase -Xtheirs master

# Merging master into your branch, your branch wins
git merge -Xours origin/master
```

Both say the same thing in plain language: keep my work on conflicts. Available since Git 1.7.3.

BEFORE YOU REACH FOR IT

It only decides conflicting hunks Non-conflicting changes from both sides are still merged. `-X` is a strategy option, not a way to discard the other branch.

It resolves silently Use it when you already know one side is correct – not to make a wall of conflicts go away.

Check what you got Run `git diff` against the branch you expected to win before you push, and let the tests have the final word.