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Deduplicate Files on BTRFS

BTRFS, ZFS, XFS, and many other file systems allow copy-on-write functionality, allowing multiple files to use the same blocks until one is updated.

These are sometimes called “reflinks”, **NOT** to be confused with hardlinks and symlinks/softlinks. (I’ll make a video on this soon explaining the differences).

While BTRFS doesn’t have online deduplication, it has 2 ways of deduplicating:

1. Programs such as rmlint can be used to convert identical files into reflinks, saving space.

```
sudo rmlint -c sh:link -g /path/to/deduplicate
```

2. Programs like duperemove can link individual extents within files

```
sudo duperemove -r -d -v -h --hashfile duperemove /path/to/deduplicate
```

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