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Bash Shell: Replace a string with another string in all files using sed and perl -pie

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Q. How do I replace a string with another string in all files? For example, ~/foo directory has 100s of text file and I'd like to find out xyz string and replace with abc. I'd like to use sed or any other tool to replace all occurrence of the word.

A.sed command is designed for this kind of work i.e. replace strings.

sed replace word / string syntax

[2]   [1]

```
sed -i 's/old-word/new-word/g' *.txt
```

GNU sed command can edit files in place (makes backup if extension supplied) using -i option. If you are using old or UNIX sed command try the following syntax:

```
sed 's/old/new/g' input.txt > output.txt
```

I recommend using old syntax along with for loop:

```
#!/bin/bash
OLD="xyz"
NEW="abc"
DPATH="/home/you/foo/*.txt"
BPATH="/home/you/bakup/foo"
TFILE="/tmp/out.tmp.$$"
[ ! -d $BPATH ] && mkdir -p $BPATH || :
for f in $DPATH
do
  if [ -f $f -a -r $f ]; then
    /bin/cp -f $f $BPATH
   sed "s/$OLD/$NEW/g" "$f" > $TFILE && mv $TFILE "$f"
  else
   echo "Error: Cannot read $f"
  fi
done
/bin/rm $TFILE
```

perl -pie trick

```
perl -pie 's/old-word/new-word/g' input > output
```

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