

Project Title: File Sharing App (Like WeTransfer)

Overview

Need to send large files quickly with a simple shareable link? This app works like **WeTransfer** – users can upload PDFs, ZIPs, images, or other files and instantly receive a unique download link. They can even send the link to someone via email.

Each upload link is temporary – it **expires automatically after a set time** (e.g., 24 hours) to keep the system clean and secure. Simple to use, and very effective.

You'll build a full-stack application with user-friendly upload/download functionality, secure file handling, and optional login for advanced features.

Tech Stack

Backend:

- **Node.js + Express.js** – handles API logic and file uploads
 - **File Uploads: Multer** – to store files on the server securely
 - **Unique Links: uuid** – generates random, hard-to-guess IDs for file sharing
 - **Email: Nodemailer** – to send file download links via email
 - **Time Handling: Moment.js** or native date libraries for expiry calculation
 - **Authentication:**
 - **Passport.js** with either **JWT** (token-based) or **session** (cookie-based) login
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Database (Pick One):

- **MongoDB** (with Mongoose) – for flexible file metadata storage
- **PostgreSQL** (with Prisma or Sequelize) – if you prefer structured tables

You'll store metadata like file name, path, upload time, expiry time, sender's email, download count, and more.

Frontend (React.js)

- Build a clean, modern UI using **React**
 - Main screens include:
 - **Upload Page**: Select file, enter email (optional), and get the shareable link
 - **Success Page**: Shows link with copy/share options
 - **Download Page**: Displays download button with expiry info
 - **(Optional)** Login page for tracking uploaded/downloaded files
 - Use Axios/Fetch to interact with the Express API
 - Handle time display and countdown for expiry dynamically on the frontend
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Key Features

Easy Uploads

- Users select a file and upload it via the React interface
- Optionally enter sender and recipient emails
- File is stored securely on the server using Multer
- Metadata saved in MongoDB or PostgreSQL

Shareable Download Links

- After upload, the app returns a **unique download link** using UUID
- Users can:
 - Copy the link
 - Or send it directly to someone via email (using Nodemailer)

Expiry and Auto-Cleanup

- Every file link has an **expiry time** (e.g., 24 hours)
- The backend checks and deletes expired files automatically
- Users see how much time is left via a countdown or relative time (e.g., `"expires in 5 hrs"`)

Track Downloads

- Record download counts for each file
 - Optionally, log basic access info like timestamp, IP, or user (if logged in)
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Security & Clean UX

- All files stored securely on the server
 - Uploaded files are removed after expiration
 - Unique download links are unguessable thanks to UUID
 - Authentication (optional): Logged-in users can view/manage their own uploads
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Database Schema Example

- `files` (or `file_uploads`)
 - `- id` (UUID)
 - `- filename`
 - `- file_path`
 - `- upload_time`
 - `- expiry_time`
 - `- sender_email` (optional)
 - `- receiver_email` (optional)
 - `- download_count`
 - `- created_by` (if using auth)

(Optional) You can also have:

- `download_logs`
 - `- file_id`
 - `- timestamp`
 - `- ip_address`
 - `- user_id` (if logged in)