

What is a hash? - Cryptography

“A hash algorithm is a function that converts a data string into a numeric string output of fixed length. The output string is generally much smaller than the original data.”

-Federal Agencies Digital Guidelines Initiative

Aaron owes John \$550.47, which he will repay by December 31, 2019.

ORIGINAL

dbc9aaacc2f7afc2a906803f1ddf435971140d016c7b88d43e174116be6c05ba

ORIGINAL
HASH

Aaron owes John \$250.47, which he will repay by December 31, 2019.

ALTERED CONTENT

50747cfcdf072162a148d6c8513ac18a354f37a9432856a2ff7ea0d00c1bfb40

ALTERED
HASH

Using the same hash algorithm, original unaltered content will always generate the same hash. If any content is altered, the resulting hash will be completely changed. This provides for proof of document authenticity and document immutability when published on the blockchain.