

RegEx Backreferences

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Backreferences are cool, but I've never needed to use them before.

I just ran into something where they were quite handy.

I had to manipulate a string like the following:

```
TNF S/S VENT POLY SHIRT W
```

The end goal was to see if the string had either a S/S or L/S in it, along with SHIRT. If both substrings were found, remove SHIRT and move the S/S or L/S to the end of the string.

It's not hard, but a one liner kind of is. Backreferences really helped out here.

```
#rereplace("TNF S/S VENT POLY SHIRT W","(.*) ([LS]/S) (.*) SHIRT (.*)", "\\1\\3\\4 \\2")#
```

When you enclose the expression in parenthesis, you can reference that using a backreference. Pretty handy.

The string that results from the above code is:

```
TNF VENT POLY W S/S
```

I know my regex syntax is weak but hey, it worked.