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### ***Rocky Enterprise Linux 9.2 Manual Pages on command 'ioctl\_ficlone.2'***

***\$ man ioctl\_ficlone.2***

IOCTL\_FICLONERANGE(2) Linux Programmer's Manual IOCTL\_FICLONERANGE(2)

#### NAME

ioctl\_ficlone, ioctl\_ficlone - share some the data of one file with another file

#### SYNOPSIS

```
#include <sys/ioctl.h>
#include <linux/fs.h>
int ioctl(int dest_fd, FICLONERANGE, struct file_clone_range *arg);
int ioctl(int dest_fd, FICLONE, int src_fd);
```

#### DESCRIPTION

If a filesystem supports files sharing physical storage between multiple files ("reflink"), this ioctl(2) operation can be used to make some of the data in the src\_fd file appear in the dest\_fd file by sharing the underlying storage, which is faster than making a separate physical copy of the data. Both files must reside within the same filesystem. If a file write should occur to a shared region, the filesystem must ensure that the changes remain private to the file being written. This behavior is commonly referred to as "copy on write".

This `ioctl` reflinks up to `src_length` bytes from file descriptor `src_fd` at offset `src_offset` into the file `dest_fd` at offset `dest_offset`, provided that both are files. If `src_length` is zero, the `ioctl` reflinks to the end of the source file. This information is conveyed in a structure of the following form:

```
struct file_clone_range {
    __s64 src_fd;
    __u64 src_offset;
    __u64 src_length;
    __u64 dest_offset;
};
```

Clones are atomic with regards to concurrent writes, so no locks need to be taken to obtain a consistent cloned copy.

The `FICLONE` `ioctl` clones entire files.

## RETURN VALUE

On error, `-1` is returned, and `errno` is set to indicate the error.

## ERRORS

Error codes can be one of, but are not limited to, the following:

`EBADF` `src_fd` is not open for reading; `dest_fd` is not open for writing or is open for append-only writes; or the filesystem which `src_fd` resides on does not support reflink.

`EINVAL` The filesystem does not support reflinking the ranges of the given files. This error can also appear if either file descriptor represents a device, FIFO, or socket. Disk filesystems generally require the offset and length arguments to be aligned to the fundamental block size. XFS and Btrfs do not support overlapping reflink ranges in the same file.

`EISDIR` One of the files is a directory and the filesystem does not support shared regions in directories.

## EOPNOTSUPP

This can appear if the filesystem does not support reflinking either file descriptor, or if either file descriptor refers to special inodes.

EPERM dest\_fd is immutable.

#### ETXTBSY

One of the files is a swap file. Swap files cannot share storage.

EXDEV dest\_fd and src\_fd are not on the same mounted filesystem.

#### VERSIONS

These ioctl operations first appeared in Linux 4.5. They were previously known as BTRFS\_IOC\_CLONE and BTRFS\_IOC\_CLONE\_RANGE, and were private to Btrfs.

#### CONFORMING TO

This API is Linux-specific.

#### NOTES

Because a copy-on-write operation requires the allocation of new storage, the fallocate(2) operation may unshare shared blocks to guarantee that subsequent writes will not fail because of lack of disk space.

#### SEE ALSO

ioctl(2)

#### COLOPHON

This page is part of release 5.10 of the Linux man-pages project. A description of the project, information about reporting bugs, and the latest version of this page, can be found at <https://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/>.

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