Quick Android cleaning tips to reclaim gigabytes of space

Freeing up storage space on your Android phone isn't fun, but it doesn't have to be boring. Google's Files app turns the often-slow manual cleanup into a quick, easy process.

Freeing up storage space on your Android phone isn't fun, but it doesn't have to be boring. Google 's Files app turns the often-slow manual cleanup into a quick, easy process.

Download Files by Google app

Freeing up storage space on your Android phone can feel like a time-consuming treasure hunt. You might dig through your Gallery app to find unwanted photos and videos, scroll through your app drawer to uninstall apps you don't use, or delete random downloads. While those methods work, you don't need to waste time doing all of these things manually. There's a much faster way.

Files by Google is a free, lightweight file manager that makes cleaning up your phone storage pretty simple. Many phones running stock Android come with the app pre-installed, but if your phone doesn't, you can download it from the Play Store.

Once set up, checking and cleaning up storage is as simple as opening the app, letting it scan your phone, and following its cleaning suggestions.

13

Files by Google

Google LLC

Uninstall

Open

Ask Play about this app New!

Ask a question about this app

What is Files by Google, and what does it do?

Is Files by Google free to use?

How do I co

What's new

Last updated Jul 28, 2025

- You can now use Quick Share directly from the home page to send or receive files. Currently rolling out.

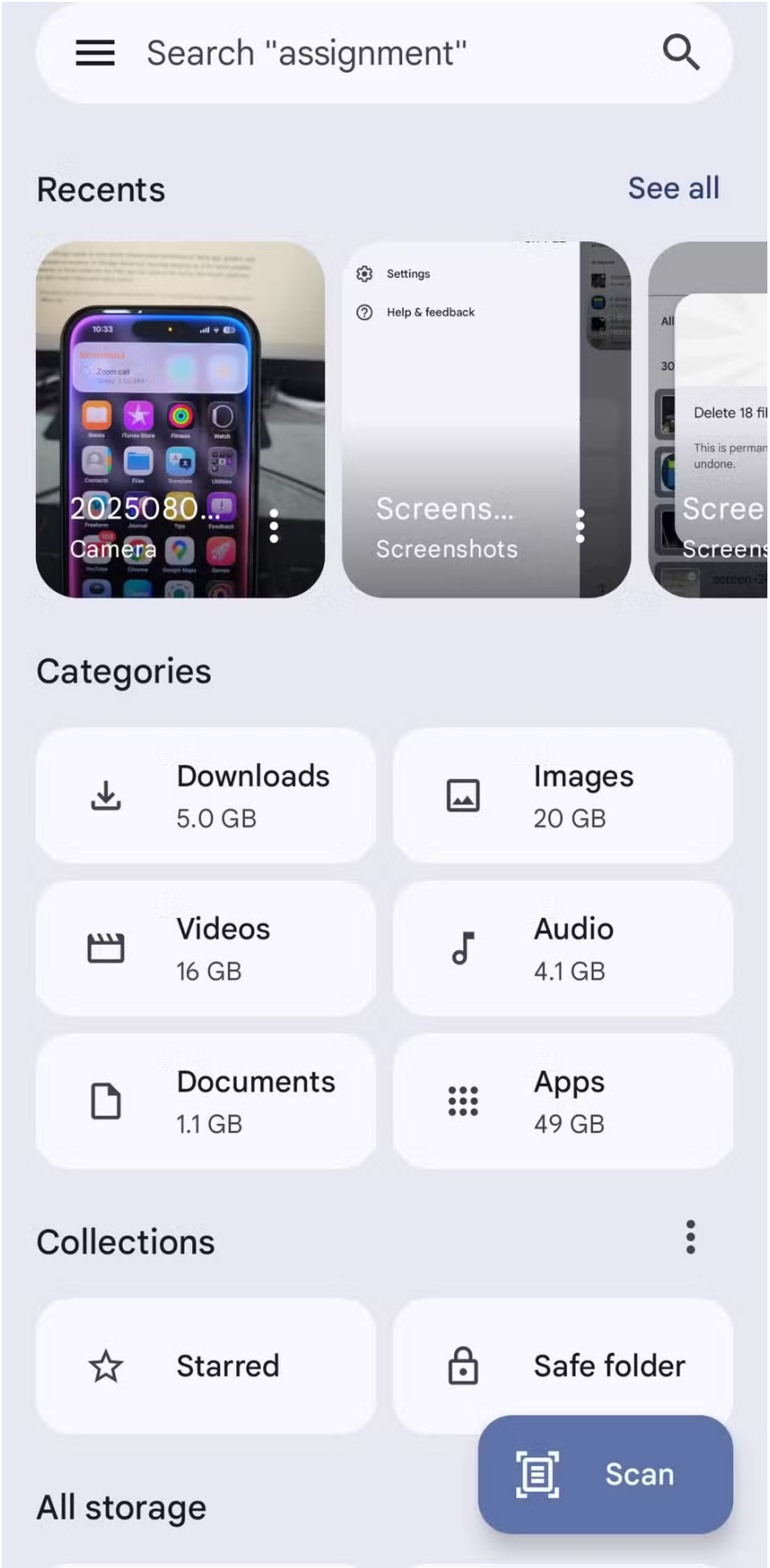
...

Phone • 4.2 ★

Chromebook • 4.5 ★

Tab

Games Apps Search Offers Books


Search "assignment"
Recents
See all
2025080...
Camera
Settings
Help & feedback
Screens...
Screenshots
Delete 18 fil
This is perman
undone.
Scree
Screens
Categories
Downloads
5.0 GB
Images
20 GB
Videos
16 GB
Audio
4.1 GB
Documents
1.1 GB
Apps
49 GB
Collections
Starred
Safe folder
Scan
All storage

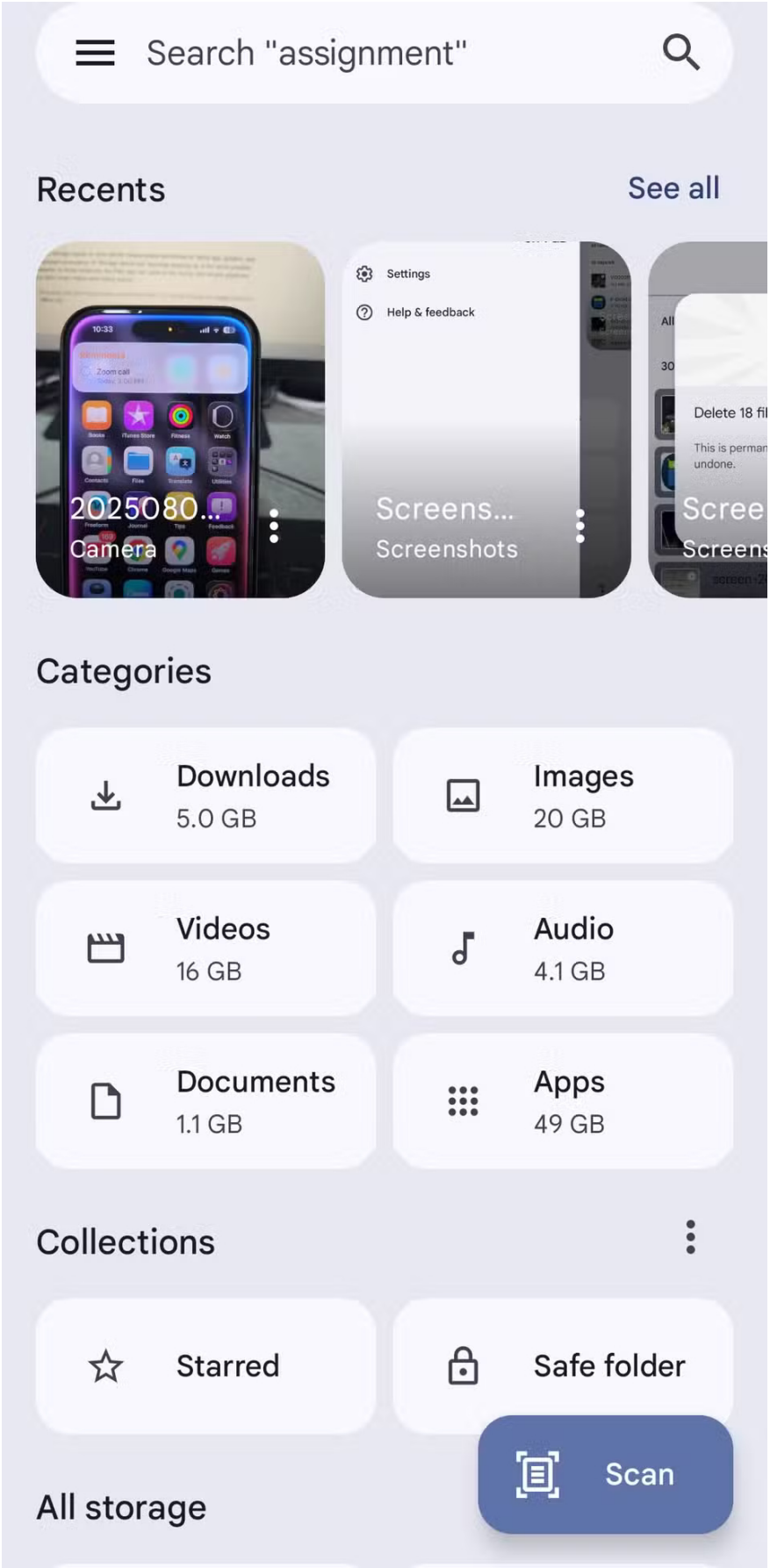
Use suggestions in the "Clean" tab in the Files app

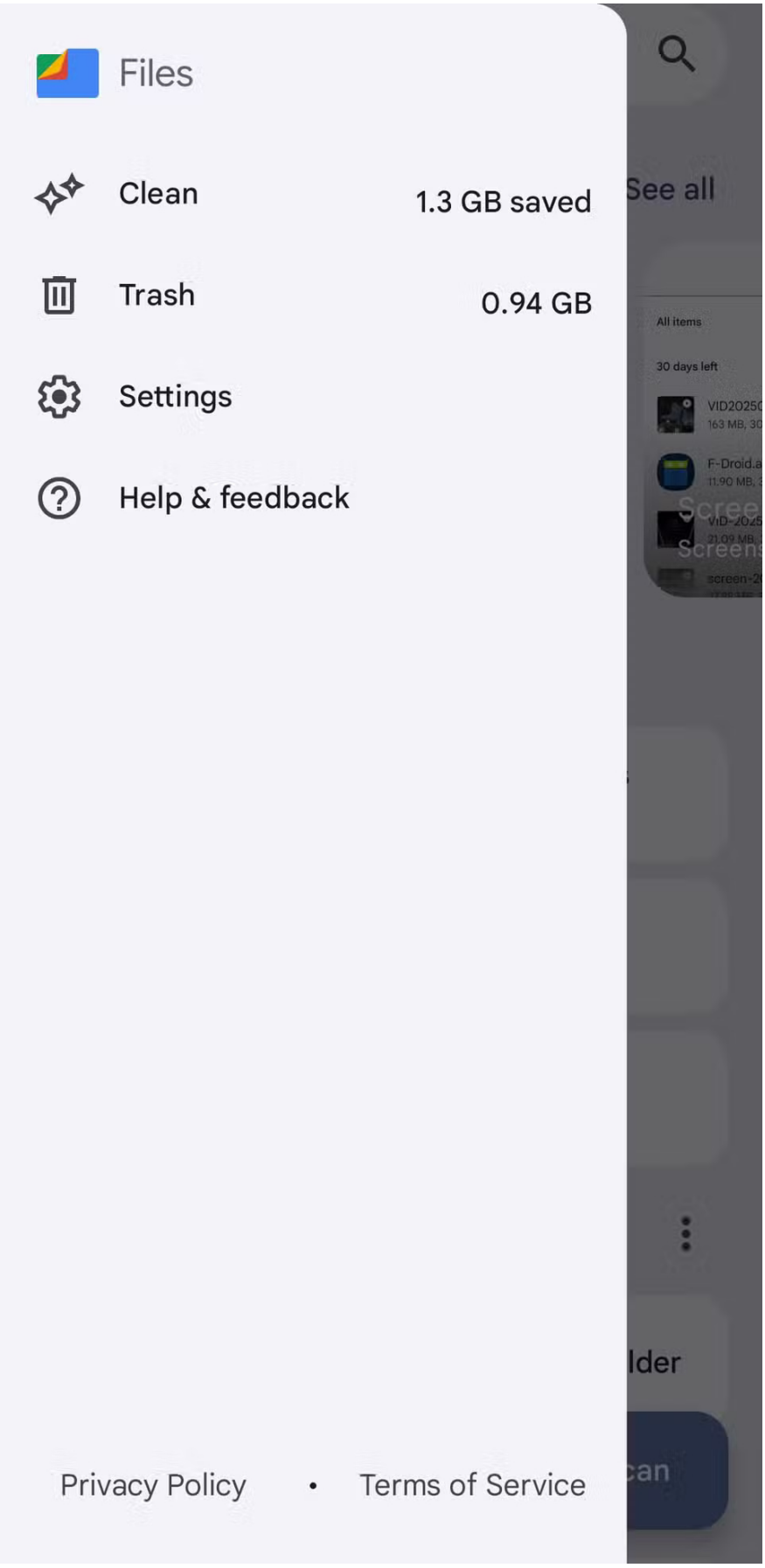
The Clean tab in the Files by Google app lists all the common storage wasters in one neat list. Instead of navigating through storage settings or using cleaning apps, you can use this tab to find all those junk files, old screenshots, large videos, unused apps, and forgotten downloads.

To get started, open the Files app, tap the three-bar menu in the top left corner, and select **Clean** . At the top of the screen, you'll see your phone's current storage status, giving you a quick overview of how much space is used and how much space is available. Tapping this will take you directly to your phone's storage settings for more details.

In the storage summary, Files displays all cleanup recommendations. Each card highlights a category, shows how much space you can free up, and provides a preview of the files mentioned.

The app also shows you exactly how much storage space each file is using, so you know what you're getting before you decide to delete it. However, before you rush into deleting any files, preview them to make sure you don't lose any important data in the process.


Search "assignment"
Recents
See all
2025080...
Camera
Settings
Help & feedback
Screens...
Screenshots
Delete 18 fil
This is perman
undone.
Scree
Screens
Categories
Downloads
5.0 GB
Images
20 GB
Videos
16 GB
Audio
4.1 GB
Documents
1.1 GB
Apps
49 GB
Collections
Starred
Safe folder
Scan
All storage


Files
Clean
1.3 GB saved
Trash
0.94 GB
Settings
Help & feedback
Privacy Policy
•
Terms of Service
See all
All items
30 days left

Clean

119 GB of 128 GB used

0 B in Trash

Internal

Junk files

24.60 MB

Clean

Delete old screenshots

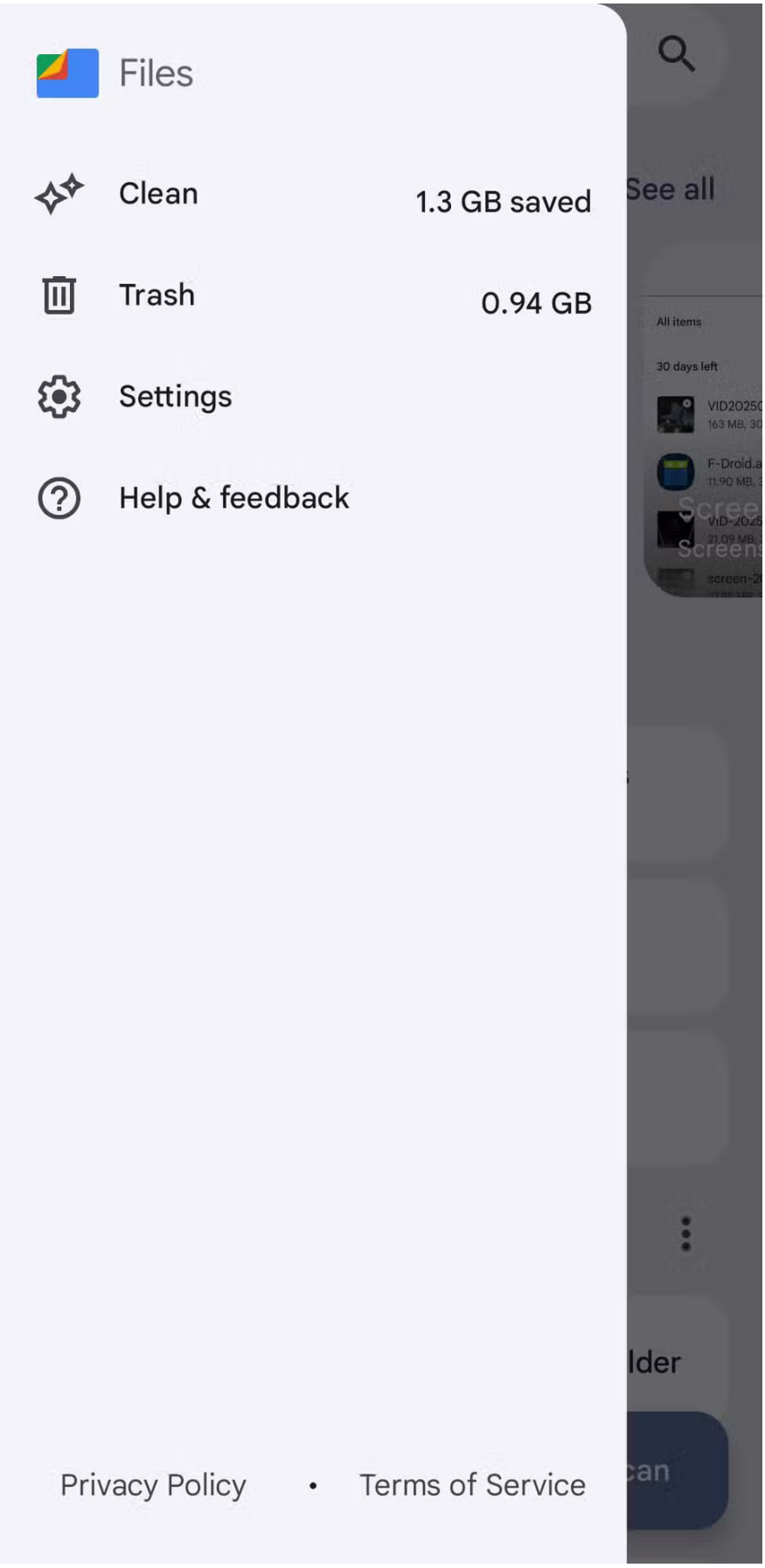
0.91 GB, 1630 files

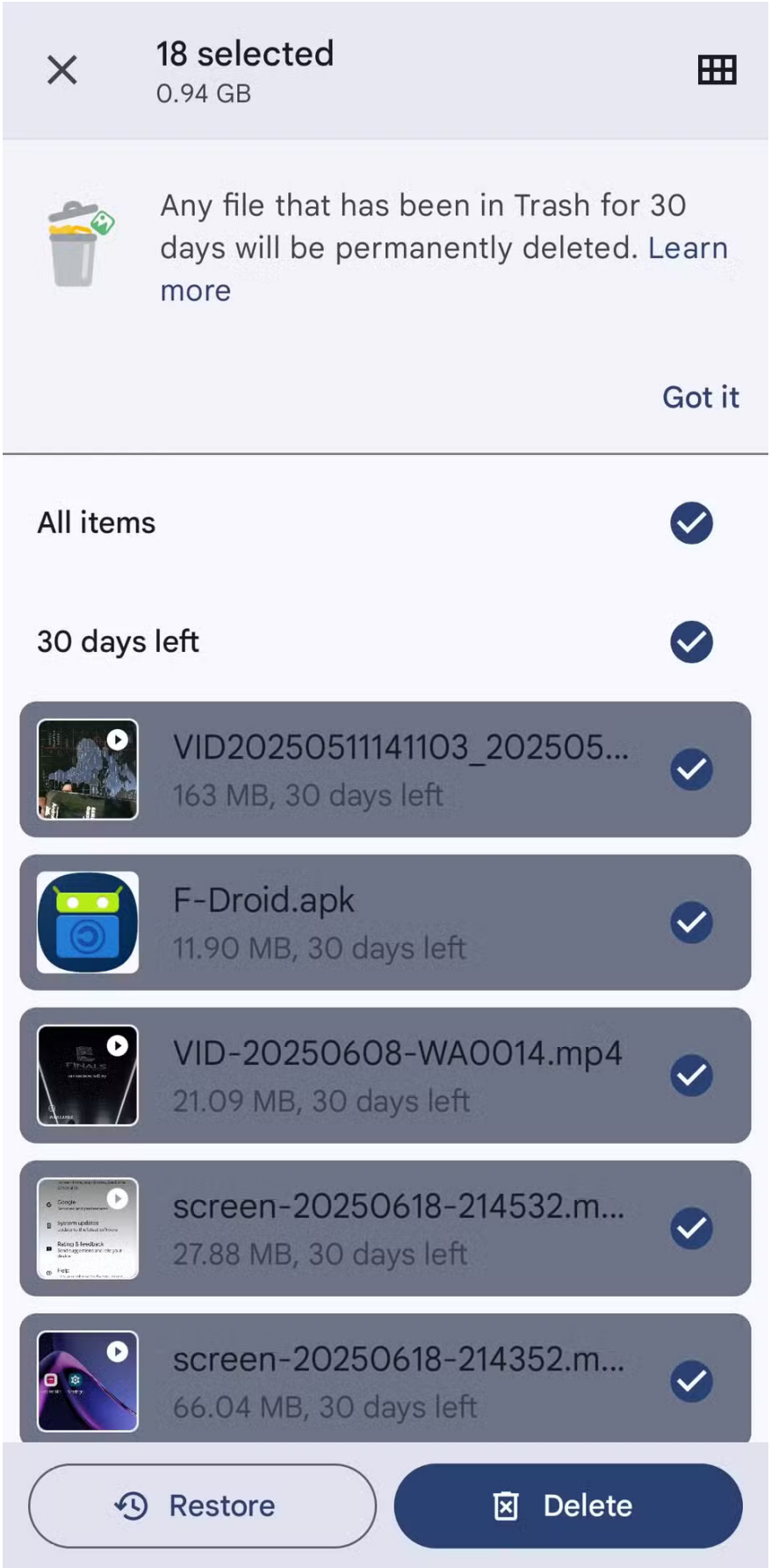
Select files

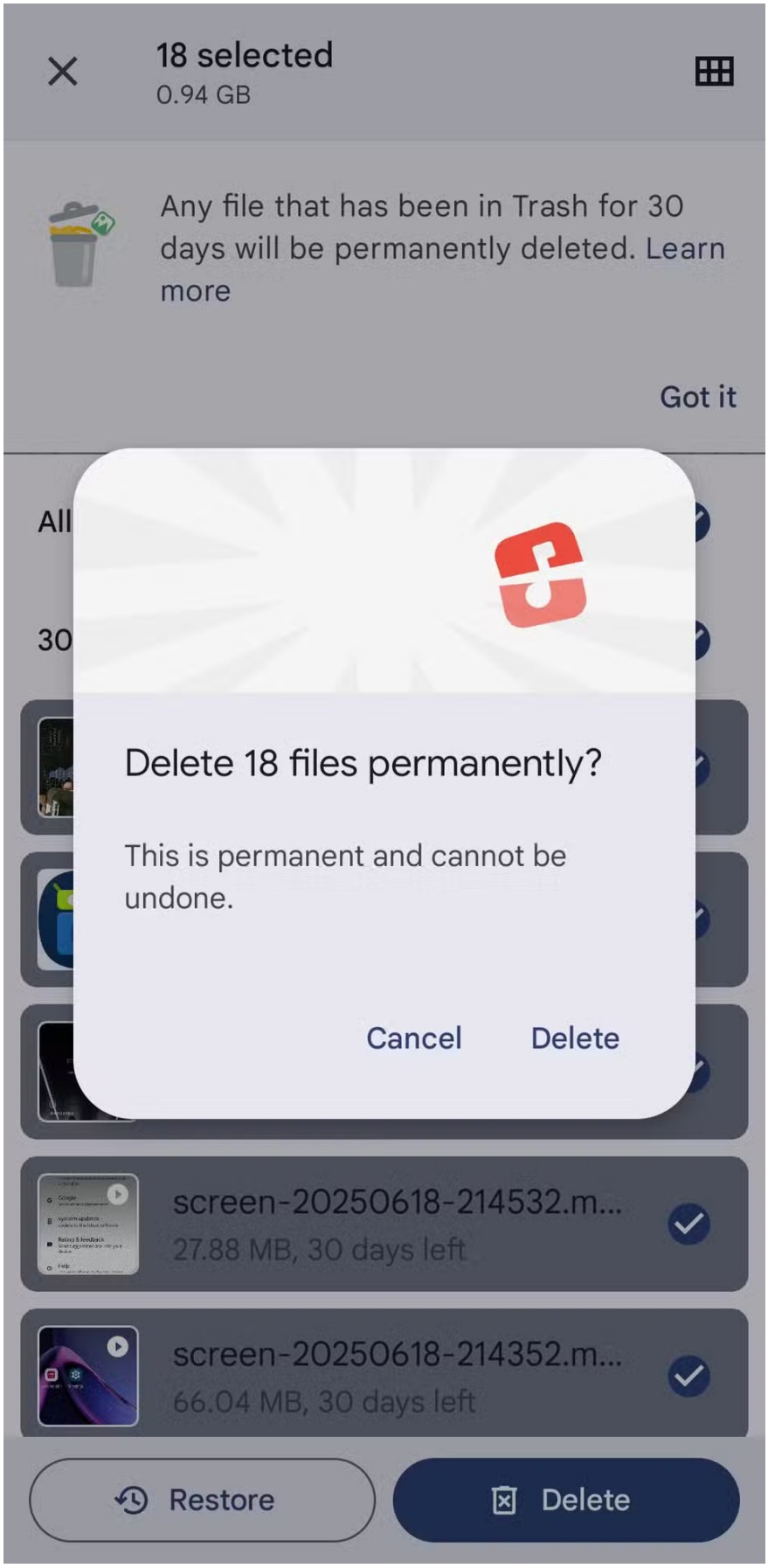
Don't forget to clean out the trash!

Cleaning out unwanted files and apps using the Files app can feel satisfying, but you won't see an immediate increase in free space. That's because, with the exception of junk files and uninstalled apps, anything you delete through the Clean tab isn't deleted immediately. Instead, it's moved to the **Trash** folder , where it remains for up to 30 days before the app automatically deletes it.

To do this, open the Files app, tap the three-bar menu in the upper left corner, and select **Trash** . You'll see a list of all the items you've deleted in the past month. Tap the **All items** checkbox to select them all, then tap **Delete** . Tap **Delete** again to confirm, and the files will be gone forever.


Files
Clean
1.3 GB saved
Trash
0.94 GB
Settings
Help & feedback
Privacy Policy
•
Terms of Service
See all
All items
30 days left


18 selected
0.94 GB
Any file that has been in Trash for 30 days will be permanently deleted. Learn more
Got it
All items
30 days left
VID20250511141103_202505...
163 MB, 30 days left
F-Droid.apk
11.90 MB, 30 days left
VID-20250608-WA0014.mp4
21.09 MB, 30 days left
screen-20250618-214532.m...
27.88 MB, 30 days left
screen-20250618-214352.m...
66.04 MB, 30 days left
Restore
Delete


18 selected
0.94 GB
Any file that has been in Trash for 30 days will be permanently deleted. Learn more
Got it
All
30
Delete 18 files permanently?
This is permanent and cannot be undone.
Cancel
Delete
screen-20250618-214532.m...
27.88 MB, 30 days left
screen-20250618-214352.m...
66.04 MB, 30 days left
Restore
Delete

If you find any items you want to keep, select them and hit **Restore** . This is an extra step, but it serves as a safety measure in case you accidentally delete something important.

You finished reading the article "**Quick Android cleaning tips to reclaim gigabytes of space**" edited by the **TipsMake** team. We hope this article has provided you with many useful tech tips and tricks. You can search for similar articles on tips and guides. Thank you for reading and for following us regularly.

© 2019 TipsMake.com