What is a Merkle Tree? Beginner's Guide to this Blockchain Component
https://blockonomi.com/merkle-tree/

A Merkle tree is a fundamental technology used in Bitcoin. It allows potentially boundless data to be verified without needing to have all data to generate a partial proof, and it is easy to verify whether or not the original data is a part of the verified hash.
The Merkle tree is important in Bitcoin, because it allows transactions to easily be verified without the need to go through, or keep, all transactions in a block.

The blogpost contributes a formalization of the problem and solution, easily understandable to the reader. They explain how the hashing algorithms work, using SHA-256, and giving examples as to how the Merkle tree is built.