

# MERGE Function

## Contents:

- *Basic Usage*
  - *Syntax*
    - *string\_ref1, string\_ref2*
    - *string\_delim*
  - *Examples*
    - *Example - Simple merge example*
    - *Other Examples*
- 

Merges two or more columns of String type to generate output of String type. Optionally, you can insert a delimiter between the merged values.

**NOTE:** This function behaves exactly like the `merge` transform, although the syntax is different. See *Merge Transform*.

## Basic Usage

### String literal reference example:

```
merge(['Hello','World'],' ')
```

**Output:** Returns the value `Hello, World`.

### Column reference example:

```
merge([string1,string2])
```

**Output:** Returns a single String value that is the merge of `string1` and `string2` values.

## Syntax

```
merge([string_ref1,string_ref2], 'string_delim')
```

Argument	Required?	Data Type	Description
string_ref1	Y	string	Name of first column or first string literal to apply to the function
string_ref2	Y	string	Name of second column or second string literal to apply to the function
string_delim	N	string	Optional delimiter string to insert between column or literal values

For more information on syntax standards, see *Language Documentation Syntax Notes*.

## string\_ref1, string\_ref2

String literal or name of the string column whose elements you want to merge together. You can merge together two or more strings.

### Usage Notes:

Required?	Data Type	Example Value
Yes	String literal or column reference	myString1, myString2

## string\_delim

Optional string literal to insert between each string that is being merged.

### Usage Notes:

Required?	Data Type	Example Value
No	String literal	' - '

## Examples

### Example - Simple merge example

The following example contains the names of a set of American authors. You need to bring together these column values into a new column, called `FullName`.

### Source:

FirstName	LastName	MiddleInitial
Jack	Kerouac	L
Paul	Theroux	E
J.D.	Salinger	
Philip	Dick	K

### Transformation:

<b>Transformation Name</b>	New formula
<b>Parameter: Formula type</b>	Single row formula
<b>Parameter: Formula</b>	<code>merge([FirstName,MiddleInitial,LastName], ' ')</code>
<b>Parameter: New column name</b>	'FullName'

Since the entry for J.D. Salinger has no middle name, you might want to add the following transformation:

<b>Transformation Name</b>	Replace text or pattern
----------------------------	-------------------------

Parameter: Column	FullName
Parameter: Find	' '
Parameter: Replace with	' '

**Results:**

FirstName	LastName	MiddleInitial	FullName
Jack	Kerouac	L	Jack L Kerouac
Paul	Theroux	E	Paul E Theroux
J.D.	Salinger		J.D. Salinger
Philip	Dick	K	Philip K Dick

**Other Examples**

While the syntax may be different, the `MERGE` function behaves exactly like the `merge` transform. For more examples, see *Merge Transform*.