

# MERGE Function

## Contents:

- *Basic Usage*
- *Syntax and Arguments*
  - *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*.

**Wrangle vs. SQL:** This function is part of Wrangle , a proprietary data transformation language. Wrangle is not SQL. For more information, see *Wrangle Language*.

## 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 and Arguments

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

Argument	Required?	Data Type	Description
<code>string_ref1</code>	Y	string	Name of first column or first string literal to apply to the function
<code>string_ref2</code>	Y	string	Name of second column or second string literal to apply to the function
<code>string_delim</code>	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

**Tip:** For additional examples, see *Common Tasks*.

### 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
<b>Parameter: Column</b>	FullName
<b>Parameter: Find</b>	' '
<b>Parameter: Replace with</b>	' '

### 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*.