

MERGE Function

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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(['&apos;Hello,&apos;','&apos;World&apos;'],&apos; &apos;)
```

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],&apos;string_delim&apos;)
```

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:

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

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

Transformation Name	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*.