

Mutual Friends

For this puzzle, we are going to find the number of mutual friends given the below dataset.

This puzzle is difficult; the trick is to think in sets and not code.

It should be noted that these types of problems are best solved using a [graph database](#), but for this puzzle we will be using a traditional RDBMS system.

[I have coded the answer here along with a breakdown of the steps I use to achieve the result set. Hint, I broke the puzzle down into multiple sets/steps to achieve the final output.](#)

Remember to think in sets and not code! I can't stress this enough.

Given the following connections, determine the number of mutual connections between the friends.

Friend 1	Friend 2
Jason	Mary
Mike	Mary
Mike	Jason
Susan	Jason
John	Mary
Susan	Mary

Here is the result set you want to achieve.

Friend 1	Friend 2	Mutual Friends
Jason	Mary	2
John	Mary	0
Jason	Mike	1
Mary	Mike	1
Jason	Susan	1
Mary	Susan	1

Jason and Mary have 2 mutual friends: Mike and Susan.

John and Mary have 0 mutual friends.

Jason and Mike have 1 mutual friend: Mary.

And so forth.....

Happy Coding!