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## equivalence of categories

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Related topic EssentiallySurjective

Let C and D be two categories with functors  $F: C \to D$  and  $G: D \to C$ . The functors F and G are an **equivalence of categories** if there are natural isomorphisms  $FG \cong \mathrm{id}_D$  and  $GF \cong \mathrm{id}_C$ .

Note, F is left adjoint to G, and G is right adjoint to F as

$$\hom_D(F(c), d) \xrightarrow{G} \hom_C(GF(c), G(d)) \longleftrightarrow \hom_C(c, G(d)).$$

And, F is right adjoint to G, and G is left adjoint to F as

$$hom_C(G(d), c) \xrightarrow{F} hom_D(FG(d), F(c)) \longleftrightarrow hom_D(d, F(c)).$$

In practical terms, two categories are equivalent if there is a http://planetmath.org/FullFunc faithful functor  $F: C \to D$ , such that every object  $d \in D$  is isomorphic to an object F(c), for some  $c \in C$ .