

# Joining Review

PUBLISHED  
March 9, 2023

## Load data

```
superheroes <- readRDS(here("data","superheroes.rds"))
publishers <- readRDS(here("data","publishers.rds"))
```

```
superheroes
```

```
# A tibble: 7 × 4
  name      alignment gender publisher
  <chr>    <chr>    <chr> <chr>
1 Magneto  bad        male  Marvel
2 Storm    good       female Marvel
3 Mystique bad       female Marvel
4 Batman   good       male   DC
5 Joker    bad       male   DC
6 Catwoman bad       female DC
7 Hellboy  good       male   Dark Horse Comics
```

```
publishers
```

```
# A tibble: 3 × 2
  publisher yr_founded
  <chr>      <int>
1 DC        1934
2 Marvel    1939
3 Image     1992
```

## “Inner” Join

The most common type we’ll use early on. Looks for only when things match up in both tables.

Let’s do it... we’ll use dplyr’s `inner_join()` function.

```
inner_join(superheroes, publishers)
```

Joining with ``by = join_by(publisher)``

```
# A tibble: 6 × 5
  name      alignment gender publisher yr_founded
  <chr>    <chr>    <chr> <chr>      <int>
1 Magneto  bad        male  Marvel    1939
2 Storm    good       female Marvel    1939
3 Mystique bad       female Marvel    1939
4 Batman   good       male   DC        1934
5 Joker    bad       male   DC        1934
6 Catwoman bad       female DC        1934
```

Wait, how did it even know what to join?

By default it looks for column names in columns. This can be good, but also can give you problems if you’re not careful.

How do we tell R to specifically match on a column?

```
inner_join(superheroes, publishers, by = "publisher")
```

```
# A tibble: 6 × 5
  name      alignment gender publisher yr_founded
  <chr>    <chr>    <chr>  <chr>      <int>
1 Magneto  bad        male   Marvel     1939
2 Storm    good       female Marvel     1939
3 Mystique bad        female Marvel     1939
4 Batman   good       male    DC        1934
5 Joker    bad        male    DC        1934
6 Catwoman bad        female DC         1934
```

## Left Join

This is for when you want *everything* from the first table no matter what, but joining up those that match from the second.

Let's give it a try...

```
left_join(superheroes, publishers, by = "publisher")
```

```
# A tibble: 7 × 5
  name      alignment gender publisher      yr_founded
  <chr>    <chr>    <chr>  <chr>      <int>
1 Magneto  bad        male   Marvel     1939
2 Storm    good       female Marvel     1939
3 Mystique bad        female Marvel     1939
4 Batman   good       male    DC        1934
5 Joker    bad        male    DC        1934
6 Catwoman bad        female DC         1934
7 Hellboy  good       male   Dark Horse Comics    NA
```

## Full Join

This is for when you want *everything* from *both* tables no matter what....matching where they match, and leaving blank where they don't.

Let's give it a go...

```
full_join(superheroes, publishers, by = "publisher")
```

```
# A tibble: 8 × 5
  name      alignment gender publisher      yr_founded
  <chr>    <chr>    <chr>  <chr>      <int>
1 Magneto  bad        male   Marvel     1939
2 Storm    good       female Marvel     1939
3 Mystique bad        female Marvel     1939
4 Batman   good       male    DC        1934
5 Joker    bad        male    DC        1934
6 Catwoman bad        female DC         1934
7 Hellboy  good       male   Dark Horse Comics    NA
8 <NA>     <NA>     <NA>    Image     1992
```

## Anti-Join

Finally, there's the "anti" join, which sounds like what it is – looking for records in one table that are *not* in the other based on the matching variable.

Let's try it...

```
anti_join(superheroes, publishers, by = "publisher")
```

```
# A tibble: 1 × 4
```

	name	alignment	gender	publisher
	<chr>	<chr>	<chr>	<chr>
1	Hellboy	good	male	Dark Horse Comics