1. Fill with Mean (For Numerical Data)

If the data is numerical, you can fill the missing values with the **mean** (average) of that column.

df['column_name'].fillna(df['column_name'].mean(), inplace=True)

Use Case: When the data is normally distributed and there aren't extreme outliers.

2. Fill with Median (For Numerical Data)

If the data is **skewed** or contains **outliers**, it's better to use the **median** instead of the mean. The median is the middle value when the data is sorted.

df['column_name'].fillna(df['column_name'].median(), inplace=True)

Use Case: When the data is skewed, for example, in cases like salaries or prices.

3. Fill with Mode (For Categorical Data)

The **mode** is the **most frequent value** in the column. You can fill missing values in categorical columns (such as 'embarked', 'sex', 'country') with the mode.

df['column_name'].fillna(df['column_name'].mode()[0], inplace=True)

Use Case: For categorical columns, where the missing values can be replaced by the most frequent category.

4. Fill with a Constant Value

You can fill missing values with a **specific constant value** like **0**, **'Unknown'**, or any default value.

df['column_name'].fillna(0, inplace=True) # Example with 0 df['column_name'].fillna('Unknown', inplace=True) # Example with 'Unknown'

Use Case: When you want to replace missing data with a fixed value, for example, filling missing countries with 'Unknown'.

5. Forward Fill (ffill)

Forward fill replaces missing values with the value from the **previous row**. This method is very useful for time-series data.

df['column name'].fillna(method='ffill', inplace=True)

Use Case: In time-series or sequential data when you want to fill missing values with the previous valid entry.

6. Backward Fill (bfill)

Backward fill replaces missing values with the value from the **next row**.

df['column_name'].fillna(method='bfill', inplace=True)

Use Case: When you want to fill missing values with the subsequent value in the dataset.

7. Interpolate

Interpolation uses surrounding values to estimate and fill missing values. This is particularly useful for numerical data.

df['column_name'].interpolate(method='linear', inplace=True)

Use Case: When you want to estimate missing values using linear interpolation based on surrounding data points.

8. Drop Missing Values

If you feel that filling the missing values isn't appropriate, you can **drop** the rows or columns that have missing values.

df.dropna(inplace=True) # Drop rows with any missing values df.dropna(subset=['column_name'], inplace=True) # Drop rows where 'column_name' is NaN

Use Case: When the missing values are too many, or filling them would distort the data.

9. Replace with Predictive Models

You can also **predict** missing values using **machine learning models**. In this method, you train a model on the data with missing values and use it to predict the missing entries.

```
# Example: Use regression or classification model to predict missing values from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression model = LinearRegression() model.fit(X_train, y_train) # Train model to predict missing data df['column_name'] = model.predict(X_test)
```

Use Case: When you have a large dataset and you want to accurately predict missing values based on patterns in the data.

10. KNN Imputation

K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN) imputation is another method where missing values are filled based on **similar rows** in the dataset.

```
from sklearn.impute import KNNImputer
imputer = KNNImputer(n_neighbors=3)
df = imputer.fit_transform(df)
```

Use Case: When you want to fill missing values based on the similarity of data points in the dataset.

Summary of Methods:

- 1. **Mean**: Use the average value for numerical data.
- 2. **Median**: Use the middle value when the data is skewed.
- 3. **Mode**: Use the most frequent value for categorical data.
- 4. **Constant Value**: Fill missing values with a specific fixed value.

- 5. **Forward Fill**: Fill missing values using the previous row's value.
- 6. **Backward Fill**: Fill missing values using the next row's value.
- 7. Interpolate: Estimate missing values based on surrounding data points.
- 8. **Drop**: Remove rows or columns that contain missing values.
- 9. **Predictive Models**: Use machine learning models to predict missing values.
- 10.**KNN Imputation**: Fill missing values based on similarity to nearest neighbors.