```python
def repeat_characters(input_string: str, repeat_count: int) -> str:
    """
    Repeats each character in the input string the specified number of times.

    Args:
        input_string (str): The input string.
        repeat_count (int): The number of times to repeat each character.

    Returns:
        str: The resulting string with characters repeated.
    """
    if not isinstance(input_string, str) or not isinstance(repeat_count, int) or repeat_count <= 0:
        raise ValueError("Invalid input. The input string must be a string and repeat_count must be a positive integer.")

    repeated_string = ""
    for char in input_string:
        repeated_string += char * repeat_count

    return repeated_string

# Example usage:
input_str = "hello"
repeated_str = repeat_characters(input_str, 3)
print(repeated_str)  # Output: "hhheeelllllooo"

repeat_characters("xoxo", 2) # Output: "xxooxxoo"
```