

## 5685. Merge Strings Alternately

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You are given two strings `word1` and `word2` . Merge the strings by adding letters in alternating order, starting with `word1` . If a string is longer than the other, append the additional letters onto the end of the merged string.

Return *the merged string*.

### Example 1:

**Input:** `word1 = "abc", word2 = "pqr"`  
**Output:** `"apbqcr"`  
**Explanation:** The merged string will be merged as so:  
word1: a b c  
word2: p q r  
merged: a p b q c r

### Example 2:

**Input:** `word1 = "ab", word2 = "pqr"`  
**Output:** `"apbqrs"`  
**Explanation:** Notice that as `word2` is longer, `"rs"` is appended to the end.  
word1: a b  
word2: p q r s  
merged: a p b q r s

### Example 3:

**Input:** `word1 = "abcd", word2 = "pq"`  
**Output:** `"apbqcd"`  
**Explanation:** Notice that as `word1` is longer, `"cd"` is appended to the end.  
word1: a b c d  
word2: p q  
merged: a p b q c d

### Constraints:

- `1 <= word1.length, word2.length <= 100`
- `word1` and `word2` consist of lowercase English letters.

JavaScript



```
1 /**
2  * @param {string} word1
3  * @param {string} word2
4  * @return {string}
5  */
6 var mergeAlternately = function(word1, word2) {
7
8  };
```