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Module 5.2: MySQL Functions

**Replace**

Replace takes three arguments. The String you want to run the function on, the string you wish to replace, and the string you are replacing it with. An example at my own work for when this is used revolves around bar codes on letters we send out. These bar codes start with the fiscal year, but if we receive a reply device in the next fiscal year from the previous year, we replace the old fiscal year with the new one for processing.

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

**TRIM**

The trim function removes all preceding and trailing white space characters. A place this is commonly used is on Username and Password inputs where users often hit the space on accident upon completion of typing their username or password.

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

**LPAD**

LPAD allows us to pad a string with a specified character to a specified length, placing the specified character to the left. The most common use in my short career has been ensuring the CSV file I am exporting into is always the max length of the field to be processed by a legacy system that is unable to process a shorter string length.

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