

# Combine

Transforms an array into a list.

Built-in Message handler [Edit](#)

Syntax:

```
combine array {using | by | with} primaryDelimiter [and secondaryDelimiter]
```

```
combine array {using | by | with} primaryDelimiter as set
```

```
combine array {using | by | with} {row | column}
```

Examples:

```
combine myArray using comma
```

```
combine myArray by row
```

```
put "apple" into tArray[1]
put "banana" into tArray[2]
combine tArray using return and ":"
## RESULT tArray
## 1:apple
## 2:banana
```

Use the **combine** command to display an array in a field or to process an array using string operators, functions, and chunk expressions.

Parameters:

- *arrayName* - An array variable.
- *primaryDelimiter* - A character or expression that resolves to a character.
- *secondaryDelimiter* - A character or expression that resolves to a character.

The **combine** command combines the elements of the array into a single variable. After the command is finished executing, the variable specified by array is no longer an array.

If the first form of the command is used, the elements of the original array are separated by the *primaryDelimiter*. For example, if the *primaryDelimiter* is *return*, the content of each element of the original array appears on a separate line.

If you specify a *secondaryDelimiter*, the key corresponding to each element is added to the element's content, separated from the content by the *secondaryDelimiter*. For example, if the *primaryDelimiter* is *return* and the *secondaryDelimiter* is *tab*, each line of the resulting variable contains an element's key, a *tab* character, and the element's content. If you don't specify a *secondaryDelimiter*, then the [keys](#) are lost in the transformation.

If you use the as set form the combine command rebuilds the list using the delimiter passed, the values of the array are ignored.

The order of the elements is not alphabetical or chronological; it is based on the internal hash order of the array. To alphabetize the list, use the sort command:

```
combine monthlyReceivables using return and comma  
sort lines of monthlyReceivables by item 2 of each
```

If the second form of the combine command is used, the elements of the original array are considered to be either columns or rows, separated by the [columnDelimiter](#) property or [rowDelimiter](#) property respectively.

Combining an array by row converts the array into a table with rows separated by the [rowDelimiter](#) property. Each row in the resulting string is the contents of the corresponding key in the array.

Combining an array by column converts the array into a table with columns separated by the [columnDelimiter](#) property. Each column of the resulting string is the contents of the corresponding key in the array.

The combine by row and combine by column forms can only be used with numerically keyed arrays

See Also: [extents](#) Function, [keys](#) Function, [split](#) Command, [columnDelimiter](#) Property, [rowDelimiter](#) Property

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