

# Problem 2325: Decode the Message

## Problem Information

**Difficulty:** Easy

**Acceptance Rate:** 85.67%

**Paid Only:** No

**Tags:** Hash Table, String

## Problem Description

You are given the strings `key` and `message`, which represent a cipher key and a secret message, respectively. The steps to decode `message` are as follows:

1. Use the **first** appearance of all 26 lowercase English letters in `key` as the **order** of the substitution table.
2. Align the substitution table with the regular English alphabet.
3. Each letter in `message` is then **substituted** using the table.
4. Spaces `' '` are transformed to themselves.

\* For example, given `key = "_**hap**_p_**y**_**bo**_y"` (actual key would have **at least one** instance of each letter in the alphabet), we have the partial substitution table of (`'h' -> 'a'`, `'a' -> 'b'`, `'p' -> 'c'`, `'y' -> 'd'`, `'b' -> 'e'`, `'o' -> 'f'`).

Return `_the decoded message_`.

**Example 1:**



**Input:** `key = "the quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog"`, `message = "vkbs bs t suepuv"`  
**Output:** `"this is a secret"` **Explanation:** The diagram above shows the substitution table. It is obtained by taking the first appearance of each letter in `"_**the**_**quick**_**brown**_**f**_o**x**_**j**_u**mps**_o**v**_er the **lazy**_**d**_o**g**_"`.

**Example 2:**





**Input:** key = "eljuxhpwnyrdgtqkviszcfmabo", message = "zwx hnf x lqantp mnoeius ycgk vcnjrdb" **Output:** "the five boxing wizards jump quickly" **Explanation:** The diagram above shows the substitution table. It is obtained by taking the first appearance of each letter in " \_ eljuxhpwnyrdgtqkviszcfmabo \_ ".

**Constraints:**

\* `26 <= key.length <= 2000` \* `key` consists of lowercase English letters and `\_`. \* `key` contains every letter in the English alphabet (`a` to `z`) **at least once**. \* `1 <= message.length <= 2000` \* `message` consists of lowercase English letters and `\_`.

## Code Snippets

**C++:**

```
class Solution {
public:
    string decodeMessage(string key, string message) {

    }
};
```

**Java:**

```
class Solution {
    public String decodeMessage(String key, String message) {

    }
}
```

**Python3:**

```
class Solution:
    def decodeMessage(self, key: str, message: str) -> str:
```