

# Problem 3664: Two-Letter Card Game

## Problem Information

**Difficulty:** Medium

**Acceptance Rate:** 0.00%

**Paid Only:** No

## Problem Description

You are given a deck of cards represented by a string array

cards

, and each card displays two lowercase letters.

You are also given a letter

x

. You play a game with the following rules:

Start with 0 points.

On each turn, you must find two

compatible

cards from the deck that both contain the letter

x

in any position.

Remove the pair of cards and earn

1 point

The game ends when you can no longer find a pair of compatible cards.

Return the

maximum

number of points you can gain with optimal play.

Two cards are

compatible

if the strings differ in

exactly

1 position.

Example 1:

Input:

```
cards = ["aa", "ab", "ba", "ac"], x = "a"
```

Output:

2

Explanation:

On the first turn, select and remove cards

"ab"

and

"ac"

, which are compatible because they differ at only index 1.

On the second turn, select and remove cards

"aa"

and

"ba"

, which are compatible because they differ at only index 0.

Because there are no more compatible pairs, the total score is 2.

Example 2:

Input:

cards = ["aa", "ab", "ba"], x = "a"

Output:

1

Explanation:

On the first turn, select and remove cards

"aa"

and

"ba"

Because there are no more compatible pairs, the total score is 1.

Example 3:

Input:

```
cards = ["aa", "ab", "ba", "ac"], x = "b"
```

Output:

0

Explanation:

The only cards that contain the character

'b'

are

"ab"

and

"ba"

. However, they differ in both indices, so they are not compatible. Thus, the output is 0.

Constraints:

$2 \leq \text{cards.length} \leq 10$

5

$\text{cards}[i].length == 2$

Each

$\text{cards}[i]$

is composed of only lowercase English letters between

'a'

and

'z'

x

is a lowercase English letter between

'a'

and

'z'

## Code Snippets

**C++:**

```
class Solution {  
public:  
    int score(vector<string>& cards, char x) {  
        }  
    };
```

**Java:**

```
class Solution {  
public int score(String[] cards, char x) {  
    }
```

```
}
```

### Python3:

```
class Solution:  
    def score(self, cards: List[str], x: str) -> int:
```

### Python:

```
class Solution(object):  
    def score(self, cards, x):  
        """  
        :type cards: List[str]  
        :type x: str  
        :rtype: int  
        """
```

### JavaScript:

```
/**  
 * @param {string[]} cards  
 * @param {character} x  
 * @return {number}  
 */  
var score = function(cards, x) {  
  
};
```

### TypeScript:

```
function score(cards: string[], x: string): number {  
  
};
```

### C#:

```
public class Solution {  
    public int Score(string[] cards, char x) {  
  
    }  
}
```

**C:**

```
int score(char** cards, int cardsSize, char x) {  
  
}
```

**Go:**

```
func score(cards []string, x byte) int {  
  
}
```

**Kotlin:**

```
class Solution {  
    fun score(cards: Array<String>, x: Char): Int {  
  
    }  
}
```

**Swift:**

```
class Solution {  
    func score(_ cards: [String], _ x: Character) -> Int {  
  
    }  
}
```

**Rust:**

```
impl Solution {  
    pub fn score(cards: Vec<String>, x: char) -> i32 {  
  
    }  
}
```

**Ruby:**

```
# @param {String[]} cards  
# @param {Character} x  
# @return {Integer}  
def score(cards, x)
```

```
end
```

### PHP:

```
class Solution {  
  
    /**  
     * @param String[] $cards  
     * @param String $x  
     * @return Integer  
     */  
    function score($cards, $x) {  
  
    }  
}
```

### Dart:

```
class Solution {  
int score(List<String> cards, String x) {  
  
}  
}
```

### Scala:

```
object Solution {  
def score(cards: Array[String], x: Char): Int = {  
  
}  
}
```

### Elixir:

```
defmodule Solution do  
@spec score(cards :: [String.t], x :: char) :: integer  
def score(cards, x) do  
  
end  
end
```

### Erlang:

```
-spec score(Cards :: [unicode:unicode_binary()], X :: char()) -> integer().  
score(Cards, X) ->  
.
```

## Racket:

```
(define/contract (score cards x)  
(-> (listof string?) char? exact-integer?)  
)
```

# Solutions

## C++ Solution:

```
/*  
 * Problem: Two-Letter Card Game  
 * Difficulty: Medium  
 * Tags: array, string, hash  
 *  
 * Approach: Use two pointers or sliding window technique  
 * Time Complexity: O(n) or O(n log n)  
 * Space Complexity: O(n) for hash map  
 */  
  
class Solution {  
public:  
    int score(vector<string>& cards, char x) {  
  
    }  
};
```

## Java Solution:

```
/**  
 * Problem: Two-Letter Card Game  
 * Difficulty: Medium  
 * Tags: array, string, hash  
 *  
 * Approach: Use two pointers or sliding window technique  
 * Time Complexity: O(n) or O(n log n)  
 * Space Complexity: O(n) for hash map
```

```
*/\n\n\nclass Solution {\n    public int score(String[] cards, char x) {\n\n        }\n    }\n}
```

### Python3 Solution:

```
'''\n\nProblem: Two-Letter Card Game\nDifficulty: Medium\nTags: array, string, hash\n\nApproach: Use two pointers or sliding window technique\nTime Complexity: O(n) or O(n log n)\nSpace Complexity: O(n) for hash map\n'''
```

```
class Solution:\n    def score(self, cards: List[str], x: str) -> int:\n        # TODO: Implement optimized solution\n        pass
```

### Python Solution:

```
class Solution(object):\n    def score(self, cards, x):\n\n        '''\n        :type cards: List[str]\n        :type x: str\n        :rtype: int\n        '''
```

### JavaScript Solution:

```
/**\n * Problem: Two-Letter Card Game\n * Difficulty: Medium\n * Tags: array, string, hash\n */
```

```

/*
 * Approach: Use two pointers or sliding window technique
 * Time Complexity: O(n) or O(n log n)
 * Space Complexity: O(n) for hash map
 */

/**
 * @param {string[]} cards
 * @param {character} x
 * @return {number}
 */
var score = function(cards, x) {

};


```

### TypeScript Solution:

```

/** 
 * Problem: Two-Letter Card Game
 * Difficulty: Medium
 * Tags: array, string, hash
 *
 * Approach: Use two pointers or sliding window technique
 * Time Complexity: O(n) or O(n log n)
 * Space Complexity: O(n) for hash map
 */

function score(cards: string[], x: string): number {

};


```

### C# Solution:

```

/*
 * Problem: Two-Letter Card Game
 * Difficulty: Medium
 * Tags: array, string, hash
 *
 * Approach: Use two pointers or sliding window technique
 * Time Complexity: O(n) or O(n log n)
 * Space Complexity: O(n) for hash map

```

```
*/\n\npublic class Solution {\n    public int Score(string[] cards, char x) {\n        }\n    }\n}
```

### C Solution:

```
/*\n * Problem: Two-Letter Card Game\n * Difficulty: Medium\n * Tags: array, string, hash\n *\n * Approach: Use two pointers or sliding window technique\n * Time Complexity: O(n) or O(n log n)\n * Space Complexity: O(n) for hash map\n */\n\nint score(char** cards, int cardsSize, char x) {\n}\n
```

### Go Solution:

```
// Problem: Two-Letter Card Game\n// Difficulty: Medium\n// Tags: array, string, hash\n//\n// Approach: Use two pointers or sliding window technique\n// Time Complexity: O(n) or O(n log n)\n// Space Complexity: O(n) for hash map\n\nfunc score(cards []string, x byte) int {\n}
```

### Kotlin Solution:

```
class Solution {  
    fun score(cards: Array<String>, x: Char): Int {  
        }  
        }  
}
```

### Swift Solution:

```
class Solution {  
    func score(_ cards: [String], _ x: Character) -> Int {  
        }  
        }  
}
```

### Rust Solution:

```
// Problem: Two-Letter Card Game  
// Difficulty: Medium  
// Tags: array, string, hash  
//  
// Approach: Use two pointers or sliding window technique  
// Time Complexity: O(n) or O(n log n)  
// Space Complexity: O(n) for hash map  
  
impl Solution {  
    pub fn score(cards: Vec<String>, x: char) -> i32 {  
        }  
        }  
}
```

### Ruby Solution:

```
# @param {String[]} cards  
# @param {Character} x  
# @return {Integer}  
def score(cards, x)  
  
end
```

### PHP Solution:

```

class Solution {

    /**
     * @param String[] $cards
     * @param String $x
     * @return Integer
     */
    function score($cards, $x) {

    }
}

```

### Dart Solution:

```

class Solution {
  int score(List<String> cards, String x) {
    }
}

```

### Scala Solution:

```

object Solution {
  def score(cards: Array[String], x: Char): Int = {
    }
}

```

### Elixir Solution:

```

defmodule Solution do
  @spec score(cards :: [String.t], x :: char) :: integer
  def score(cards, x) do
    end
  end
end

```

### Erlang Solution:

```

-spec score(Cards :: [unicode:unicode_binary()], X :: char()) -> integer().
score(Cards, X) ->
  .

```

**Racket Solution:**

```
(define/contract (score cards x)
  (-> (listof string?) char? exact-integer?))
)
```