

# Problem 1541: Minimum Insertions to Balance a Parentheses String

## Problem Information

**Difficulty:** Medium

**Acceptance Rate:** 53.44%

**Paid Only:** No

**Tags:** String, Stack, Greedy

## Problem Description

Given a parentheses string `s` containing only the characters `(` and `)`. A parentheses string is **balanced** if:

\* Any left parenthesis `(` must have a corresponding two consecutive right parenthesis `))`.  
\* Left parenthesis `(` must go before the corresponding two consecutive right parenthesis `)`.

In other words, we treat `(` as an opening parenthesis and `)` as a closing parenthesis.

\* For example, ` "()`", ` "()())`" and ` "((())`" are balanced, ` ")()`, ` "())`" and ` "(()`" are not balanced.

You can insert the characters `(` and `)` at any position of the string to balance it if needed.

Return the minimum number of insertions needed to make `s` balanced.

**Example 1:**

**Input:** s = ` "()`" **Output:** 1 **Explanation:** The second `(` has two matching `)`), but the first `(` has only `)` matching. We need to add one more `)` at the end of the string to be ` "())`" which is balanced.

**Example 2:**

**Input:** s = ` ()`" **Output:** 0 **Explanation:** The string is already balanced.

**\*\*Example 3:\*\***

**\*\*Input:\*\*** s = "))(())" **\*\*Output:\*\*** 3 **\*\*Explanation:\*\*** Add '(' to match the first ')', Add ')' to match the last '('.

**\*\*Constraints:\*\***

\* `1 <= s.length <= 105` \* `s` consists of `(` and `)` only.

## Code Snippets

**C++:**

```
class Solution {
public:
    int minInsertions(string s) {
        }
    };
}
```

**Java:**

```
class Solution {
    public int minInsertions(String s) {
        }
    }
}
```

**Python3:**

```
class Solution:
    def minInsertions(self, s: str) -> int:
```