

1 select_related

Suppose we have the following **Author** and **Book** models:

```
class Author(models.Model):
    name = models.CharField(max_length=100)

class Book(models.Model):
    title = models.CharField(max_length=100)
    author = models.ForeignKey(Author,
                               on_delete=models.CASCADE)
```

We want to retrieve a specific book object along with its associated author object using `select_related`. We can do this using the `select_related` method in our query:

```
book = Book.objects.select_related('author').get(id=1)
```

This generates the following SQL query:

```
SELECT books.id, books.title, books.author_id, authors.id, authors.name
FROM books
INNER JOIN authors ON books.author_id = authors.id
WHERE books.id = 1
```

As we can see, this query uses an `INNER JOIN` to retrieve the related author object along with the book object in a single query. The `SELECT` statement includes columns from both the `books` and `authors` tables, and the `INNER JOIN` clause ensures that the results include only those rows where the `author_id` column in the `books` table matches the `id` column in the `authors` table.

Now we can access the related author object through the `author` attribute of the `book` object, without any additional database hits:

```
author_name = book.author.name
```

This will return the name of the author associated with the book, without requiring another query to the database.

2 prefetch_related

Let's consider the following **Book** and **Genre** models:

```
class Book(models.Model):
    title = models.CharField(max_length=100)
    genres = models.ManyToManyField(Genre)
```

```
class Genre(models.Model):
    name = models.CharField(max_length=100)
```

We want to retrieve a specific book object along with all of its associated genre objects using `prefetch_related`. We can do this using the `prefetch_related` method in our query:

```
book = Book.objects.prefetch_related('genres').get(id=1)
```

This generates the following SQL queries:

```
SELECT books.id, books.title
FROM books
WHERE books.id = 1
```

```
SELECT genres.id, genres.name, book_genres.book_id AS _prefetch_related_val_book_id
FROM genres
INNER JOIN book_genres ON genres.id = book_genres.genre_id
WHERE book_genres.book_id IN (1)
```

The first query retrieves the book object, and the second query fetches all related genre objects for the book using an INNER JOIN. Note that the `'_prefetch_related_val_book_id'` alias is used to avoid conflicts with the `'id'` column in the `'genres'` table.

Now we can access all of the related genre objects through the `'genres'` attribute of the `'book'` object, without any additional database hits:

```
genres = book.genres.all()
```

This will return a queryset containing all of the genre objects associated with the book, without requiring another query to the database.

TL;DR

- `select_related`: reduces the number of queries to 1 by fetching related objects in a single query.
- `prefetch_related`: adds an additional query to fetch related objects, but can reduce the total number of queries by fetching related objects in a separate query.