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1768. Merge Strings Alternately

Easy  Topics  Companies  Hint

You are given two strings `word1` and `word2`. Merge the strings by adding letters in alternating order, starting with `word1`. If a string is longer than the other, append the additional letters onto the end of the merged string.

Return *the merged string*.

Example 1:

Input: `word1 = "abc", word2 = "pqr"`

Output: `"apbqcr"`

Explanation: The merged string will be merged as so:

```
word1:  a   b   c
word2:   p   q   r
merged: a p b q c r
```

Example 2:

Input: `word1 = "ab", word2 = "pqr"`

Output: `"apbqrs"`

Explanation: Notice that as `word2` is longer, `"rs"` is appended to the end.

```
word1:  a   b
word2:   p   q   r   s
merged: a p b q   r   s
```

Example 3:

Input: `word1 = "abcd", word2 = "pq"`

Output: `"apbqcd"`

Explanation: Notice that as `word1` is longer, `"cd"` is appended to the end.

```
word1:  a   b   c   d
word2:   p   q
merged: a p b q c   d
```

Constraints:

 3.3K   70   