

# How can I use the TRANWRD function in SAS and what are some examples of its usage?

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The TRANWRD function in SAS is a powerful tool that allows users to easily manipulate and replace specific words or phrases within a string of text. This function can be used to make changes to data values, create new variables, or clean up inconsistent data. To use the TRANWRD function, the user must specify the string to be searched, the word or phrase to be replaced, and the new word or phrase to be inserted. This function also allows for the modification of multiple occurrences of a word or phrase within a string. Some examples of its usage include correcting misspelled words in a dataset, replacing abbreviations with full words, or modifying specific text in a report. Overall, the TRANWRD function provides a simple and efficient solution for data manipulation and cleaning tasks in SAS.

## Use the TRANWRD Function in SAS (With Examples)

You can use the TRANWRD function in SAS to find and replace all occurrences of a specific pattern of characters in a string.

This function uses the following syntax:

**TRANWRD(source, target, replacement)**

where:

**source:** Name of the variable to search  
**target:** Character pattern to search for  
**replacement:** Character pattern to use for replacing *target*

The following examples show how to use this function in practice with the following dataset in SAS:

```
/*create dataset*/  
data original_data;  
input team $1-20;  
datalines;  
Fast Bees  
Angry Hornets  
Wild Mustangs  
Fast Panthers  
Fast Cobras  
Wild Cheetahs  
Wild Aardvarks  
;  
run;  
  
/*view dataset*/  
proc printdata=original_data;
```

Obs	team
1	Fast Bees
2	Angry Hornets
3	Wild Mustangs
4	Fast Panthers
5	Fast Cobras
6	Wild Cheetahs
7	Wild Aardvarks

## Example 1: Use TRANWRD to Replace Characters with New Characters

The following code shows how to use the TRANWRD function to replace each occurrence of "Fast" in the team column with the string "Slow" instead:

```
/*create new dataset*/  
data new_data;  
set original_data;  
team = tranwrd(team, "Fast", "Slow");  
run;  
  
/*view new dataset*/  
proc printdata=new_data;
```

Obs	team
1	Slow Bees
2	Angry Hornets
3	Wild Mustangs
4	Slow Panthers
5	Slow Cobras
6	Wild Cheetahs
7	Wild Aardvarks

Notice that each occurrence of "Fast" in the team names have been replaced with "Slow" instead.

## Example 2: Use TRANWRD to Replace Characters with Blanks

The following code shows how to use the TRANWRD function to replace each occurrence of "Fast" in the team column with a blank instead:

```
/*create new dataset*/  
data new_data;  
set original_data;  
team = tranwrd(team, "Fast", "");  
run;  
  
/*view new dataset*/  
proc printdata=new_data;
```

Obs	team
1	Bees
2	Angry Hornets
3	Wild Mustangs
4	Panthers
5	Cobras
6	Wild Cheetahs
7	Wild Aardvarks

This has the same effect as simply removing the string "Fast" from each team name.

**Note: You can find the complete documentation for the SAS TRANWRD function .**

**The following tutorials explain how to perform other common tasks in SAS:**

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