

# Mail merge for married contacts with different last names

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Word/microsoft.public.word.mailmerge.fields/2008-08/msg00297.html>

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I am in Word 2007 and trying to create a letter from my Outlook contacts. Nearly all my clients are either married, or have a partner, but I only create one contact record in Outlook for them (having two contact records isn't an option for me). Sometimes they have different last names, which creates problems when writing letters.

I am using BCM, and I have created two user-defined fields. One for spouse/partner first name, the other for spouse/partner last name.

I am using if then statements in the mail merge, and am coming very close to making this work. I can get the salutation to work no problem, it only brings in the 2nd name if there is one there, and adds an " and " between them.

Where I am having trouble is in creating the envelope. For example, if my clients are Bob Smith and Sarah Jones, I want the envelope to read, "Bob Smith and Karen Jones."

Here is what I have come up with below. It came very close once, but I've got something in the wrong spot somewhere, and as I try to "fix" it I'm making it worse. I know some of the quotes are out of place somewhere.

```
{if {mergefield "spousepartner_last_name"}="" {mergefield  
"first_name"}{if{mergefield "spousepartner_first_name"}="" {mergefield  
"last_name"} and "{mergefield "spousepartner_first_name"}{mergefield  
"spousepartner_last_name"}"} }
```