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Description

`collect combine` combines separate collections into a single new collection.

Quick start

Create new collection `newc` by combining existing collections `c1`, `c2`, and `c3`

```
collect combine newc = c1 c2 c3
```

Same as above, but use the layout defined in the rightmost collection, `c3`

```
collect combine newc = c1 c2 c3, layout(right)
```

Same as above, but use the style defined in the rightmost collection, `c3`

```
collect combine newc = c1 c2 c3, layout(right) style(right)
```

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Syntax

```
collect combine newname = cnamelist [ , options ]
```

where *newname* is the name of the new collection and *cnamelist* is a list of names of existing collections.

<i>options</i>	Description
Main	
replace	overwrite <i>newname</i> if it exists
Options	
layout(left right)	specify the collection whose layout is to be used; default is layout(left)
style(left right)	specify the collection whose style is to be used; default is style(left)
label(left right)	specify the collection whose labels are to be used; default is label(left)
[no]warn	display notes when encountering unrecognized tags

Options

Main

replace permits collect combine to overwrite *newname* if it already exists. This option is required if the new collection already exists and is not empty.

Options

layout(left | right) specifies the collection whose layout will be used in the new collection.

layout(left) is the default; it applies the layout from the leftmost collection in *cnamelist* to the new collection.

layout(right) applies the layout from the rightmost collection in *cnamelist* to the new collection.

style(left | right) specifies the collection whose style will be used in the new collection.

style(left) is the default; it applies the style definitions from the leftmost collection in *cnamelist* to the new collection.

style(right) applies the style definitions from the rightmost collection in *cnamelist* to the new collection.

label(left | right) specifies the collection whose labels will be used in the new collection.

label(left) is the default; it applies the labels from the leftmost collection in *cnamelist* to the new collection.

label(right) applies the labels from the rightmost collection in *cnamelist* to the new collection.

warn and nowarn control the display of notes when collect encounters a tag it does not recognize.

warn, the default, specifies that collect show the notes.

nowarn specifies that collect not show the notes.

These options override the collect_warn setting; see [TABLES] [set collect_warn](#).

Remarks and examples

`collect combine` combines existing collections into a new collection. The new collection becomes the **current collection**.

The `label()`, `layout()`, and `style()` options specify whether `collect` should apply the labels, layout, and style from the leftmost or rightmost collection specified. The default is to apply the style, layout, and labels from the leftmost collection in *cnamelist* to the new collection. This is equivalent to specifying `label(left)`, `layout(left)`, and `style(left)`. If any of these attributes is not defined in the leftmost collection, `collect` will search for that attribute in the collections listed in *cnamelist*, from left to right. However, if the rightmost collection is specified with any of these options, and that attribute is not defined in the rightmost collection, `collect` will search for that attribute in the collections listed, from right to left.

For example, we create a collection called `new` by combining the collections `c1`, `c2`, `c3`, and `c4`.

```
. collect combine new = c1 c2 c3 c4
```

If collection `c1` has an empty style, `collect` will apply the style from `c2` to the new collection. If `c2` also has an empty style, `collect` will apply the style from `c3`.

Suppose that we instead type the following:

```
. collect combine new = c1 c2 c3 c4, style(right)
```

`collect` will apply the style from collection `c4` to the collection `new`. If collection `c4` has an empty style, `collect` will apply the style from `c3` to the new collection.

Stored results

`collect combine` stores the following in `s()`:

Macros

```
s(current)      name of new collection
s(collections) list of combined collections
```

Also see

[TABLES] [collect use](#) — Use a collection from disk

[TABLES] [collect save](#) — Save a collection to disk

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