Reference: Naming Guidelines for Dimension Members

Vena Support Team
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Refer to this article for a list of naming considerations for dimension members used in Calcs, ETLs & Vena Copilot.

Overview

When naming dimension members, it's important to follow specific character requirements to ensure compatibility across Vena features, including Calcs, ETL and Vena Copilot. This article outlines supported characters, known limitations and considerations for multi-language environments.

Calc Naming Rules

Dimension member names can begin with:

- A letter
- A number
- An asterisk (*)

After the first character, member names can include:

- Letters and numbers
- Special characters : @ \ - , = < > + ' _ | *

 Caution

Avoid using apostrophes (') in member names. Apostrophes can:

- Cause errors when setting Data Permissions.
- Split member names into separate words in staging queries.

Apostraphes can be wrapped in quotation marks (") to avoid the issues above.

ETL Naming Rules

There are two known issues with special characters in ETL:
- **Apostrophes (')**
  Member names containing apostrophes may fail during drill-across operations due to syntax errors.
- **Leading Underscores (_)**
  If a member name in the first column of an upload file begins with an underscore, the ETL job may fail to write or update data.
  Workaround: Add a space before the underscore (_). The ETL job will remove the space during processing.

There are no other known issues with special characters in ETL for Vena Cloud.

Multi-Language and Vena Copilot Support

Unicode characters used in multi-language member names are currently not supported in Calcs or ETL. The Vena team is actively working on a solution to support these characters.

Vena Copilot Limitation:
Vena Copilot cannot retrieve data from dimension members that contain special characters (e.g., ö, ç, ñ).
To ensure compatibility and accuracy, avoid using special characters in member names when asking Copilot questions. As a best practice, design data models without special characters in member names whenever possible.

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