

# Preprocessing and featurization

5 minutes

As well as trying a selection of algorithms, automated machine learning can apply preprocessing transformations to your data; improving the performance of the model.

## Scaling and normalization

Automated machine learning applies scaling and normalization to numeric data automatically, helping prevent any large-scale features from dominating training. During an automated machine learning experiment, multiple scaling or normalization techniques will be applied.

## Optional featurization

You can choose to have automated machine learning apply preprocessing transformations, such as:

- Missing value imputation to eliminate nulls in the training dataset.
- Categorical encoding to convert categorical features to numeric indicators.
- Dropping high-cardinality features, such as record IDs.
- Feature engineering (for example, deriving individual date parts from DateTime features)
- Others...

**More Information:** For more information about the preprocessing support in automated machine learning, see [What is automated machine learning](#) .

## Next unit: Running automated machine learning experiments

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