

1. What is a primary key in a table?

A **primary key** is a column (or combination of columns) that **uniquely identifies each record** in a table.

- Example: In `Customers.csv`, `CustomerID` is unique → serves as the primary key.
☒ No duplicates, no nulls.
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2. Name the two types of table relationships in Power BI

Power BI supports:

1. **One-to-many (1:*)**: Most common — one customer can have many sales.
 2. **Many-to-many (:)**: When both sides have repeating values (e.g., customers and products through purchases).
(Also one-to-one exists but is rare.)
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3. How do you create a relationship between two tables in Power BI?

- Go to **Model View**
 - Drag the key field (e.g., `CustomerID`) from one table to the other
 - Or use: **Home** → **Manage Relationships** → **New** → **Select columns**
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4. What is a "star schema"?

A **star schema** is a model design where:

- A central **fact table** (e.g., `Sales`) contains **measures and foreign keys**.
- It connects to multiple **dimension tables** (e.g., `Customer`, `Product`, `Date`).

Why “star”? Because it visually resembles a star — one fact table in the center, surrounded by dimensions.

5. Which table is typically the fact table in a sales dataset?

☒ `Sales.csv`

- It contains **transactional data** (Quantity, Price, IDs, etc.)
 - Other tables (`Customer`, `Product`, `Date`) describe attributes — they are **dimension tables**.
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6. Link Sales.csv to Customers.csv using CustomerID (one-to-many)

Steps:

- Model view → Drag CustomerID in Customers → CustomerID in Sales
 - Cardinality: **One-to-many (1:*)**.
 - Cross filter: **Single direction (from Customers → Sales)**
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7. Why is ProductID in Sales.csv a foreign key?

Because it **references** the ProductID in the Products table.

- It does not uniquely identify records in Sales.
 - It links each sale to its **related product** in the Products table.
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8. Fix a relationship error where ProductID has mismatched data types

If ProductID in one table is **text** and in another **number**, Power BI cannot link them.

Fix:

- Go to **Data View**
 - Select both tables → Change ProductID column's **Data Type** to match (e.g., *Whole Number* in both).
- Then re-establish the relationship.
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9. Why a star schema improves performance

☒ Reasons:

- Reduces redundant joins (compared to snowflake or flat models).
- Optimizes **query folding** and DAX performance.
- Simplifies relationships (one-to-many only).
- Improves **VertiPaq compression** in Power BI (fewer unique keys).

In short: **simpler model = faster performance**.

10. Add a new column TotalSales = Quantity × Price

You can do this in Power BI using **DAX** or **Power Query**.

DAX (in Data View):

```
TotalSales = Sales[Quantity] * RELATED(Products[Price])
```

👉 Uses `RELATED()` to pull price from the Products table via relationship.

11. Optimize a model with circular relationships

Circular relationships (loops) confuse Power BI's filter propagation.

Solutions:

1. **Remove one relationship** if redundant.
 2. **Use inactive relationship** (set to inactive, activate via `USERELATIONSHIP` in DAX).
 3. **Split a dimension** into two role-playing versions (e.g., `Date_Ordered`, `Date_Shipped`).
 4. **Flatten snowflake dimensions** (combine related dimension tables).
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12. Create a role-playing dimension for OrderDate and ShipDate

Duplicate the Date table:

- `Date_Ordered` → connected to `Sales[OrderDate]`
- `Date_Shipped` → connected to `Sales[ShipDate]`

Power BI can't use one Date table for both roles simultaneously.

Alternative (in DAX):

Use `USERELATIONSHIP()` when needed:

```
ShipDate Sales =  
CALCULATE(  
    SUM(Sales[TotalSales]),  
    USERELATIONSHIP(Sales[ShipDate], Dates[Date])  
)
```

13. Handle many-to-many relationship (Customers ↔ Products)

If customers can purchase multiple products and products are purchased by multiple customers
→ many-to-many.

Fix:

- Create a **bridge table** (e.g., `Sales`) that contains unique combinations of `CustomerID` and `ProductID`.
- Then connect both sides to it using **one-to-many** relationships.

☑ Avoid direct many-to-many links — they can create ambiguity.

14. Use bidirectional filtering sparingly — when appropriate

Default: Filters should flow **from dimension** → **fact** (single direction).

Use **bidirectional** only when:

- You have **shared dimension tables** (e.g., a common Date or Customer table across multiple facts).
- You need a **dynamic measure filter context** from both sides.

 Overusing it can cause **ambiguous relationships** and **slow performance**.

15. DAX to enforce referential integrity (CustomerID deleted)

If a CustomerID in Sales no longer exists in Customers → catch that case:

```
ValidSales =  
CALCULATE(  
    COUNTROWS(Sales),  
    NOT(ISBLANK(RELATED(Customers[CustomerID])))  
)
```

Or to **flag orphan records**:

```
IsOrphan =  
IF(  
    ISBLANK(RELATED(Customers[CustomerID])),  
    "Missing Customer",  
    "Valid"  
)
```