



The image features a central logo for 'sqlbits 2025' enclosed in a blue neon rectangle. The text 'sqlbits' is in a large, orange-outlined font, and '2025' is in a smaller, pink-outlined font below it. The background is a dark brick wall. Surrounding the central logo are several neon icons: an ice cream cone (top left), two cherries (top left), a girl's face with a bow (top right), a four-pointed star (top right), a planet with a ring (middle right), a lightning bolt (middle right), a four-pointed star (middle right), a leaf (bottom right), a four-pointed star (bottom right), a face with a lightbulb (bottom left), a four-pointed star (bottom left), a swan (middle left), a four-pointed star (middle left), and a four-pointed star (top left).

sqlbits

2025

18-21 JUNE, LONDON EXCEL

Dynamic Power Query

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Laura GB (she/her)



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HatFullOfData.blog



HatFullOfData

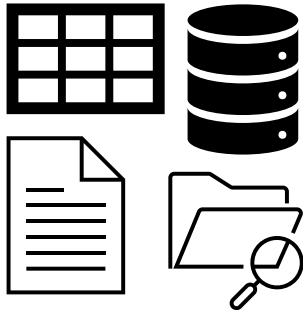


Data Platform



Power Query does Magic

Multiple Data
Sources



	Date	Description
1	01/06/2025	Invoice 2345 Payment
2	02/06/2025	Room Hire
3	03/06/2025	Projector
4	04/06/2025	Invoice 2346 Payment

Table

	List
1	Invoice 2345 Payment
2	Room Hire
3	Projector
4	Invoice 2346 Payment

List

02/06/2025

Value



... then breaks

Multiple Data
Sources



Expression.Error: The column 'Credit' of the table wasn't found.

[Go To Error](#)

Details:

Credit

Error



Common Reasons

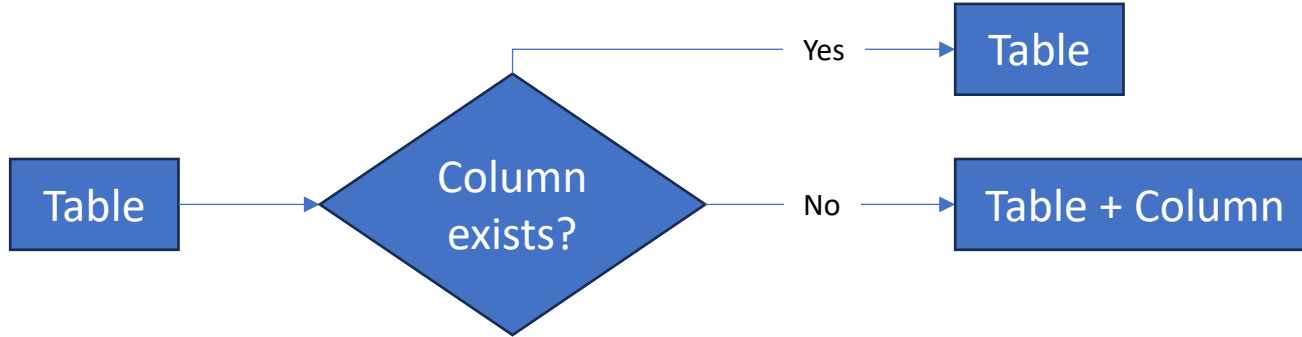
- Missing Columns
- Hidden Column differences
- Missing Data

Demo 1 & 2

Case of the missing columns

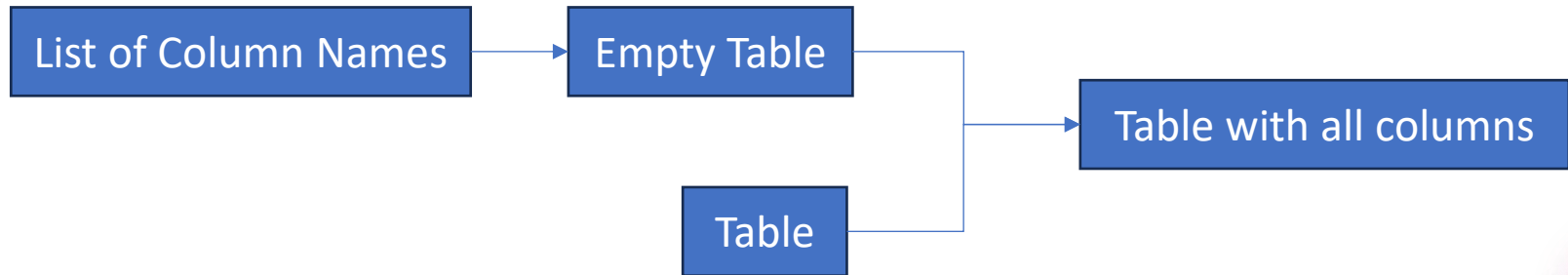


Demo 1 Solution



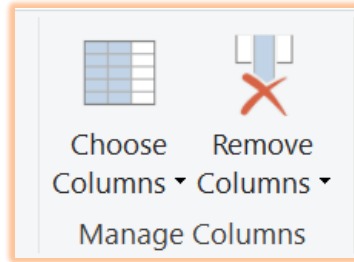
```
#"Added Custom" = If Table.HasColumns("#Promoted Headers","Credit")  
then #"Promoted Headers"  
else Table.AddColumn("#Promoted Headers", "Credit", each null),
```


Demo 2 Solution



```
= Table.Combine({#"Pivoted Column", Demo2_EmptyTable})
```

Demo 2 Alternative Solution



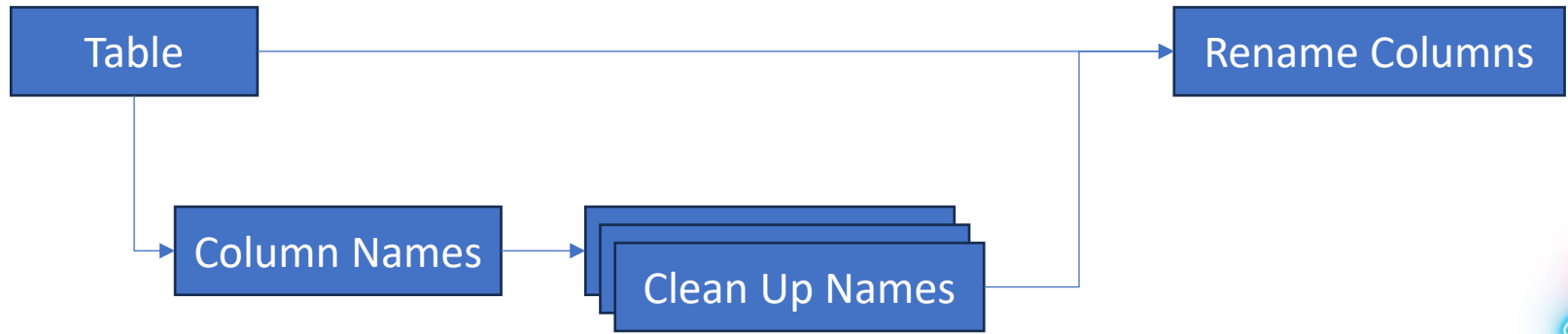
```
= Table.SelectColumns(  
    MyTable,  
    ListColumnNames,  
    MissingField.UseNull  
)
```

Demo 3

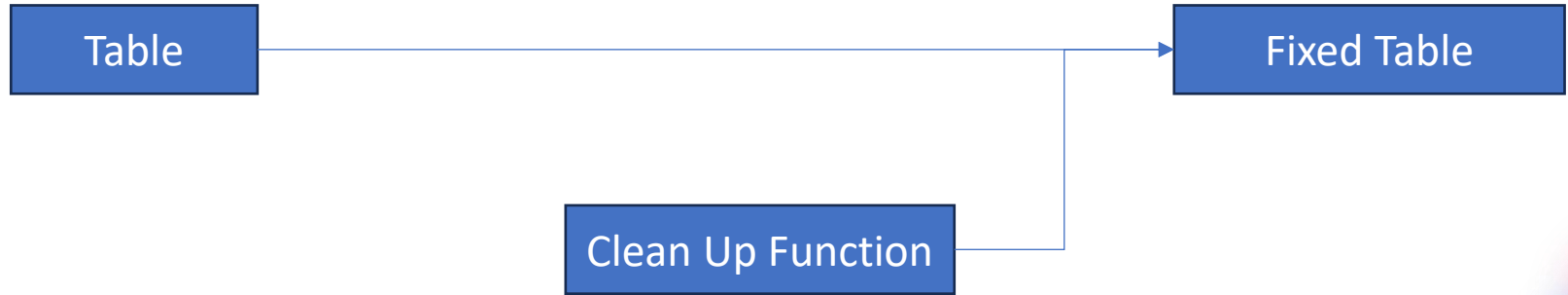
Case of bad column names



Demo 3 Solution



Demo 3 Function Solution



Demo 4

Avoiding the problems



Demo 4 Issues

Demo4

```
let
    Source = Excel.Workbook(Web.Contents(URL & Demo4_File1), null, true),
    Sheet1_Sheet = Source[Item="Sheet1",Kind="Sheet"]}[Data],
    #"Changed Type" = Table.TransformColumnTypes(Sheet1_Sheet,{{"Column1", type text}, {"Column2", type text}, {"Column3", type text}}, {"Column1", type text}, {"Column2", type text}, {"Column3", type text}),
    #"Promoted Headers" = Table.PromoteHeaders("#Changed Type", [PromoteAllScalars=true]),
    #"Changed Type1" = Table.TransformColumnTypes("#Promoted Headers",{{"Region", type text}, {"Team Member", type text}, {"Date", type date}}, {"Region", type text}, {"Team Member", type text}, {"Date", type date}),
    #"Replaced Value" = Table.ReplaceValue("#Changed Type1",null,0,Replacer.ReplaceValue,{"01/01/2025", "01/02/2025", "01/03/2025"},0),
    #"Unpivoted Only Selected Columns" = Table.Unpivot("#Replaced Value", {"01/01/2025", "01/02/2025", "01/03/2025"}, "Date"),
in
    #"Unpivoted Only Selected Columns"
```

Turn Off Detect Column Types

Type Detection

- ☐ Always detect column types and headers for unstructured sources
- ☐ Detect column types and headers for unstructured sources according to each file's setting
- ☒ Never detect column types and headers for unstructured sources

Global

Current File

Type Detection

- ☐ Detect column types and headers for unstructured sources

Replace Hardcoded Lists

= Table.ColumnNames(MyTable)

= Table.ToList(MyTable)

= Table.ToRows(MyTable)

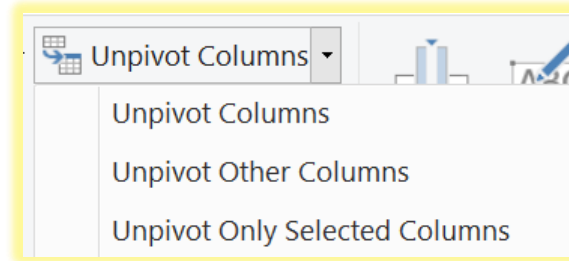
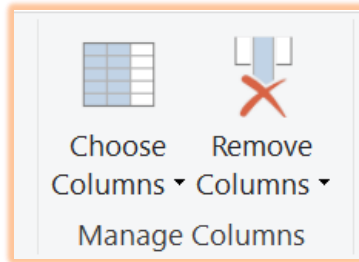
List

{"Value1", "Value2"}

List of Lists

{
{"Value1", "Value2"},
{"Value3", "Value4"}
}

Check Alternatives





<https://github.com/HatFullOfData/Sessions/>



Thank You

Don't forget to leave
feedback in the app!

