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Practice Challenge: Using a Date Function for a Computed Column

In this practice, you use the Query Builder to create a table that includes active employees (those with no termination date) and how old the employee was when hired.

1. In the **Lesson4** project, add the **employee_master** table to the Practices process flow.

    - Select **File > Open** and navigate to the course data location.
    - Select **employee_master > Open**. The data appears on a new tab in the work area.

2. Use the Query Builder to create a query named **Age Hired Query** and a table named **age_hired**.
    - Include these columns: **Employee_ID**, **Employee_Name**, **Birth_Date**, and **Hire_Date**.
    - Create a new column named **Hired_Age** that calculates the number of years between the employee's birth date and the hire date. Format the new column to display without decimal places.

      Note: Use the YRDIF function. For the default calculation of someone's age, you need only two arguments to the function, a start date and an end date. If you want to read more about other ways to calculate date differences (such as using a standard 30-day month and 360-day year instead of actual days), documentation about this function can be found by accessing online Help and searching for **YRDIF Function**.

    - Include only employees without a termination date.
    - Order the results by ascending **Employee_ID**.

    - In the **Lesson4** project, right-click the **employee_master** table in the process flow and select **Query Builder**.
    - Enter **Age Hired Query** in the Query name field.
        - Click **Change** next to the Output name field.
        - Enter **age_hired** in the File name field and click **Save**.
    - Double-click the following columns to select them: **Employee_ID**, **Employee_Name**, **Birth_Date**, and **Hire_Date**.
    - Create a new column named **Hired_Age** that calculates the number of years between the employees' birth date and the hire date. Format the new column to display without decimal places.

        - To add the **Hired_Age** column, begin by clicking the **Add A New Computed Column** icon on the Select Data tab, or you can select **Computed Columns > New**.
            - In Step 1, select **Advanced expression** and click **Next**.
            - In Step 2, expand the **Functions** folder and find the YRDIF function. **Note**: The syntax for the YRDIF function is to the right of the list of functions.
            - Double-click **YRDIF Function** to add it to the expression.
            - Select **Favorites > Tables** to quickly collapse the **Functions** folder.
            - Expand **Tables > t1 (employee_master)**. Double-click **Birth_Date** to add the column as the first argument in the expression. Double-click **Hire_Date** to add the column as the second argument in the expression. Delete the comma and third argument because the default value of 'AGE' is correct.
            `YRDIF(t1.Birth_Date, t1.Hire_Date)`
            - Click **Next**.
            - In Step 3, enter **Hired_Age** in the Column Name field.
            - To apply a format to this column, click **Change**. In the Formats window, select **Numeric** from the Categories pane and **w.d** from the Formats pane.
            - Change the overall width to **3** and verify that the number of decimal places is **0**.
            - Click **OK**.
            - Click **Next**.
            - In Step 4, review the summary of the new column's properties and click **Finish**.
    - Include only employees without a termination date.
        - Click the **Filter Data** tab.
        - Drag **Termination** to the **Filter Data** tab.
        - In Step 1, change the operator to **Is missing**.
        - Click **Next** to verify the filter and click **Finish**.
    - Order the results by ascending **Employee_ID**.
        - Click the **Sort Data** tab.
        - Drag and drop **Employee_ID** onto the **Sort Data** tab and verify that **Ascending** is the selected sort direction.

3. Run the query. How old what Sherie Sheedy when hired?

    Click **Run** to execute the query. A new tab appears in the work area, displaying the results. Sherie Sheedy was hired when she was 21.

4. Close all tabs except for the process flow, and save the **Lesson4** project.

Hide Solution