

1. What is the difference between Power BI Desktop and Power BI Online Service?

Power BI Desktop is a Windows app used for data modeling, visualization, and report creation. Power BI Online Service is the cloud platform used to publish, share, collaborate on, and manage reports and dashboards.

2. How do you publish a Power BI report from Desktop to the Online Service?

To publish a report, select “**Publish**” from the Home ribbon in Power BI Desktop. After signing in, choose the workspace where to publish report. The report and dataset are then uploaded to the Power BI Service.

3. What is a workspace in Power BI? What types are available?

A workspace is a collaborative environment within Power BI Service where content such as reports, dashboards, datasets, and dataflows is developed and managed. There are two types:

- **My Workspace:** Personal workspace for individual use.
 - **Shared Workspaces:** Collaborative workspaces for teams.
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4. What is the difference between a workspace and an app in Power BI?

- A **workspace** is where you build and manage content.
 - An **App** is a read-only packaged version of content from a workspace, designed for end users to consume.
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5. Explain the different Power BI license types and their limitations.

- **Free:** Allows report creation and viewing within My Workspace but does not support sharing.
- **Pro:** Enables sharing, collaboration, and access to shared content. Required for most organizational use.
- **Premium:** Offers enhanced performance, larger storage, advanced features (e.g., paginated reports, dataflows), and allows free users to access content hosted in Premium capacity.

6. How can you share a report with someone who doesn't have a Pro license?

You can share content with free users by publishing it in a workspace that is assigned **Premium capacity**. This allows users without Pro licenses to access reports and dashboards.

7. What is a semantic model (dataset) in Power BI, and where is it stored?

A semantic model (also known as a dataset) is a structured data model that supports measures, relationships, and calculated columns. Once a report is published, the dataset is stored in the corresponding workspace within the Power BI Service.

8. How does Scheduled Refresh work in Power BI Online Service?

Scheduled refresh enables automatic updating of datasets at predefined intervals. It is configured in the dataset settings and supports multiple refreshes per day — up to 8 times for Pro users and 48 times for Premium capacity.

9. What is the difference between a dataset and a dataflow in Power BI?

- A **dataset** is a data model created in Power BI Desktop, typically including measures and relationships.
 - A **dataflow** is a cloud-based ETL (Extract, Transform, Load) process using Power Query Online, designed for reusable, centralized data preparation across multiple datasets.
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10. When and why would you use a dataflow instead of a dataset?

Dataflows are the best when multiple reports or datasets require the same data preparation steps. They promote reusability, consistency, and separation of data transformation from report modeling.

11. What are dashboards in Power BI Online, and how are they different from reports?

- A dashboard is a single-page summary made from pinned visuals from reports.

- An App is a read-only packaged version of content from a workspace, designed for end users to consume.
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12. How do you pin a visual to a dashboard from a report?

Open a report in Power BI Service, hover over a visual, and click the **“Pin”** icon. You can choose to pin it to an existing dashboard or create a new one.

13. What is the mobile view in Power BI and why is it useful?

It is layout designed for viewing reports on mobile devices. It enhances usability and readability when accessing reports through the Power BI mobile app.

14. What is a paginated report in Power BI and when would you use it?

Paginated reports are designed for pixel-perfect, printable, multi-page documents such as invoices, forms, and regulatory reports. They support precise layout control and are ideal for exporting large volumes of tabular data.

15. Can you export reports from Power BI Service to PDF or PowerPoint? How?

Yes. In Power BI Service, open a report and select **File > Export > PDF** or **PowerPoint**. This exports the report pages with current filters applied into a downloadable document.

16. What does “Live Connection” mean in Power BI Service, and how does it work?

A Live Connection means Power BI does not store a local copy of the data. Instead, it queries the data source (such as SQL Server or an Analysis Services model) directly in real time whenever a user interacts with the report.

17. Explain Row-Level Security (RLS) and how it’s applied in Power BI Online.

RLS restricts data access at the row level based on user identity. Roles are defined in Power BI Desktop using DAX filters and are assigned to users in the Power BI Service to enforce data visibility rules.

18. How can you test RLS roles in Power BI Service?

Navigate to the dataset settings, select **“Security”**, and click **“Test as role”**. This allows you to preview the report as a specific role or user to verify the RLS configuration.

19. What are Apps in Power BI and how do you publish one?

Apps are organized collections of dashboards and reports designed for end users. To publish an app, go to the relevant workspace, select **“Publish app”**, configure the content, and assign permissions for the target audience.

20. What are some key benefits of using Power BI Online Service in enterprise environments?

Power BI Online offers centralized content management, secure sharing, version control, automated refresh, data governance, and integration with Microsoft 365. It supports scalable business intelligence across departments and user roles.