**#1 - One Slicer, Two Pivots**

[**Slicers**](https://chandoo.org/wp/introduction-to-slicers/)are visual filters. You can filter a pivot table or chart by adding  a slicer on any field. Do you know that you can link slicer to more than one pivot table? Yes, this advanced usage of slicers makes it handy to update multiple reports with one click.

To link multiple pivot tables to same slicer:

1. Right click on the slicer and select “Report connections”
2. Check pivot tables that you want to connect.
3. Done.

You can use the same approach to link multiple pivot tables with a timeline too.

**#2 - Distinct Count**

We can easily get count, sum, average and median from our data with Pivot Tables. But what about **distinct counts?**You can use **data model**feature of Pivot tables to get distinct count.

To get distinct count in pivot tables:

1. Select your data and go to insert pivot table screen.
2. On that screen, enable “Add to data model” option.
3. Click ok to insert pivot table.
4. Add the field you want to distinct count to the value field area of the pivot table.
5. Go to value field settings and select summarize by “Distinct count”

## #3 - Value and Percent in same Pivot

Let’s say you are looking at a pivot report detailing total sales by region. You want to know how much each region’s sales are as a percent of total sales too. That is you want both value and percent in the same report?

Simple, just add the sales field to values area again and this time use “show value as” feature to display number as **% of column total**.

## #4 - Layout Tricks

By default pivot tables are in **compact layout.**But you can change the layout, appearance and position of fields to create completely new reports. In this video tip, I will show you several powerful layout ideas to try next time you are making a pivot table.

**#5 - Two Tables, One Pivot**

We can all create pivot reports from single tables or ranges of data. What if you need to create a pivot from data that is in two or more tables? You can use **“Data Model”**feature of Excel to connect multiple tables and create pivots from them. This technique opens up doors for advanced data analysis with ease.

To create pivot reports from multiple tables,

1. **Set up your data as tables.** If the data is in ranges, simply create tables from them using CTRL+T or Insert > Table option. [Related: [**Introduction to Excel Tables**](https://chandoo.org/wp/data-tables/)]
2. **Set up relationships to create data model:**Imagine one table of your data as Sales information and other table has Customer information. You can link them up. To set up the relationship, just go to Data ribbon and click on relationship button. [Related: [**Introduction to Excel Relationships**](https://chandoo.org/wp/introduction-to-excel-2013-data-model-relationships/)]
3. **Insert a pivot table:**Go ahead and insert a pivot table from any of your tables. Make sure check the “Add to data model” option at the bottom of insert pivot screen.
4. **Create pivots from multiple tables.**  Now you can mash-up fields from any table to create complex business reports easily.

**#6 - Two Files, One Pivot**

You already know how to make a pivot from data in one file. How about **creating a pivot with data from multiple files**? You can use Excel Power Query to connect to multiple files and fetch the data. We can then load this data in to “Data model” and create pivot tables from it easily.

**To make pivot tables from data in multiple files:**

1. **Use “Get & Transform data” option** in Excel data ribbon to connect to your source data files. These can be either spreadsheets or database tables or web pages etc.
2. **Load data in to data** **model**from Power Query so that Excel can access this data.
3. **Insert Pivot Table**from the data model

**#7 - Top 10 Filter**

By default Pivot Tables will show all of your data. What if you want to limit the information to just top 10 records. For example, you want to see which of the sales persons are top 10 in a given region? You can use **value filters**to easily set up such conditions.

**To set up top 10 value filter:**

1. Create your pivot table so that all data shows up.
2. Go to filter on the row (or column label) area. Select Value filter > top 10
3. Set up the criteria for filtering. You can switch to “Bottom” to see bottom 10 values too.

## #8 - Measures & DAX with Power Pivot

Excel Data Model is not just for connecting multiple tables and pivoting them. Here is a secret: You can use data model to create **power pivot reports too.**You can apply extra calculations with DAX (Data Analysis Expressions) syntax. These calculations are called **measures.**

[Related: [**What is Power Pivot?**](https://chandoo.org/wp/what-is-power-bi-power-query-and-power-pivot/)]

## #9 - Grouping Data

Let’s say you have Sales data at daily level, but you want to see totals (or averages) by month. You can use **grouping**feature of Excel pivot tables to quickly **aggregate**data to monthly or quarterly or yearly level.

While grouping is a powerful feature of Excel pivot tables, it is not universal. If you have a data model driven pivot, then you have limited grouping choices available (dates can be grouped, but other fields won’t work).

In this trick, I will share two techniques for setting up grouping in Pivot tables to address these concerns.

### #9.1 - Grouping Data without Data Model

If your pivot tables are not from data model, you can group any fields.

* Dates can be grouped in to days / months / quarters / years
* Numbers can be grouped by chunks
* Text can be grouped by selecting items on the report

Here is a video detailing grouping options for non-data-model pivots.