Custom columns in Power Query

DATA TRANSFORMATION IN POWER BI

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Custom columns

- Written in M language
  - Comes from data **M**ashup

  - Case-sensitive

- Can reference several columns

- Extend functionality of existing transformations

- Implement advanced logic for conditional columns
  - Using `AND` `OR` `NOT`

Operations for custom columns

- Numerical only
  - `+` `-` `*` `/` `^`

- Text
  - `&`

- All columns
  - `<` `>` `<>` `<=` `>=` `=`

- Conditional logic
  - `if` `then` `else`
  - `AND` `OR` `NOT`

- Mind your data types
  - Mismatches will result in errors

Custom Column

Add a column that is computed from the other columns.

New column name
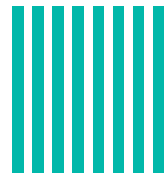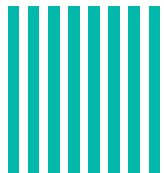
Total Sales

Custom column formula ⓘ

`= [Unit Price] * [Quantity]`

Learn about Power Query formulas

✓ No syntax errors have been detected.

Group by with custom columns

- Using the aggregation "All Rows"
  - Divides data into several smaller tables

  - Use `Table` M functions on a column

- Example:
  - Group sales data into product categories

  - Rank each product in each category

	CategoryName	TotalStock	Grouped	
	8 distinct, 8 unique	8 distinct, 8 unique		
1	Seafood	701	Table	
2	Beverages	539	Table	
3	Condiments	507	Table	
4	Dairy Products	393	Table	
5	Confections	386	Table	
6	Grains/Cereals	282	Table	
7	Meat/Poultry	136	Table	
8	Produce	74	Table	

Let's practice!

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Custom columns demo

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