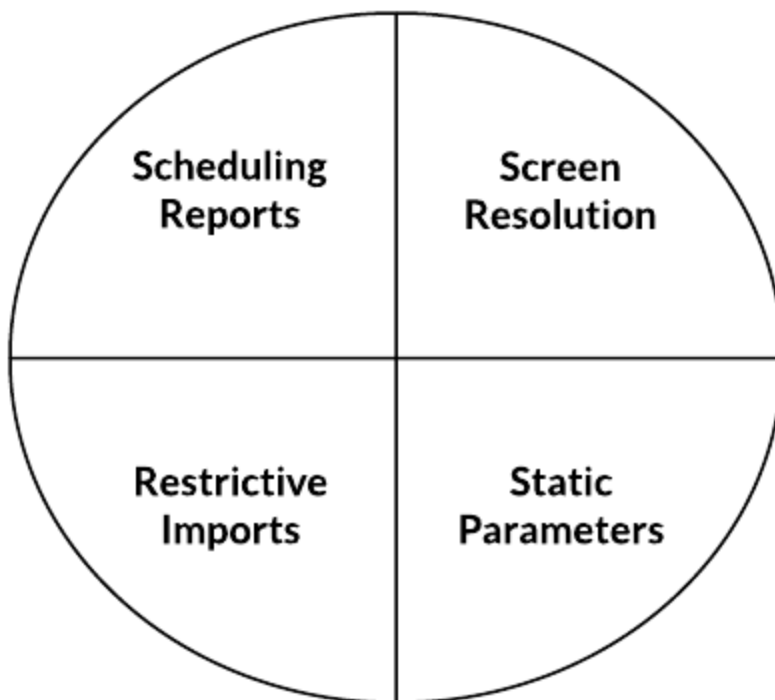


Disadvantages to Tableau

So, now that you know all the great aspects of the tool, lets dive into some of the more challenging aspects of it. The section below is going to highlight some of the pain points that many Tableau users express.



1. Scheduling or notification of reports:

Tableau does not provide the feature of automatic refreshing of the reports with the help of scheduling. There is no option of scheduling in Tableau. Therefore, there is always some manual effort required when users need to update the data in the back-end.

2. No Custom Visual Imports

Tableau is not a complete open tool. Unlike other tools like Power BI, developers can create custom visuals that can be easily imported Tableau. So, any new visuals need to be recreated instead of imported.

3. Custom formatting in Tableau:

Tableau's conditional formatting and limited 16 column table displays are pain points for users. Also, to implement the same formatting to multiple fields there is no way a user can do that for all fields directly. Users need to do that manually for each field which is very time-consuming.

4. Static and single value parameters:

Tableau's parameters are static and always single value can be selected using a parameter. Whenever the data gets changed, these parameters need to be updated manually every time. There is no way a user can automate the updating of parameters.

5. Screen Resolution on Tableau Dashboards:

The layout of the dashboards gets disturbed if the tableau developer's screen resolution is different from end user's screen resolution for example if the dashboards have been created in a screen resolution of 1920X1080 and are being viewed in 2560X1440 then the layout of the dashboards will get distorted a little bit. Also, their dashboards are not responsive. So you will need to create a dashboard for mobile and desktop.

6. Limited Data Preprocessing.

Tableau is strictly a visualization tool. Tableau Desktop allows you do to very basic preprocessing. This includes joining and blending

data. Also, you have the ability to change data types. In an ideal world, most data would be exported in perfect tables. However, data cleansing is a necessary step. In most cases, an analyst needs to build a data model with recurring to format the data. This requires a tool such as Alteryx, Power BI, Python or even Excel to preprocess data prior to loading. In 2018, introduced their own data preparation tool called Tableau Prep. You can read the results of [Tableau Prep vs Alteryx](#)

7. Scaling and Pricing for Enterprise

This is the biggest issue with Tableau, it's a very expensive product to scale across a large organization. Compared to cheaper and more well rounded BI tools. Tableau one of the more expensive option. For security and sharing, the only option is Tableau Server which can \$175,000 for an 8 core option and \$35 dollars per user. Alternatively, you can use Tableau Online which is limited but is \$35 per user. This can accumulate if you are trying to have a large number of users access reports.