# Prepare Your Data

# Concept | Recipe

In Dataiku, recipes are fundamental components within the Flow that encapsulate data transformation logic. They play a crucial role in separating processing logic from datasets, offering several advantages:

1. **Flexibility with Data Storage**: Recipes allow you to change underlying data storage technologies (e.g., switching cloud providers) without affecting the processing logic defined in the Flow's recipes. This flexibility ensures that your data processing workflows remain intact despite changes in data infrastructure.
2. **Clear Data Lineage**: By examining the Flow, you can trace the entire history of transformations applied to data, from its raw form to the final output dataset. This lineage visibility is critical for understanding how data has been manipulated and transformed over time.

**Recipe Categories**

Recipes in Dataiku are categorized based on their functionality and purpose:

* **Visual Recipes (Yellow circles)**:
  + These recipes offer a graphical user interface (GUI) for performing common data transformations. Users can apply operations like cleaning, grouping, or filtering data without needing to write code manually.
* **Code Recipes (Orange circles)**:
  + Code recipes provide the flexibility to define custom processing logic using languages such as Python, R, or SQL. They are ideal for tasks that require specific or complex transformations beyond what visual recipes offer.
* **Plugin Recipes (Red circles)**:
  + Plugin recipes extend Dataiku's capabilities through custom plugins. They combine the advantages of code recipes (freedom to define custom logic) with the accessibility of visual recipes (easy GUI-based interaction). Plugin recipes appear in the Flow only after relevant plugins have been manually installed.

**Choosing the Right Recipe**

* **Visual Recipes**: Suitable for common data transformation tasks that can be efficiently handled through a GUI, promoting ease of use and accessibility across team members who may not be proficient in coding.
* **Code Recipes**: Provide maximum flexibility for advanced transformations and custom logic, allowing data scientists and analysts to implement specific processing requirements using their preferred programming languages.
* **Plugin Recipes**: Offer a hybrid approach, where the power of custom code can be encapsulated within a visual interface, combining ease of use with the capability for advanced customization.

**Benefits of Recipe-Based Approach**

* **Modularity and Reusability**: Recipes can be reused across different projects or within the same project, promoting consistency and efficiency in data processing workflows.
* **Version Control and Collaboration**: Changes made to recipes are tracked, facilitating version control and collaborative work among team members working on the same project.

By leveraging recipes in Dataiku's Flow, organizations can streamline data transformation processes, maintain data lineage transparency, and adapt seamlessly to evolving data storage technologies and business requirements.

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