

Commonly Asked Interview Question #1

POWER BI INTERVIEW QUESTIONS



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Explain **Query Folding** in Power Query.

Answer: **Query Folding** is a performance optimization technique in Power Query that pushes data transformations back to the data source whenever possible.

- It reduces the amount of data brought into Power BI, improving query performance.
- It's essential for optimizing query execution against databases like SQL Server.

Explain the **VAR function** in DAX and its significance.

Answer: The **VAR function** in DAX is used to define a named variable within a DAX formula.

- It makes the code more readable and allows you to reuse expressions within the formula.
- VAR improves code maintainability and can enhance performance by reducing redundancy

How would you calculate **year-to-date (YTD)** sales using DAX?

Answer: You can calculate **YTD** sales by using the TOTALYTD function in DAX.

Here's an example: TOTALYTD (SUM (Sales [Amount]),
Dates[Date])

calculates the total sales amount from the beginning of the year up to the current date.

What are some **commonly used date functions in DAX**, and when would you use them?

Common date functions in DAX include DATEADD, DATEDIFF, and CALENDAR. DATEADD adds or subtracts a specified number of units from a date.

- DATEDIFF calculates the difference between two dates.
- CALENDAR generates a table of dates within a specified range, which is useful for creating date related calculations and visualizations.

How can you create **drill-through** actions in Power BI reports, and why are they valuable?

Answer:

Drill-through actions enable users to navigate from a summary report to a detailed report or view additional information on a specific data point.

- You can create drill-through actions by defining a drill-through page and configuring the fields that users can drill through.
 - This feature enhances data exploration and analysis capabilities.
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What is **Power Query**, and why is it essential in Power BI?

Power Query is a data transformation and preparation tool in Power BI.

- It's crucial because it allows you to connect to various data sources, clean and shape data, and load it into the Power BI data model.
- Power Query enhances data quality and optimizes data for analysis.

What are **logical functions** in DAX, and can you provide an example?

Answer:

Logical functions in DAX help you evaluate conditions and return true or false results.

For example, the IF function is a common logical function in DAX. It allows you to perform conditional calculations.

Here's an example: =IF (Sales > 1000, "High", "Low") returns "High" if the Sales value is greater than 1000; otherwise, it returns "Low."

What are **slicers**, and how are they useful in Power BI reports?

Answer: **Slicers** are visual elements that allow users to filter data in a report interactively.

- They help users control what data they see in visuals and enable dynamic exploration of the dataset.
- Slicers can be applied to columns like dates, categories, or regions.



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