Notes: Pivot Tables in Spreadsheets Created by Wenxiao Zhou

1. Introduction to Pivot Tables for Google Sheets

Basic pivot table features

- Filter
- Sort
- Subtotal
- Analyze

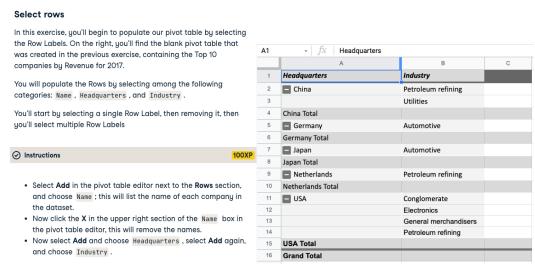
How to create a pivot table:

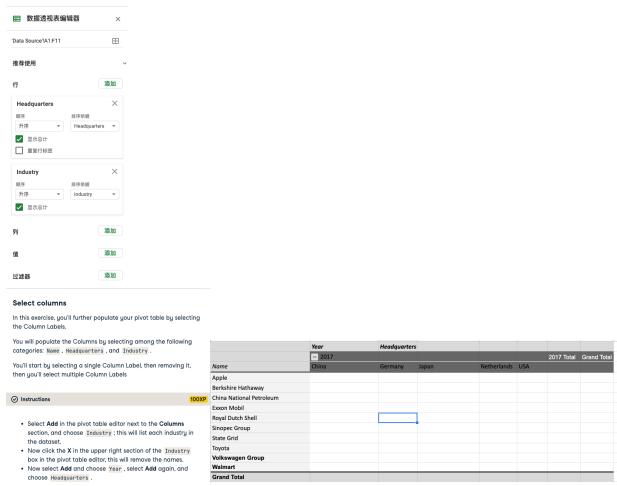
- (1) Select one cell----Top option "Data" ----choose Pivot Table
- (2)Select the whole table including the headings—Top option "Data"----choose Pivot Table

Click anywhere within the dataset and create a pivot table.

Even though there is missing data, there aren't any completely empty rows or columns. So the pivot table should select the full range automatically.

Pivot table rows and columns:

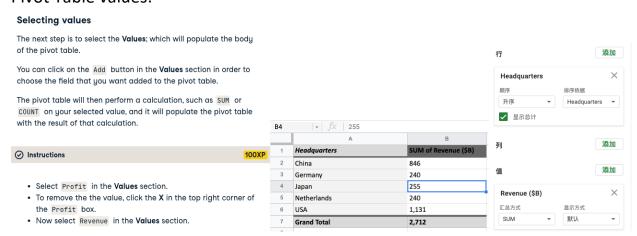




Rearrange rows and columns

Once you have selected Row and Column Labels, you can further finetune your Pivot Table by rearranging them. To do this, all you need to do is Click and Drag the Labels and place them where you want them to go.

Pivot Table values:



Selecting multiple values

You can also select multiple values at the same time in order to see more data at once. The pivot table will then show each value separately.

You can rearrange the values using the same **Click** and **Drag** method as before.

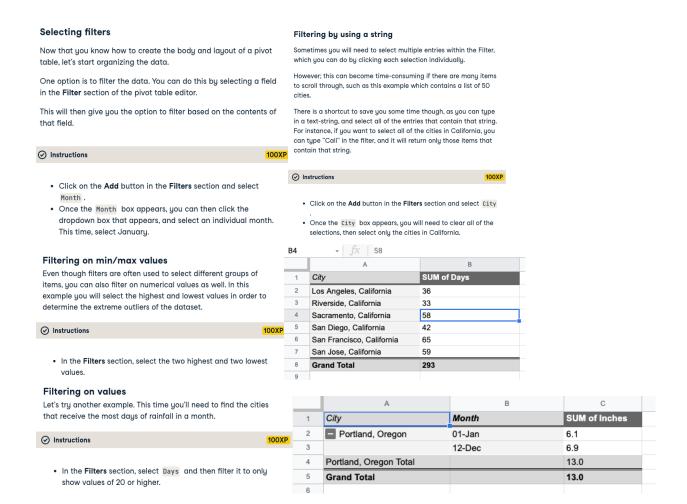
✓ Instructions

- · Select Profit in the Values section.
- Then select Revenue in the Values section.
- · Now move Revenue above Profit.

2. Behind the Scenes of the Pivot Table

What does a pivot table do:

It takes a dataset of any size, and allows you to build custom summaries of the data in an easy-to-manage table





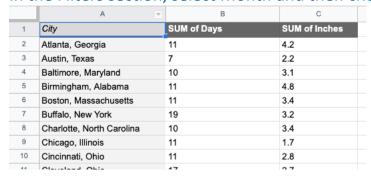
Exercise: Building a complete pivot table Showing the rainfall by month in each city:

Instructions:

(1) In the Rows section, select City and Month In the Values section, select Millimetres

(2)In the Rows section, select Days In the Column section, select Month In the Values section, select City

(3)In the Rows section, select City
In the Values section, select Days and Inches
In the Filters section, select Month and then choose January



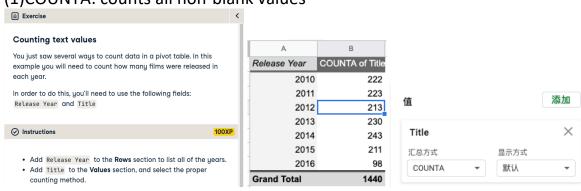
3. Advanced Options

Changing the calculation of values:

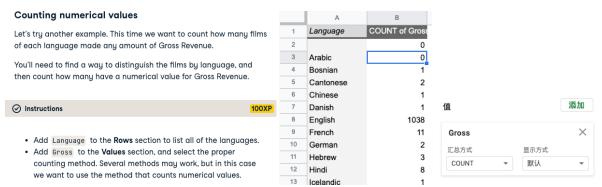
Other calculation options for values

- Counting Calculations
 - o COUNT : Counts numerical values only
- o COUNTA: Counts all non-blank values
- COUNTUNIQUE: Counts all non-blank values (excluding duplicates)
- Ranking Calculations
 - AVERAGE, MAX, MIN, MEDIAN
- Mathematical Calculations
- PRODUCT
- Statistical Calculations
- o STANDARD DEVIATION, VARIANCE

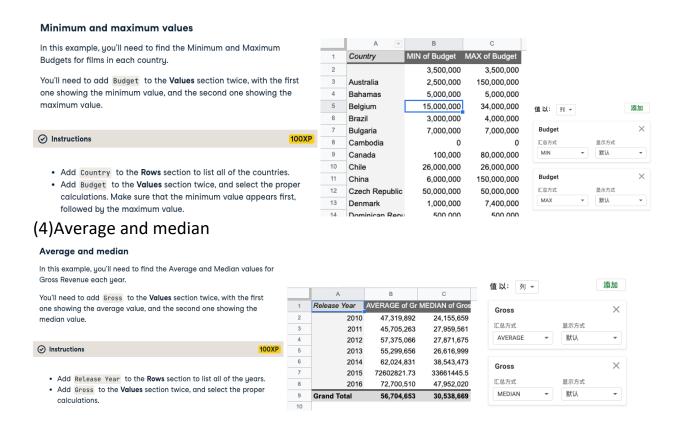
(1)COUNTA: counts all non-blank values



(2)COUNT: count numerical values



(3) Maximum, Minimum values



Calculated Fields

Sometimes you will want to include a field in your pivot table, but it may not exist in the original dataset. If the new field can be calculated from the existing data, then your answer may be to create a Calculated Field.

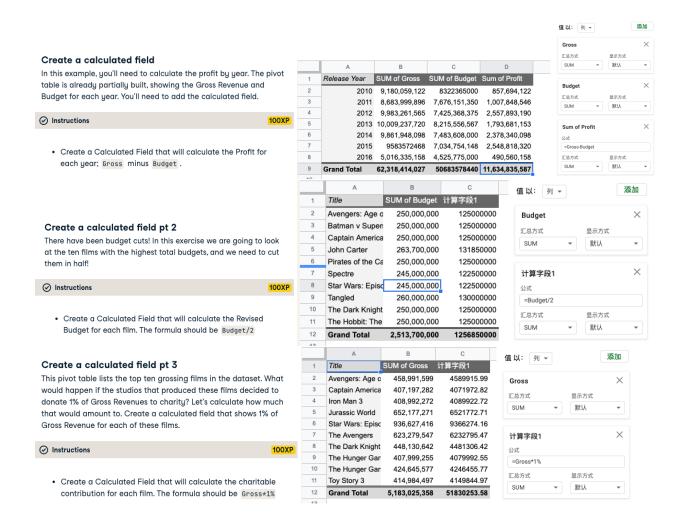
Values—Calculated Field—Add the formula of calculation



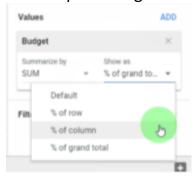
What can be done with a calculated field

- Which answer best describes what a Calculated Field does?
- It allows you to add additional fields to your pivot table, by performing simple mathematical functions on the existing data

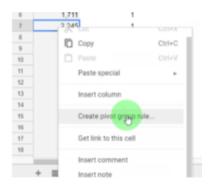
Calculated Field



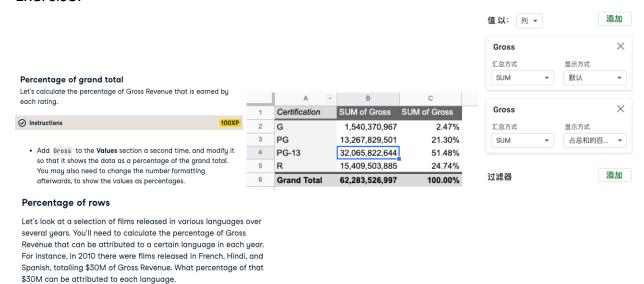
Data as percentages, drilling down, & grouping Data as percentages



Grouping



Exercise:

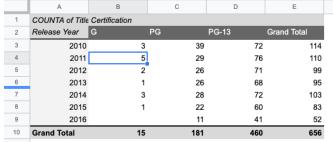


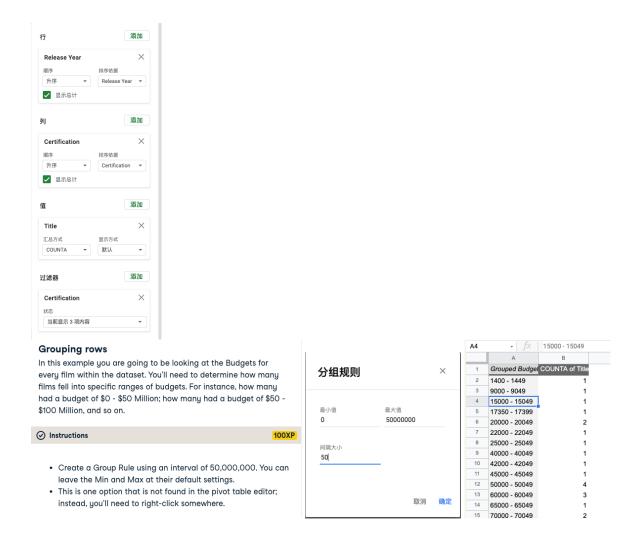
You will not need to add any additional fields to the pivot table editor for this exercise.



What does drilling down do? <If you were to double-click on cell B4 what would happen?>

A new tab would open which contains a sub-selection of the original dataset which corresponds to the number you double-clicked.





4. Editing Data and Troubleshooting

Adding or changing data

When you change data, you only need to change the actual dataset. But when you are adding new data, you will need to adjust the pivot table source range as well.

Correcting Inconsistent Source Data

- This pivot table has some data that is classified incorrectly. The
 pivot table shows a category for Automotive and another
 category for Automobiles. This is an error, as both categories
 should be combined into one.
- Which of the solutions below will correct the pivot table?
- Go to the Data Source tab, and use Ctrl+F to find where Automobiles is listed. Change this cell to Automotive.

快捷键:Ctrl+F 查找功能

Adding data

- This pivot table is missing some data. Exxon Mobil is blank for 2015. Let's add this data to our pivot table.
- · Which of the solutions below will correct the pivot table?
- Go to the Data Source tab and find the missing data in row 34. Copy & Paste this data into row 31. Then go back to the Pivot Table Editor, and update the source to show 'Data Source'!A1:F31.

Using COUNTA to identify missing data

=COUNTA(range)

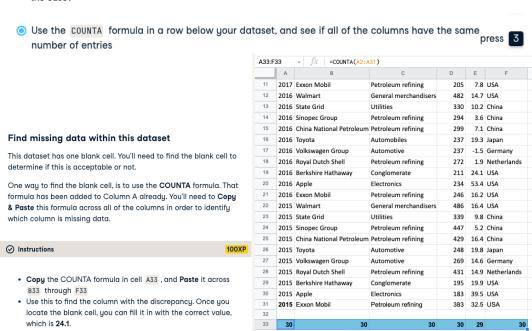
The COUNTA formula will count how many non-blank cells exist within a range.

Finding empty cells

The quickest way to find the blank cell within a column is to select the header of that column, then hold the control key (or the command key on a mac) and hit the down arrow. This will take you to the first break in the data. Then you can decide whether to fill in the data.

Finding Missing Data in a Dataset

• If you suspect that your dataset may have missing data, what is one possible way to check to see if this is the case?



Best practices for selecting pivot table fields

- Rows & Columns
- Descriptive Fields: Non-numerical fields such as Industry, Year, or Product Type
- Use these fields to sort and organize data
- Values
- Measurements: Numerical categories such as Revenue, Profit, or Inches of Rainfall
- Use these fields to perform mathematical calculations

When not to use a pivot table:

Another thing to keep in mind is that a pivot table may not always be the best solution. Pivot tables are great for summarizing large quantities of data. They can quickly perform basic calculations on large amounts of data, and they allow for great interactivity. However, they are not always the best solution. If your dataset is very small, sometimes it may be easier to just use filters or subtotals. Also, if you need to have strict control over formatting and layout, the pivot table may be a bit restrictive. Overall, pivot tables are an extremely powerful tool that you will find lots of use for.

When not to use a pivot table

- Small Datasets
- Consider using Sort, Subtotal, & Filter
- Strict Formatting
- Precise control of layout and formatting may not be available with a pivot table

Alternatives to Pivot Tables

- Pivot Tables may not always be the best solution. If you have a small dataset, which of the following may be a good alternative for you to consider?
- Sorting, Filtering, Subtotaling