

We've recently made an accessibility improvement to the community and therefore posts without any content are no longer allowed. Please use the spoiler feature or add a short message in the message body in order to submit your weekly challenge.

2022-05-26 Updates: Email: If you're not seeing emails be delivered from the Community, please check your spam and mark the Community emails as not junk. Thank you for your patience.



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Weekly Challenge

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IDEAS WANTED

We're actively looking for ideas on how to improve Weekly Challenges and would love to hear what you think!

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Challenge #25: Creating Merchant Combos



GeneR
Alteryx Alumni (Retired)

The link to last week's challenge (challenge #24) is [HERE](#).

As we have said before, restructuring poorly formatted data is one of the most common Alteryx use cases. This week's challenge is another real world example of a data problem faced by one of our customers.

Use Case: A credit card company's customer Data is structured so that each row of data contains the merchants each customer has visited in a given week. The credit card company is wanting to understand the correlation of merchants visited by customer. For example: if a customer visit 7-11 what other stores do they have a high propensity to visit?

Objective: Restructure the data into rows that pair merchants together by customer.

[challenge_25_start_file.yxmd](#)



[challenge_25_solution.yxmd](#)



Data Preparation Intermediate Join Preparation Transform

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dataMack
12 - Quasar

Could these be posted in 10.1 format for a while? I know 10.5 came out last week, but haven't had a chance to upgrade yet.

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GeneR
Alteryx Alumni (Retired)

You could open the YXMD file in word pad or another text editor and in the header change 10.5 to 10.1 it should open for you then.

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TaraM
Alteryx

Hi @dataMack - I've uploaded a 10.1 version. As @GeneR points out, you need only change the version in a text editor. In this case you need to specify 10.0 though.

Tara McCoy

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The speed in which you can prototype, test and modify your workflow to achieve your desired result is one of many reasons Alteryx is so darn cool and useful. I tackled this problem in 2 different manners. The fixed format solution assumes you will only have 5 columns of merchant data. The second solution will let you scale to allow for more columns of merchant data to be added without having to modify the workflow. To test my assumptions, I added a new column of data and it worked perfectly. As a way to use a tool I hadn't used before, I threw the results from the first example into the Contingency Table tool from the Data Investigation tool category to create a matrix style chart to view the data from a different analytical perspective.

Fixed Format

▷ Spoiler

Solution that scales for multiple scenarios

▷ Spoiler

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 **TaraM**
Alteryx

A solution has been uploaded, suitable for version 10.1

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Tara McCoy

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 **markp201**
8 - Asteroid

▷ Spoiler

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 **ACE MarqueeCrew**
19 - Altair
[@JoeM](#)

I was puzzled why all combinations of store visits were not used. Anyways, I solved for the answers provided.

Cheers,
Mark

Alteryx ACE & Top Community Contributor

Chaos reigns within. Repent, reflect and restart. Order shall return.
Please [Subscribe](#) to my youTube channel.

 **challenge_25_MarqueeCrew.yxmd** 

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 **ACE SeanAdams**
17 - Castor

slightly different solution to the others provided - trick used is...

▷ Spoiler

 **challenge_25_seanSolution.yxmd** 

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 **ACE NicoleJohnson**
15 - Aurora

My solution. Results are slightly different because it made more sense to me to have the single vendors show up as Merchant1 instead of Merchant2... but other than that, results match. This was a fun one! Slightly bizarre... and I can decide if I'm pleased by the solution or mildly confused by it. But at least I'm fairly certain my final solution should be adaptable to varying #'s of merchants.

» Spoiler

 challenge_25_NicoleJohnson.yxmd 

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