Free Trial

Weekly Challenge

Solve the challenge, share your solution and summit the ranks of our Community!

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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!

SUBMIT FEEDBACK ▸

‹ Weekly Challenge

Challenge #21: Date Reformatting

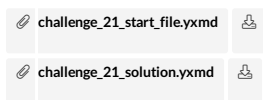**GeneR**
Alteryx Alumni (Retired)

The link to last week's challenge (challenge #20) is HERE. For this week's challenge we have an easier one that requires the reformatting date fields. The input data has very poorly formatted month and year information that will require you to build some logic to make it usable.

Use Case: A company needs to reformat a month/year flag in a data asset they received for a consulting project.
You will need to take the Date field provided and separate it into fields for the Month and Year. For example, F07 should become 2 columns where month is Feb and year is 07.

Have fun!

📎 **challenge_21_start_file.yxmd**

📎 **challenge_21_solution.yxmd**

Basic   Data Analysis   Data Preparation   Preparation

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TaraM
Alteryx

A solution has been posted

▷ Spoiler

Tara McCoy

Share   👍 **0 LIKES**   **Reply**

MarqueeCrew
19 - Altair

spoiler alert: switch + IF

▷ Spoiler

Cheers,
Mark

Alteryx ACE & Top Community Contributor

Chaos reigns within. Repent, reflect and restart. Order shall return.
Please Subscribe to my youTube channel.

📎 **challenge_21_MarqueeCrew.yxmd**

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17 - Castor

I took a slightly different route which will may be a little quicker on a large data-set

▷ Spoiler

🔗 **challenge_21_SeanSolution.yxmd**

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ACE NicoleJohnson
15 - Aurora

Solution! Ended up having to take the same track as @SeanAdams with the Text Input + Join for month names, but I also like @MarqueeCrew solution with the Switch formula, will have to log that away as well.

Another potential tool improvement request (unless, again, I am missing something that already does this): Would love to see enhancements to DateTimeFormat that allow you to indicate Month and day of week in the same manner Excel does when you use the Text formula, as words/partial words instead of numbers... For example, "MM" = 02, "MMM" = Feb, "MMMM" = February... or "dd" = 07, "ddd" = Wed, "dddd" = Wednesday. Anyone else feel this would be useful? Certainly would have streamlined this challenge, but I can see it having useful application in a variety of situations where standard DateTime formats as values are just not sufficient.

▷ Spoiler

🔗 **challenge_21_NicoleJohnson.yxmd**

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ACE SeanAdams
17 - Castor

Agree with you about the need to relook some of the data parsing & conversion functionality @NicoleJohnson - there's a few ideas in the Ideas section that you could add to.

@MarqueeCrew suggested something similar to you here: https://community.alteryx.com/t5/Alteryx-Product-Ideas/Alteryx-making-dating-easier/idi-p/20625
I suggested refactoring data-time treatment to make it the same throughout - in some places month is "%b" (like DateTimeParse), in some its "Months" (like DatePart) and in some it's "Mon" (like the date time tool). I think this is an indication that these were built at different times as thinking was evolving, and it's probably time to refactor the treatment of DateTimes thoroughly and make this consistent and simple.

https://community.alteryx.com/t5/Alteryx-Product-Ideas/Refactor-Date-time-treatment/idc-p/51767#M357...
https://community.alteryx.com/t5/Alteryx-Product-Ideas/Add-interval-Types-to-the-DATETIMEDIFF-functi...

Have a look - and if you agree with any of these two ideas (or the raft of other dateTime related ideas in the Ideas section) - give them a star and create some buzz around them by talking about them to others so that we can get them up the priority queue for future release.

Thanks @NicoleJohnson
Sean

Share   👍 **4 LIKES**   Reply

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rijuthav
6 - Meteoroid

My Solution.

Used the Delimiter to get the month.

🔗 **challenge_21_Solution RV.yxmd**

Share   Reply

estherb47
15 - Aurora

Another fun solution

▷ Spoiler

📎 challenge_21_EHB_solution.yxmd   ⬇

                              Share   👍 0 LIKES   Reply

Laurap1228
11 - Bolide

▷ Spoiler

📎 challenge_21_LP.yxmd   ⬇

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LordNeilLord
15 - Aurora

I didn't fancy writing out a lengthy formula to calculate the months so I took a slightly different route...

▷ Spoiler

📎 challenge_21_LNL.yxmd   ⬇

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                                                                              La