Filter and Sort the Data

1. Select cell **A1**, and then on the **Insert** tab of the ribbon above the worksheet, click **Table**. Verify that Excel has automatically detected the data in the range **A1:G366**, and that the **My table has headers** checkbox is selected, and then click **OK**.

Excel automatically formats the data as a table and adds drop-down buttons to the header row.

2. Click any cell to deselect the table, and then click the drop-down button for the **Day** column, and click **Filter…**

3. In the **Filter** dialog box, clear the **(Select All)** checkbox, and then select only the **Saturday** and **Sunday** checkboxes before clicking **OK**:

4. Click the drop-down arrow for the **Rainfall** column and click **Sort Descending**. The table of data is sorted in descending order of rainfall, so the first row contains the data for the weekend day with the most rain. This was a Sunday on which there was 2.50 cm of rain.

5. Click the drop-down arrow for the **Day** column again and then click **Clear Filter from ‘Day’**. The table now shows all the data.

6. Click the drop-down arrow for **Date** and click **Sort Ascending** to re-order the data into chronological order.

Challenge: Find the Weekday with the Lowest Temperature

1. Using the filter and sort capabilities in Excel, filter the data so that only weekdays (Monday to Friday) are shown, and sort the data so that the first row contains data for the weekday with the lowest temperature.

2. Make a note of the day and the temperature, and then clear the filter and re-sort the data back into chronological order.

Add Derived Columns

1. Click the **B** column header to select the entire **B** column. Then on the **Home** tab of the ribbon, in the **Insert** drop-down menu, click **Insert Sheet Columns** This inserts a new **Column1** column between the **Date** and **Day** columns.

2. In cell **B1**, rename **Column1** to **Month**. Then in cell **B2**, enter the following formula:

=TEXT(A2, "mmmm")

After you enter the formula, it should be copied automatically to all the other **Month** cells in the table, and the name of the month for each record should be displayed.

3. In cell **I1**, enter the text **Revenue** to add a new **Revenue** column to the table. Then in cell **I2**, enter the following formula:

= G2\*H2

The formula is again automatically copied to the remaining rows in the table, and the revenue (calculated as **Price** multiplied by **Sales**) is displayed.

4. Click the **I** column header to select the entire column, and then on the **Home** tab of the ribbon, in the **Number** section, in the *Accounting Number Format* (**$**) drop-down list, select **$ English (United States)**. This formats the revenue data as US dollars.

5. Scroll down to the bottom of the table of data, select cell **I367** (under the **Revenue** column). Then on the **Home** tab of the ribbon, in the **Editing** section, in the *AutoSum* (Σ) drop-down menu, click Σ **Sum**. This enters the following formula:

=SUBTOTAL(109,[Revenue])

This formula references **Revenue** as a named column in the table and calculates the total of the values in that column. You could achieve the same result by entering =SUM(I2:I366)but by using the AutoSum function, the value is included in the definition of the table.

6. Filter the **Month** column to show only the records for July, and then look at the subtotal at the bottom of the **Revenue** column (you may need to scroll to find it). It now shows the total revenue for July:

7. Clear the filter on **Month** to show all the data.

Challenge: Find the Total Number of Flyers Distributed

1. Add a cell under the **Flyers** column that contains the total number of flyers distributed. Format this column using the *Comma Style* (**,**) number format so that the total is formatted like 00,000.00.

2. Note the total amount for the year, and then filter the data to find the number of flyers distributed in the month of January. Don’t forget to clear the filter when you’re done!

Highlighting Extremes and Outliers

1. Select cell **D2** and then hold the **Shift** and **Ctrl** keys and press the **Down-Arrow** key to select all the values in the **Temperature** column.

2. On the **Home** tab of the ribbon, in the **Conditional Formatting** drop-down list, point to **Color Scales**, and select the **Red-White Color Scale** (with red at the top and white at the bottom). The **Temperature** cells are reformatted so that the hottest days are colored an intense red, and the coolest days are much lighter in color intensity. Scrolling through the data now, it is easier to find days that are particularly hot or cool.

3. Select all the values in the **Rainfall** column, and then in the **Conditional Formatting** drop-down list, point to **Data Bars**, and select the **Light Blue Data Bar** gradient fill. The cells are formatted with a visual indication of the comparative level of rainfall for each day.

4. Select all the values in the **Sales** column, and then in the **Conditional Formatting** drop-down list, point to **Top/Bottom Rules**, and select **Top 10%**. Then in the **Top 10%** dialog box, select **Green Fill with Dark Green Text** and click **OK**. The cells containing sales values in the top 10% are highlighted in green (you may need to scroll to see them).

5. Reselect the values in the **Sales** column if you deselected them, and then in the **Conditional Formatting** drop-down list, point to **Top/Bottom Rules**, and select **Bottom 10%**. Then in the **Bottom 10%** dialog box, select **Red Fill with Dark Red Text** and click **OK**. The cells containing sales values in the bottom 10% are highlighted in red (again, you may need to scroll to see them).

Challenge: Compare Temperature, Rainfall, and Sales

Now that you’ve highlighted the cells, you can more easily make visual comparisons between temperature, rainfall, and sales values.

Scroll through the data, and just by looking at the visual formatting you’ve added, try to see if you can spot any relationship between temperature, rainfall, and sales that might form the basis of a hypothesis you’ll want to investigate more thoroughly.