

# How a Rollup field works

Rollup fields can be a handy tool at your disposal if you need to calculate aggregate values of related records to give the user insights into data in the record relationships. One common scenario is using the COUNT() function to count the number of associated records. This can also be done using hierarchical relationships, i.e., aggregate values from related records and their related records.

There are two ways the rollup field calculates values. By default, there is a reoccurring system job created automatically for each field, which recalculates the values at a scheduled interval (every 12 hours by default). Another way values are calculated is when a user triggers the calculation manually for the record they are on by clicking the refresh button underneath the field.

An administrator of the Power Platform or Dynamics 365 organization may change the interval by going to **Settings > System Jobs > All Rollup Field Calculation Jobs** and locating the entity you want to alter the interval for, in my case ,**Quote**'.

So that means unless we manually force the recalculation, we can only change the schedule of the jobs and not the frequency.

## Automating field recalculation

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function. (**more info here:** <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dynamics365/customer-engagement/web-api/calculaterollupfield?view=dynamics-ce-odata-9>). I will demonstrate how you can go about calling this function on demand when you need it. We will begin by creating a custom connector in Power Automate and then creating a Flow that calls it to update the fields we have selected.

## Creating a Custom Connector


You will first need to make sure that you already have a valid app registered in Azure Active Directory. If you do not, you can create one for your Power Platform instance by following the guide found here:

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/powerapps/developer/common-data-service/walkthrough-register-app-azure-active-directory>

Here are the steps to creating the CalculateRollupField Custom Connector:

1. Sign in to Power Automate and navigate to **Data > Custom Connectors**
2. Click **+ New custom connector** and **,Create from blank'**.
3. Enter a name and then you will be directed to the General Information tab where you will fill in the Host and Base URL fields as shown below.
4. Once you are done, click the **Security** button to navigate to the next screen.

### General information



[Upload connector icon](#)  
Supported file formats are PNG and JPG. (< 1MB)

↑ Upload

Icon background color

#007ee5

Description

Give your custom connector a short description

☐ Connect via on-premises data gateway [Learn more](#)

Scheme \*

☒ HTTPS ☐ HTTP

Host \*

crm4.dynamics.com

Base URL

/api/data/v9.1/

Security →

5. Select OAuth 2.0 as the Authentication type.

6. For Identity Provider select Azure Active Directory and fill in the details from your registered app as shown below:

### OAuth 2.0

Identity Provider

Azure Active Directory

Client id \*

Client secret \*

Login URL

https://login.microsoftonline.com

Tenant ID

Resource URL \*

https://crm4.dynamics.com/

Scope

Scope

Redirect URL

Save the custom connector to generate the redirect URL

Edit

← General Definition →

7. Add an action by clicking 'New Action' and enter all required information.

1. General > 2. Security > **3. Definition** > 4. Test

Swagger Editor ☒ Update connecto

▼ Actions (1)

Actions determine the operations that users can perform. Actions can be used to read, create, update or delete resources in the underlying connector.

☐ **1 CalculateRoll...**

[+ New action](#)

▼ Triggers (0)

Triggers read data in from your connector. A trigger focuses on a particular event that happens, say a new Contact or Order being created and provides the relevant data so that users can take action on that event.

**General**

Summary [Learn more](#)

CalculateRollupField

Description [Learn more](#)

Calculate a rollup field

Operation ID \*

This is the unique string used to identify the operation.

CalculateRollupField

Visibility [Learn more](#)

☒ none
 ☐ advanced
 ☐ internal
 ☐ important

8. To define the requirements of the request you've created click ,Import from sample'

9. In the Import from sample form select the option ,GET' and paste in the following URL pointing to your own environment:

https://[YOUR\_ORG].crm4.dynamics.com/api/data/v9.1/CalculateRollupField(Target=@target,FieldName=@fieldname)?@target={,@odata.id':['your\_entity']([your\_recordid])}&@fieldname=['your\_fieldname']'

## Request

It defines the pre-requirements needed in order to make a request. Describes a single operation parameter. A unique parameter is defined by a combination of a name and location.

### Request

[+ Import from sample](#)

#### Verb \*

The verb describes the operations available on a single path.

GET

#### URL \*

This is the request URL.

`https://[redacted]rm4.dynamics.com/api/data/v9.1//api/data/v9.1/CalculateRollupField(Target=@tar`

#### Path

Path is used together with Path Templating, where the parameter value is actually part of the operation's URL.

#### Query

Query parameters are appended to the URL. For example, in `/items?id=####`, the query parameter is `id`.

@target ...

@fieldname ...

#### Headers

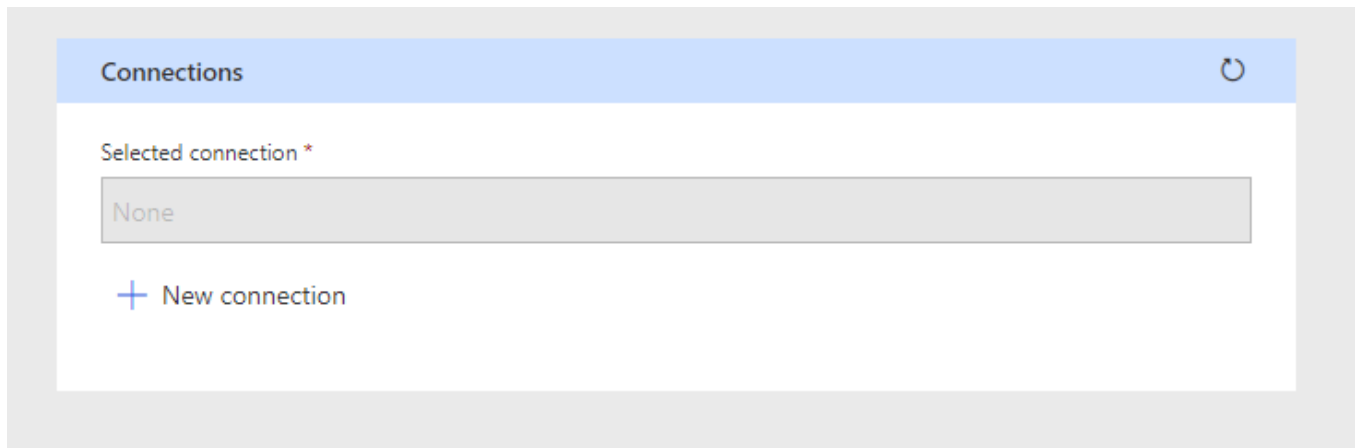
These are custom headers that are part of the request.

#### Body

The body is the payload that's appended to the HTTP request. There can only be one body parameter.

10. Once you are done, click 'Import' to create the request and click on the 'Test' button to proceed. NOTE: make sure you click 'Create connector' before testing.

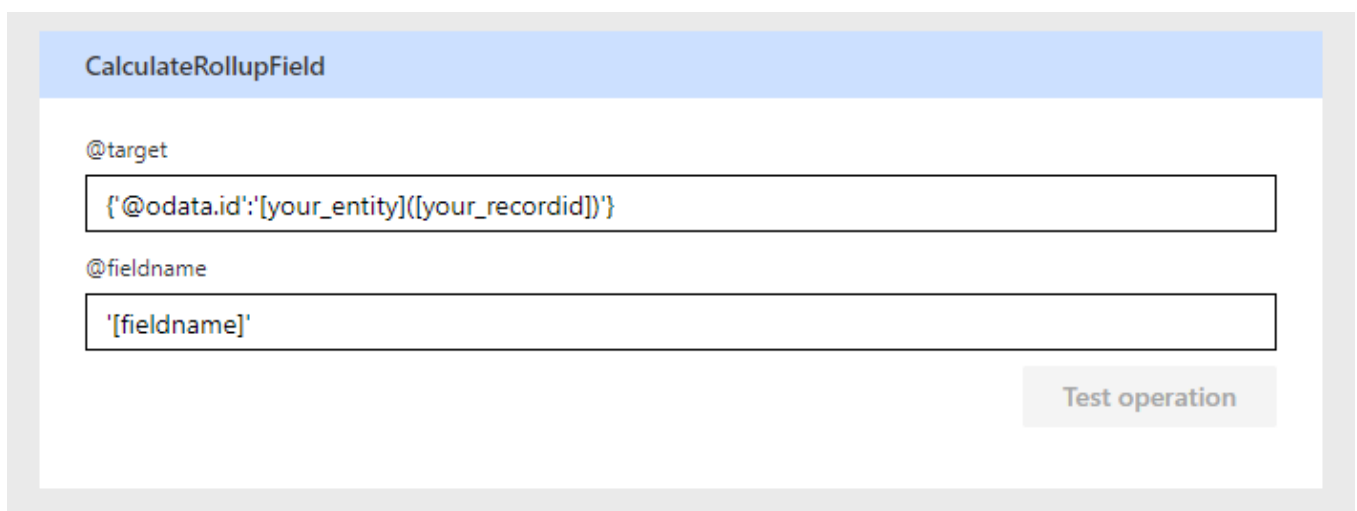
11. Create a connection and login to your account for testing.



12. In the @target parameter input the following  
{,@odata.id:'[your\_entity]([your\_recordid])'}

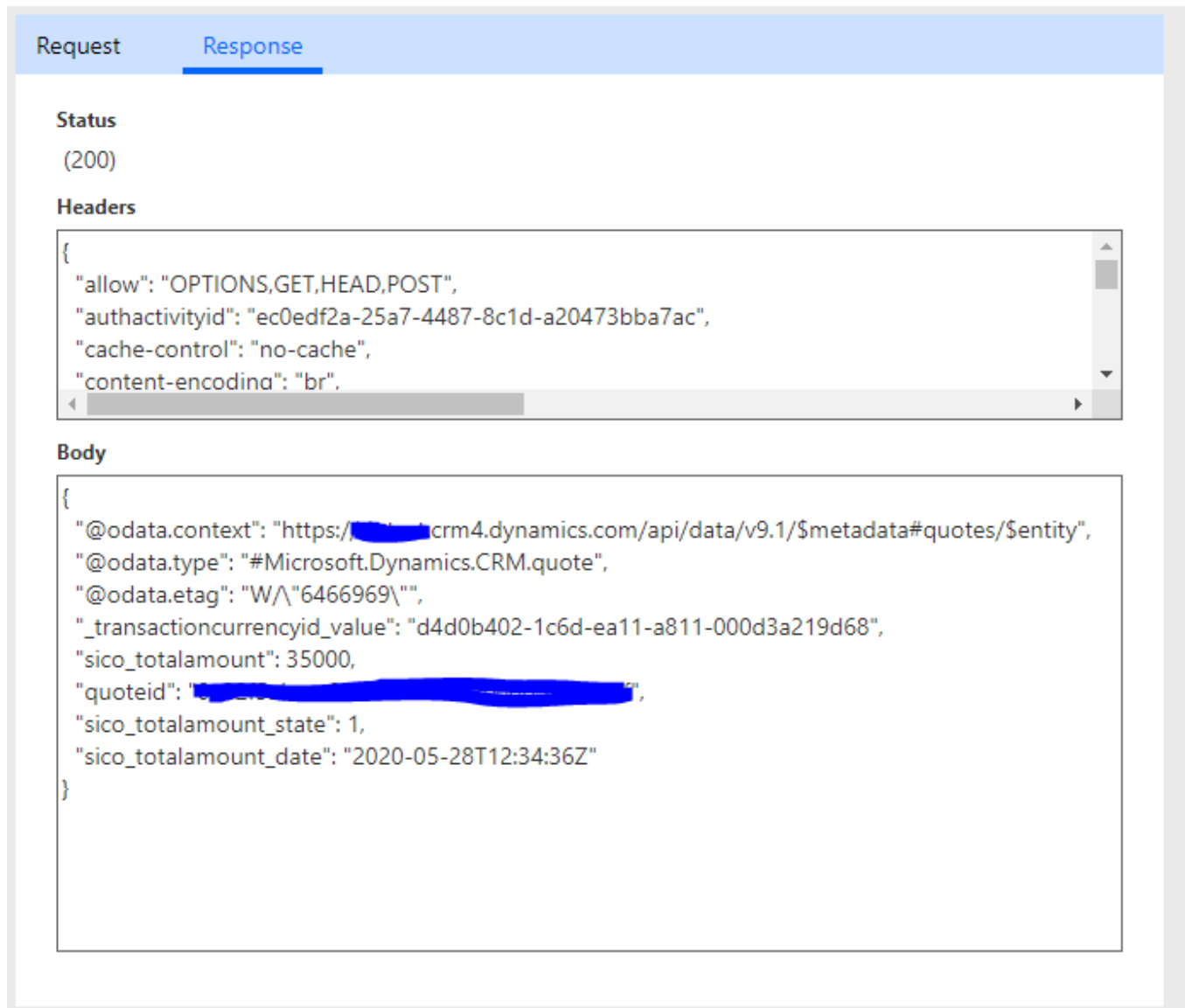
13. In the @fieldname parameter input the following including the single quotation marks (,)  
,[fieldname]'

**NOTE: Be sure to have a look at the Web API EntityType Reference to ensure you are using the correct name for the Entity Set Path.**



14. The response should return with a status (200) and it should look something similar to the image below:





## Create an On-Demand Flow to automatically calculate your Rollup fields

Now that you have successfully created your custom connector, let's put it into action!

For the purposes of this quick demo I created a simple Model-Driven App and included two entities, Quote and Quotedetail.

I have a rollup field on my Quote main form that calculates the sum of the amounts for all positions and displays a 'Total Amount'. Basically, every time I update the Quote positions I want my 'Total Amounts' rollup field to automatically be recalculated to reflect the correct amount.

The screenshot displays a Power Automate flow configuration. At the top, a trigger block is labeled "When a record is created or updated (Preview)". Below it, a plus icon with a downward arrow indicates the addition of a new step. The step added is "CalculateRollupField". This step has two input fields: "@target" and "@fieldname". The "@target" field contains the JSON expression: `{ '@odata.id': 'quotes(Angebot x )' }`. The "@fieldname" field contains the string: `'sico_totalamount'`. At the bottom of the configuration area, there are two buttons: "+ New step" and "Save".

Once you have successfully tested your Flow then you are good to go and now have a rollup field that will automatically be recalculated based on the trigger of your choice!