### **PRO TIP: STORAGE & CONNECTION MODES**



#### Power BI Desktop supports several types of **storage** and **connection modes**:

- Import: Tables are stored in-memory within Power BI and queries are fulfilled by cached data (default)
- **DirectQuery**: Tables are connected directly to the source and queries are executed on-demand at the data source
- Composite Model (Dual): Tables come from a mix of Import and DirectQuery modes, or integrate multiple DirectQuery tables
- Live Connection: Connect to pre-published Power BI datasets in Power BI Service or Azure Analysis Services



#### **Import**

- ✓ Dataset is less than 1GB (after compression) & fast performance
- Source data does not change frequently
- No restrictions on Power Query, data modeling, and DAX functions



#### DirectQuery

- Dataset is too large to be stored in-memory
- Source data changes frequently and reports must reflect changes
- Company policy states that data can only be accessed from the original source



#### Composite Model

- Boost performance by setting appropriate storage for each table
- Combine a DirectQuery model with additional imported data
- ✓ Create a single model from two or more DirectQuery models



#### ive Connection

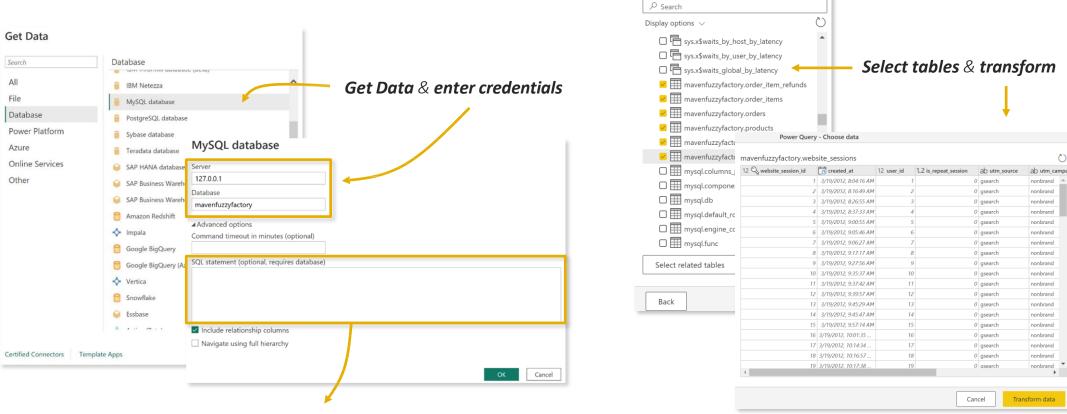
- Create one dataset that serves as a central source of truth
- Analyst teams can create different reports from the same source
- Multi-developer teams where one user builds the model and another works on visualization

**Learn more:** https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/power-bi/connect-data/service-dataset-modes-understand

### **CONNECTING TO A DATABASE**



Power Query can connect to data from various **database sources** including SQL Server, MS Access, MySQL, PostgreSQL, Oracle, SAP, and more



Write custom or advanced queries with SQL statements (optional)

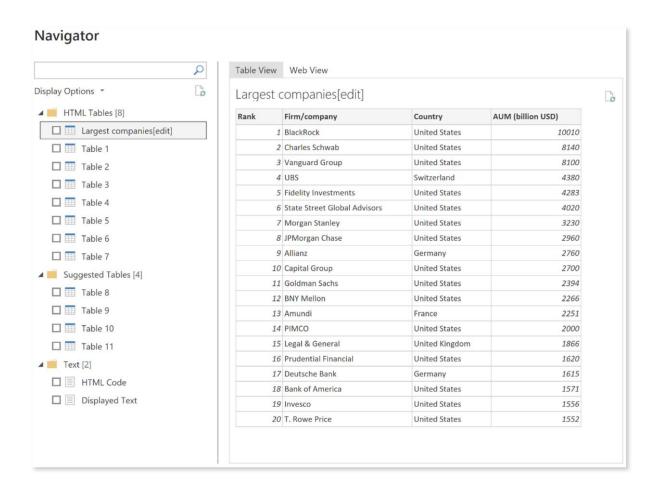
#### EXTRACTING DATA FROM THE WEB



Power Query includes a native **Web connector** for importing web-hosted files (csv, xlsx, etc.) or scraping URLs for anything that Power Query can identify as a structured table



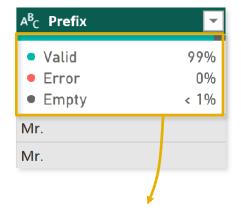
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of asset management firms



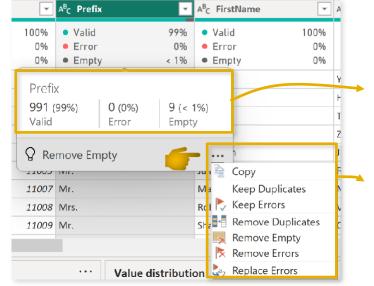
# DATA PROFILING: COLUMN QUALITY



**Profiling tools** like **column quality**, **column distribution**, and **column profile** allow you to explore the quality, composition, and distribution of your data before loading it into the Power BI front-end



**Column quality** shows the percentage of values within a column that are **valid**, contain **errors**, or are **empty** 



Hover over the column quality box to see the **number of records** in each category

Click the **options menu** to remove duplicates, errors or empty values

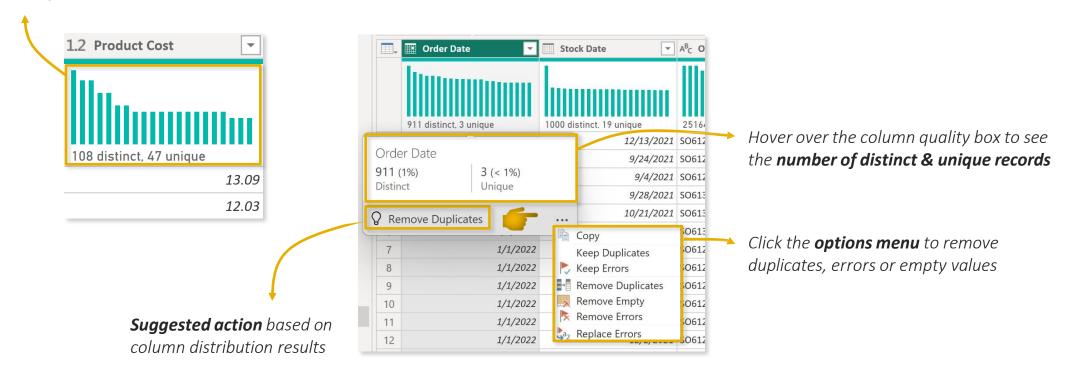


PRO TIP: Profiling tools are a great way to quickly find and address common data quality issues in one place, instead of having to manually apply multiple tools or filters

# DATA PROFILING: COLUMN DISTRIBUTION



**Column distribution** provides a sample distribution of the data in a column



# DATA PROFILING: COLUMN PROFILE



**Column profile** provides a more holistic view of the data in a column, including a sample distribution and profiling statistics

**Column statistics** provide more detailed profiling metrics, including:

#### **Count = 293**

(total number of values in column)

#### **Distinct Count = 119**

(total number of distinct values, whether they appear once or multiple times)

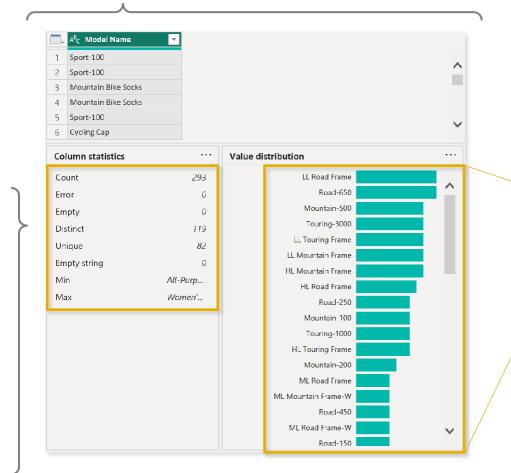
#### **Unique = 82**

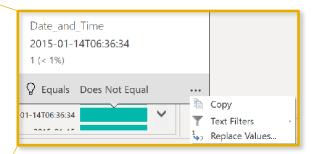
(total number of values that appear exactly once)

#### Min & Max

(lowest and highest observed values)

**Note:** Typically only useful for numerical values

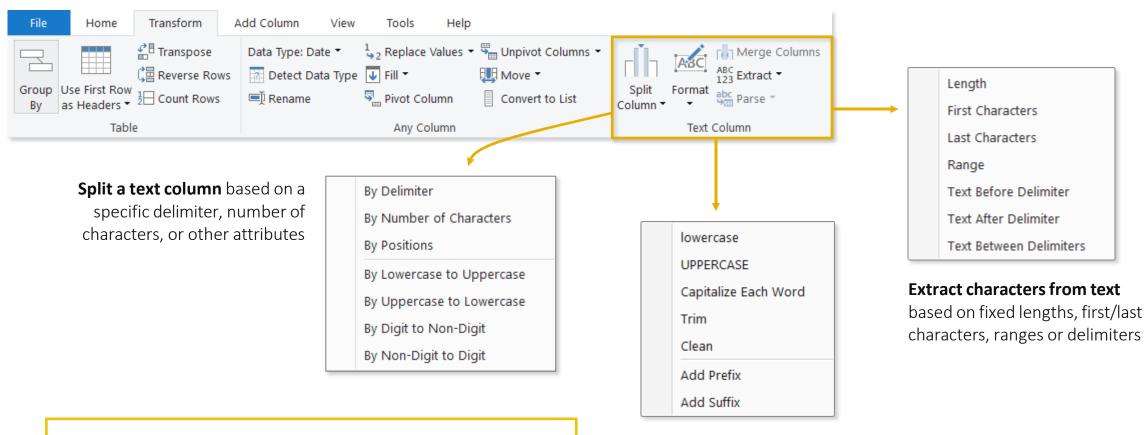




Hover over the value distribution bar for **suggested transformations** and additional options

### **TEXT TOOLS**







#### **HEY THIS IS IMPORTANT!**

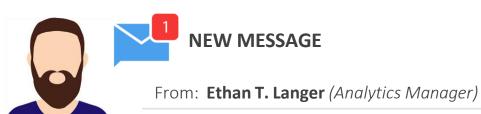
You can access many tools from both the **Transform** and **Add Column** menus - the difference is whether you want to **ADD** a new column or **OVERWRITE** an existing one

**Format a text column** to upper, lower or proper case, or add a prefix or suffix

**Tip:** Use "Trim" to eliminate leading & trailing spaces, or "Clean" to remove non-printable characters

# **ASSIGNMENT:** TEXT TOOLS





Subject: **Customer domains** 

#### Hi!

We're looking to better understand where our customers may be coming from, based on their email domains.

Could you please create a new column in the customer table that will allow us do this?

Thanks!

-ETL



#### **Key Objectives**

- 1. Duplicate the email address column and name it "**Domain Name**"
- 2. In the new column, remove all text/characters except for the domain name
- 3. Use transformation steps to clean up and capitalize the domain names (i.e. "Adventure Works")
- 4. Save & Apply changes

# **SOLUTION: TEXT TOOLS**





From: Ethan T. Langer (Analytics Manager)

Subject: Customer domains

#### Hi!

We're looking to better understand where our customers may be coming from, based on their email domains.

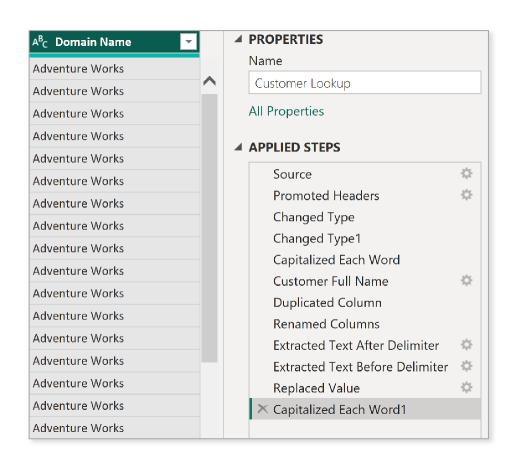
Could you please create a new column in the customer table that will allow us do this?

Thanks!

-ETL

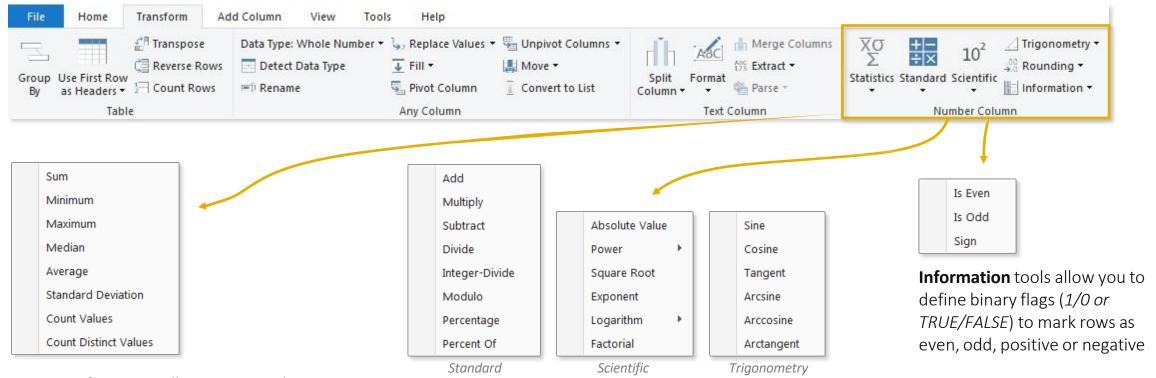


#### **Solution Preview**



#### **NUMERICAL TOOLS**





**Statistics functions** allow you to evaluate basic stats for a selected column (sum, min/max, average, count, count distinct, etc.)

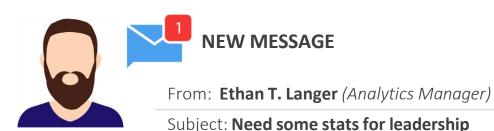
**Note:** These tools return a SINGLE value, and are commonly used to explore a table rather than prepare it for loading

**Standard**, **Scientific** and **Trigonometry** tools allow you to apply standard operations (addition, multiplication, division, etc.) or more advanced calculations (power, logarithm, sine, tangent, etc.) to each value in a column

**Note**: Unlike the Statistics tools, these are applied to each row in the table

# **ASSIGNMENT: NUMERICAL TOOLS**





Hi again,

Leadership is asking us to validate some high-level stats about our products and customers. Can you please help me answer the following questions?

We don't really need to store these values anywhere, so make sure to restore the tables back to their original state once you're done pulling the stats.

Thank you!

-ETL

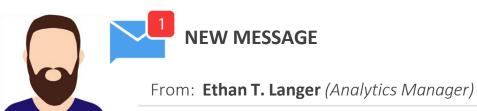


#### **Key Objectives**

- 1. What is our average product cost?
- 2. How many colors do we sell our products in?
- 3. How many distinct customers do we have?
- 4. What is the maximum annual customer income?
- 5. Return the tables to their original state

### **SOLUTION: NUMERICAL TOOLS**





Subject: Need some stats for leadership

#### Hi again,

Leadership is asking us to validate some high-level stats about our products and customers. Can you please help me answer the following questions?

We don't really need to store these values anywhere, so make sure to restore the tables back to their original state once you're done pulling the stats.

Thank you!

-ETL



#### **Solution Preview**

- 1. What is our average product cost? (\$413.66)
- 2. How many colors do we sell our products in? (10)
- 3. How many distinct customers do we have? (18,148)
- 4. What is the maximum annual customer income? (\$170k)
- 5. Return the tables to their original state

#### DATE & TIME TOOLS

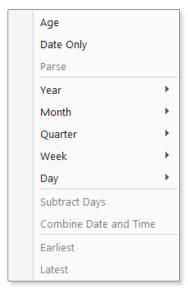




**Date & Time** tools are relatively straight-forward, and include the following options:

- Age: Difference between the current date and the date in each row
- Date Only: Removes the time component from a date/time field
- Year/Month/Quarter/Week/Day: Extracts individual components from a date field (time-specific options include Hour, Minute, Second, etc.)
- **Earliest/Latest**: Evaluates the earliest or latest date from a column as a single value (can only be accessed from the "Transform" menu)

**Note**: You will almost always want to perform these operations from the "Add Column" menu to build out new fields, rather than transforming an individual date/time column





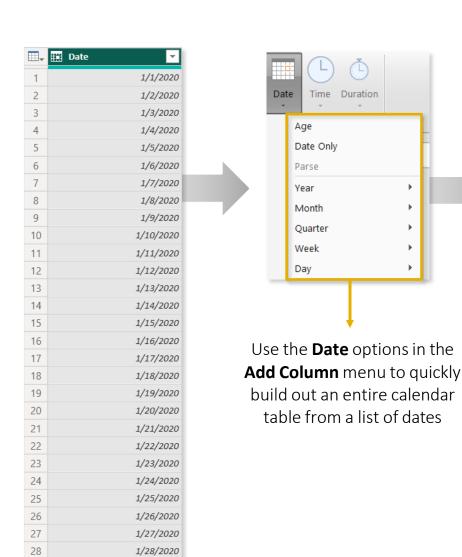
PRO TIP: Load up a table containing a single date column and use Date tools to build out an entire calendar table

# CREATING A CALENDAR TABLE

28

1/28/2020 Tuesday





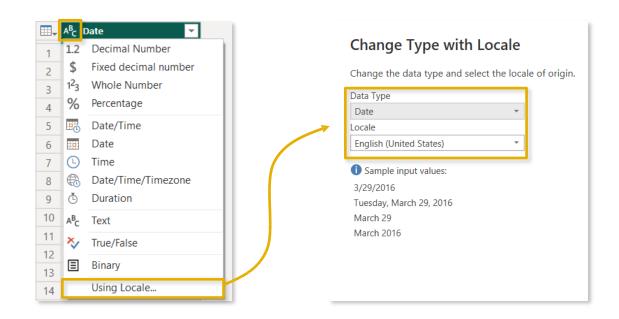
₩,	<b>Ⅲ</b> Date	A <sup>B</sup> <sub>C</sub> Day Name ▼	Start of Week	Start of Month	A <sup>B</sup> <sub>C</sub> Month Name
1	1/1/2020	Wednesday	12/29/2019	1/1/2020	January
2	1/2/2020	Thursday	12/29/2019	1/1/2020	January
3	1/3/2020	Friday	12/29/2019	1/1/2020	January
4	1/4/2020	Saturday	12/29/2019	1/1/2020	January
5	1/5/2020	Sunday	1/5/2020	1/1/2020	January
6	1/6/2020	Monday	1/5/2020	1/1/2020	January
7	1/7/2020	Tuesday	1/5/2020	1/1/2020	January
8	1/8/2020	Wednesday	1/5/2020	1/1/2020	January
9	1/9/2020	Thursday	1/5/2020	1/1/2020	January
10	1/10/2020	Friday	1/5/2020	1/1/2020	January
11	1/11/2020	Saturday	1/5/2020	1/1/2020	January
12	1/12/2020	Sunday	1/12/2020	1/1/2020	January
13	1/13/2020	Monday	1/12/2020	1/1/2020	January
14	1/14/2020	Tuesday	1/12/2020	1/1/2020	January
15	1/15/2020	Wednesday	1/12/2020	1/1/2020	January
16	1/16/2020	Thursday	1/12/2020	1/1/2020	January
17	1/17/2020	Friday	1/12/2020	1/1/2020	January
18	1/18/2020	Saturday	1/12/2020	1/1/2020	January
19	1/19/2020	Sunday	1/19/2020	1/1/2020	January
20	1/20/2020	Monday	1/19/2020	1/1/2020	January
21	1/21/2020	Tuesday	1/19/2020	1/1/2020	January
22	1/22/2020	Wednesday	1/19/2020	1/1/2020	January
23	1/23/2020	Thursday	1/19/2020	1/1/2020	January
24	1/24/2020	Friday	1/19/2020	1/1/2020	January
25	1/25/2020	Saturday	1/19/2020	1/1/2020	January
26	1/26/2020	Sunday	1/26/2020	1/1/2020	January
27	1/27/2020	Monday	1/26/2020	1/1/2020	January

1/26/2020

1/1/2020 January

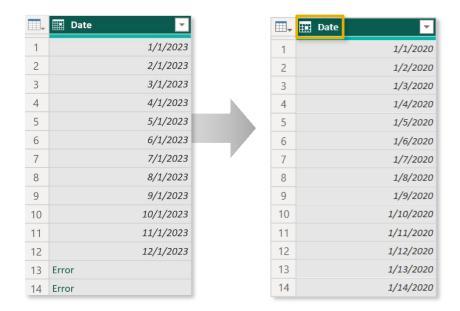
# CHANGE TYPE WITH LOCALE





1) Left click the data type icon in the column header and select the Using Locale option

2) Select **Date** as the data type and **English** (**United States**) as the locale for all datasets in this course (regardless of your actual location)

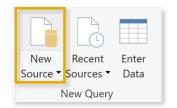


3) Confirm that the data type is correctly recognized. You should see a calendar icon 17 next to the column name in the header and no errors in the column

### **PRO TIP: ROLLING CALENDARS**



Create a new blank query & name it "Rolling Calendar"



**Power Query**: New Source > Blank Query



**Front end**: Get Data > Blank Query

In the formula bar, type a "literal" to generate a start date:



Format as: YYYY, MM, DD

Click the fx icon to **add a custom step**, and enter the following formula to generate a list of dates between the start date and the current day:

```
= List.Dates(
    Source,
    Number.From(DateTime.LocalNow()) - Number.From(Source),
    #duration(1, 0, 0, 0)
)
```

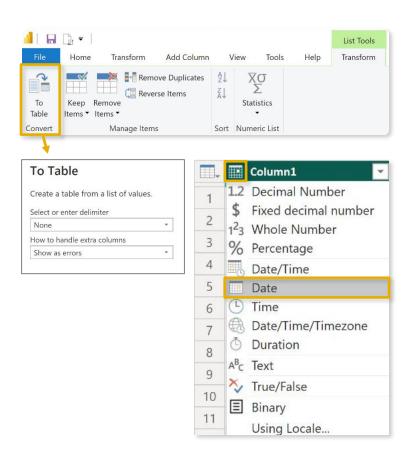
**Note**: If your first applied step is named something other than "**Source**", use that name in your formula (this is common for non-US users)

### **PRO TIP: ROLLING CALENDARS**



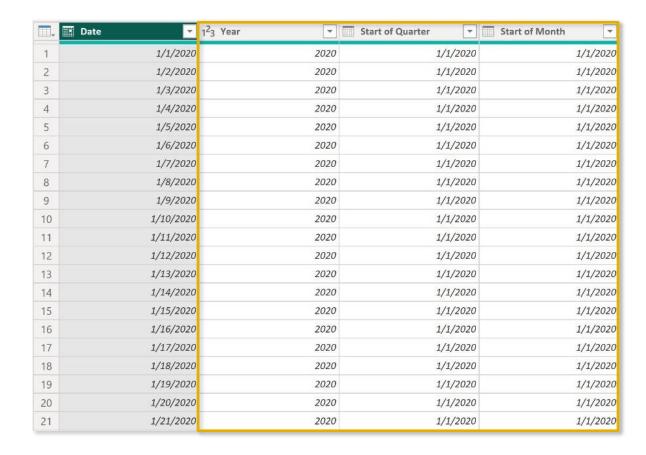
4

Convert the resulting list into a **Table** and set the data type as a **Date** 





Rename the column to "**Date**" and add calculated date columns (year, month, quarter, etc.) using the **Add Column** tools



### **ASSIGNMENT: CALENDAR TABLES**





From: **Ethan T. Langer** (Analytics Manager)

Subject: **New date fields** 

Hi,

We need to add a few fields to our calendar table to help us analyze sales trending over time.

Could you please add the following columns when you get a chance?

Thanks!

-ETL



#### **Key Objectives**

Add the following columns to the calendar table:

- **1. Month Name** (e.g. "January")
- **2.** Month Number (e.g. "1")
- **3. Start of Year** (e.g. "1/1/2020")
- **4. Year** (e.g. "2020")

# **SOLUTION**: CALENDAR TABLES





From: **Ethan T. Langer** (Analytics Manager)

Subject: **New date fields** 

#### Ηi,

We need to add a few fields to our calendar table to help us analyze sales trending over time.

Could you please add the following columns when you get a chance?

Thanks!

-ETL



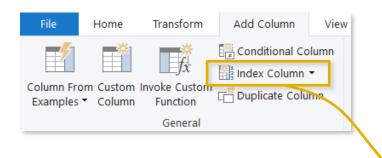


#### **Solution Preview**

A <sup>B</sup> C Month Name	1 <sup>2</sup> 3 Month Number	Start o	of Year 1 <sup>2</sup> 3 Year	~	▲ PROPERTIES	
January		1	1/1/2020	2020	Name	
January		1	1/1/2020	2020	Calendar Lookup	
January		1	1/1/2020	2020	All Properties	
January		1	1/1/2020	2020	ADDITED STEEDS	
January		1	1/1/2020	2020	▲ APPLIED STEPS	
January		1	1/1/2020	2020	Source	-0
January		1	1/1/2020	2020	Promoted Headers	-10
January		1	1/1/2020	2020	Changed Type	
January		1	1/1/2020	2020	Inserted Day Name	-0
January		1	1/1/2020	2020	Inserted Start of Week	-
January		1	1/1/2020	2020	Inserted Start of Month	÷
January		1	1/1/2020	2020	Inserted Month Name Inserted Start of Year	40
January		1	1/1/2020	2020	Inserted Start or Year	- 10
January		1	1/1/2020	2020	Inserted Year	- 10
January		1	1/1/2020	2020	Renamed Columns	

# **INDEX COLUMNS**





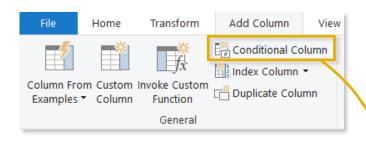
**Index Columns** contain a list of sequential values that can be used to identify each unique row in a table (*typically starting from 0 or 1*)

These are often used to create **unique IDs** that can be used to form relationships between tables (*more on that later!*)

⊞₊	1 <sup>2</sup> 3 Index	Order Date	Stock Date	A <sup>B</sup> <sub>C</sub> Order Number ▼	12 <sub>3</sub> Product Key
1	1	1/1/2020	9/21/2019	SO45080	332
2	2	1/1/2020	12/5/2019	SO45079	312
3	3	1/1/2020	10/29/2019	SO45082	350
4	4	1/1/2020	11/16/2019	SO45081	338
5	5	1/2/2020	12/15/2019	SO45083	312
6	6	1/2/2020	10/12/2019	SO45084	310
7	7	1/2/2020	12/18/2019	SO45086	314
8	8	1/2/2020	10/9/2019	SO45085	312
9	9	1/3/2020	10/3/2019	SO45093	312
10	10	1/3/2020	9/29/2019	SO45090	310
11	11	1/3/2020	12/11/2019	SO45088	345
12	12	1/3/2020	10/24/2019	SO45092	313
13	13	1/3/2020	12/16/2019	SO45089	351
14	14	1/3/2020	10/26/2019	SO45091	314
15	15	1/3/2020	9/11/2019	SO45087	350
16	16	1/3/2020	9/11/2019	SO45094	310
17	17	1/4/2020	10/30/2019	SO45096	312
18	18	1/4/2020	10/30/2019	SO45097	313
19	19	1/4/2020	9/15/2019	SO45098	310
20	20	1/4/2020	12/7/2019	SO45095	344

### **CONDITIONAL COLUMNS**

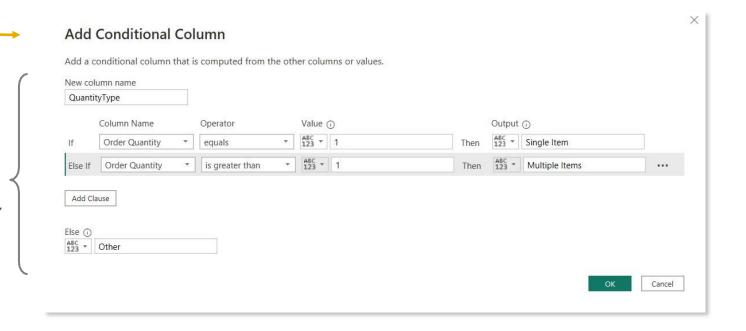




**Conditional Columns** allow you to define new fields based on logical rules and conditions (IF/THEN statements)

Here we're creating a conditional column named **Quantity Type**, which is based on **Order Quantity**:

- If Order Quantity **=1**, Quantity Type = "**Single Item**"
- Else If Order Quantity >1, Quantity Type = "Multiple Items"
- Else; Quantity Type = "Other"



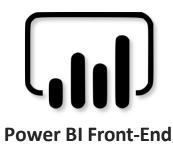
# CALCULATED COLUMN BEST PRACTICES



As a best practice, table transformations and column calculations should ideally happen as close to the original data source as possible, to optimize performance and speed









**Published Reports** 

**UPSTREAM** 

**DOWNSTREAM** 

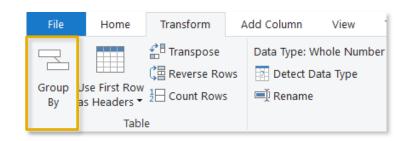


#### **HEY THIS IS IMPORTANT!**

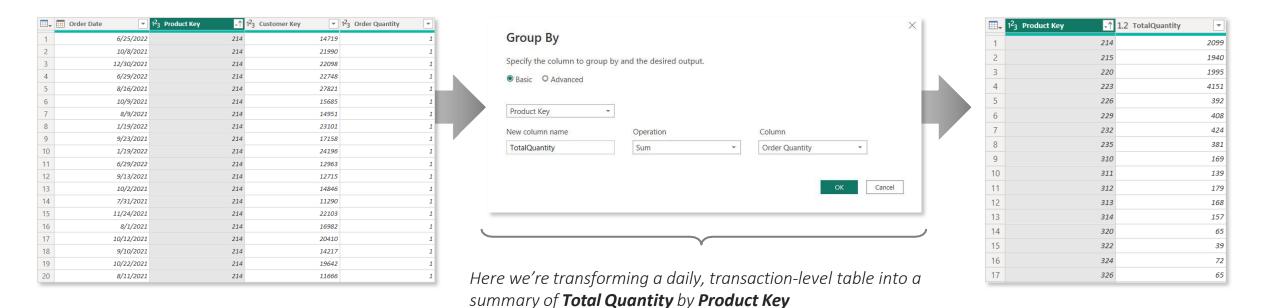
**This is not a strict rule or requirement** but can significantly impact performance for very large or complex data models. Where you define calculations often depends on several factors (accessibility, complexity, business requirements, etc.), so we will practice creating columns using both Power Query and the Power BI front-end (DAX) throughout this course

#### **GROUPING & AGGREGATING**





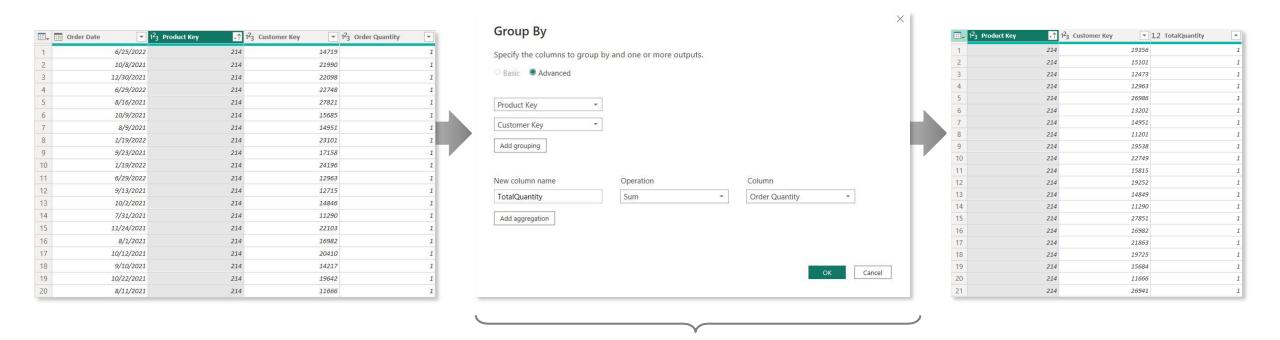
**Group By** allows you to aggregate data at a different level or "grain" (i.e. group daily records into monthly, aggregate transactions by store, etc.)



**NOTE:** Any fields not specified in the Group By settings are lost

# **GROUPING & AGGREGATING**





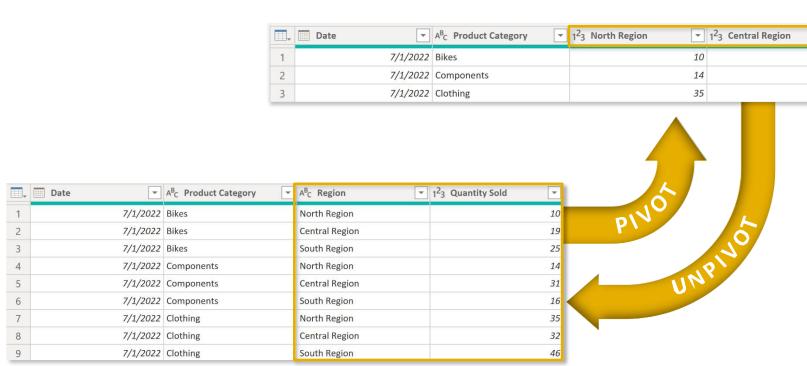
This time we're transforming the daily, transaction-level table into a summary of **Total Quantity** grouped by both **Product Key** and **Customer Key** (using the "Advanced" option)

**NOTE:** This is like creating a PivotTable in Excel and pulling in **Sum of Order Quantity** with **Product Key** and **Customer Key** as row labels

#### **PIVOTING & UNPIVOTING**



**Pivoting** describes the process of turning **distinct row values into columns**, and **unpivoting** describes the process of turning **distinct columns into rows** 



Imagine the table on a hinge; **pivoting** rotates it from **vertical** to **horizontal**, and **unpivoting** rotates it from **horizontal** to **vertical** 

25

16

46

₹ 1<sup>2</sup>3 South Region

19

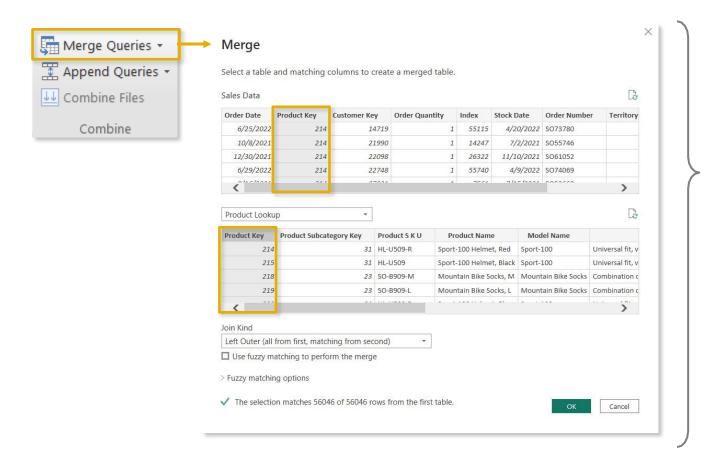
31

32

**NOTE: Transpose** works very similarly, but doesn't recognize unique values; instead, the entire table is transformed so that each row becomes a column and vice versa

# MERGING QUERIES





**Merging** queries allows you to **join tables** based on a common column (like a lookup in Excel)

In this case we're merging the **Sales Data** table with the **Product Lookup** table, which share a common **Product Key** column

**NOTE**: Merging **adds columns** to an existing table/query



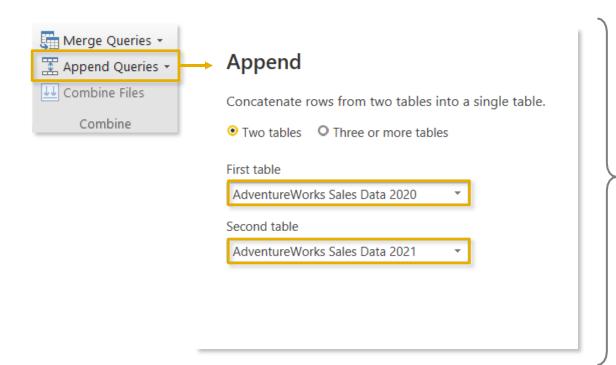
#### **HEY THIS IS IMPORTANT!**

Just because you can merge tables, doesn't mean you should!

In many cases, it's better to keep tables separate and define **relationships** between them in the data model (*more on that soon!*)

# **APPENDING QUERIES**





**Appending** queries allows you to **combine** or **stack** tables sharing the exact same column structure and data types

Here we're appending the **AdventureWorks Sales 2020** table to the **AdventureWorks Sales 2021** table, which is valid since they share identical table structures

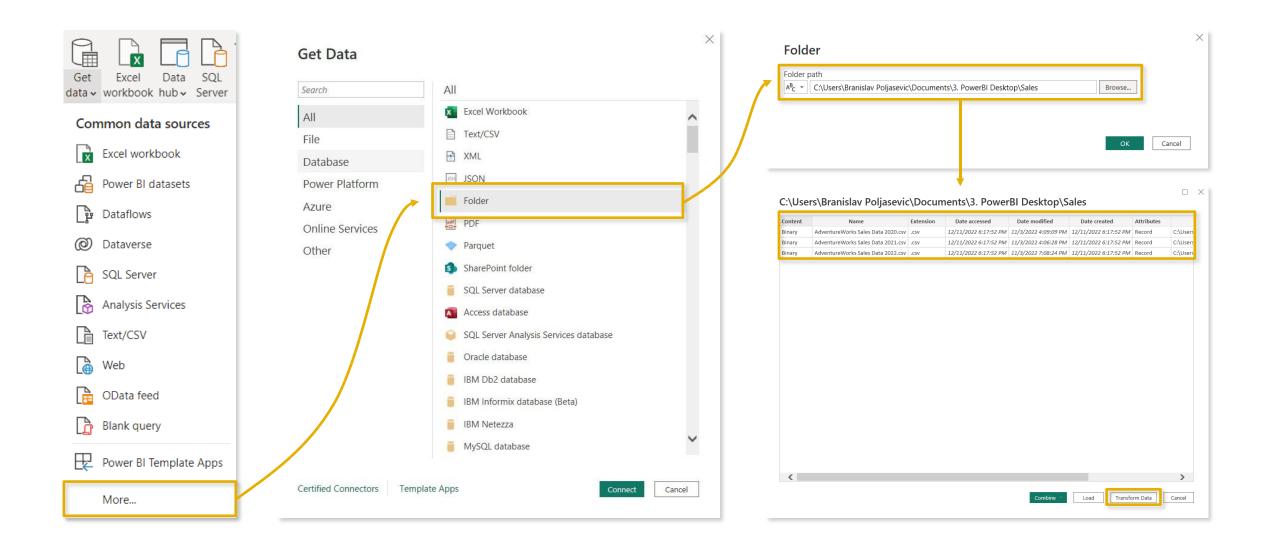
**NOTE:** Appending **adds rows** to an existing table/query



PRO TIP: Use the **Folder** option (Get Data > More > Folder) to **append all files within a specified folder** (assuming they share the same structure); as you add new files, simply refresh the query and they will automatically append!

# **PRO TIP:** APPENDING FILES FROM A FOLDER

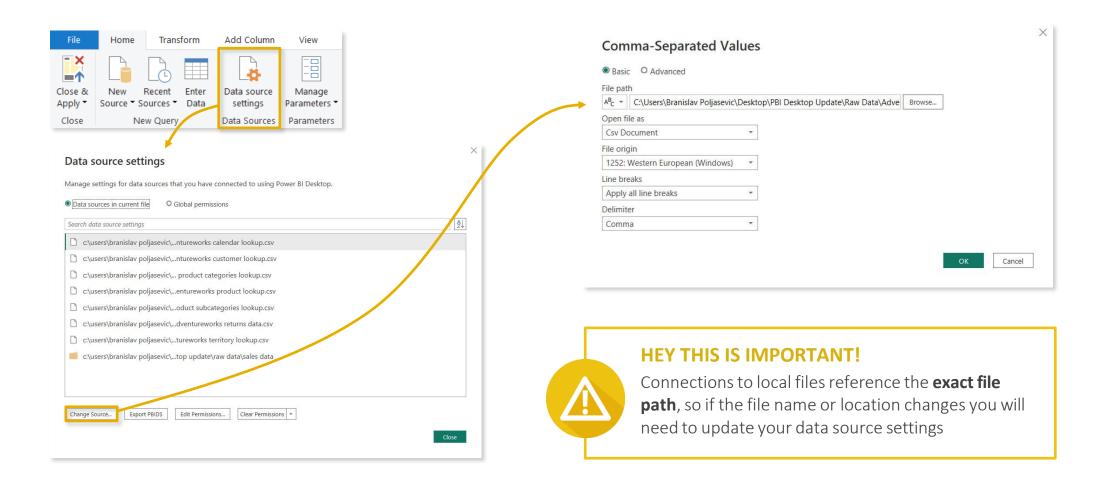




### **DATA SOURCE SETTINGS**



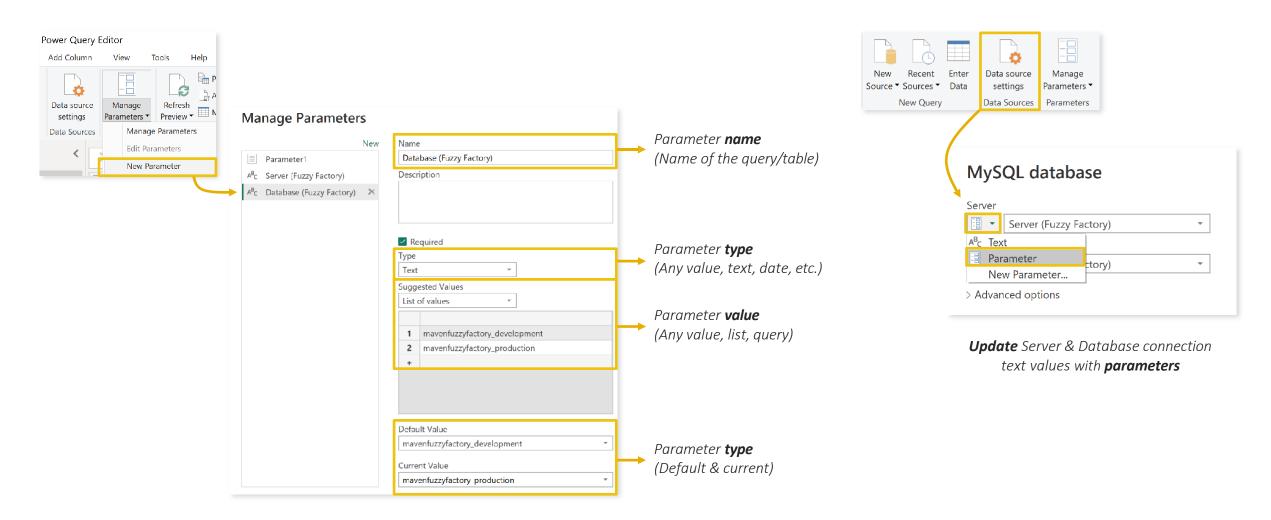
Data Source Settings allow you to manage existing data connections, file paths and permissions



### **PRO TIP:** DATA SOURCE PARAMETERS

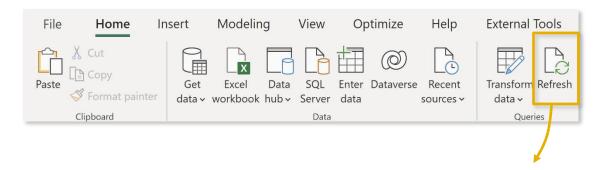


Use **parameters** to dynamically manage and update connection paths in the Power Query editor



# REFRESHING QUERIES



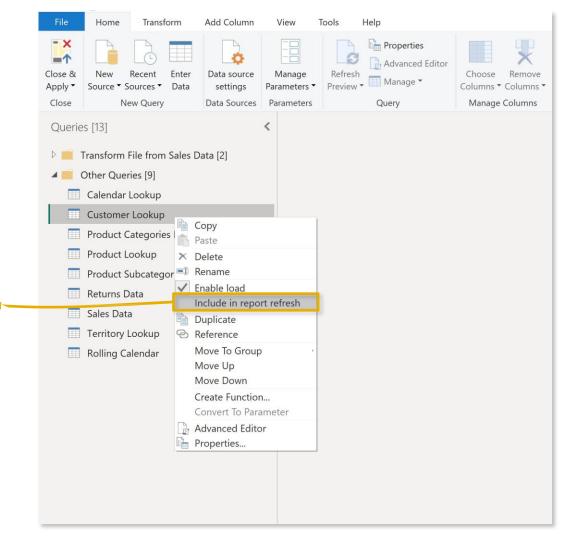


By default, *all queries* will refresh when you use the **Refresh** command from the **Home** tab

From the Query Editor, uncheck **Include in report refresh** to exclude individual queries from the refresh

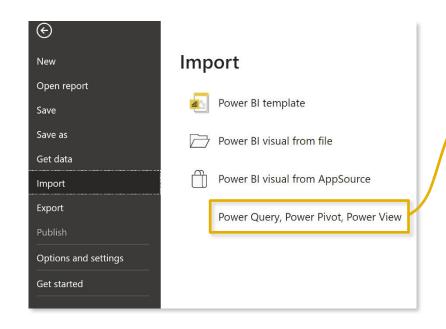


PRO TIP: Exclude queries from refresh that don't change often (like lookups or static data tables)



#### **PRO TIP: IMPORTING EXCEL MODELS**





#### Already have a fully-built model in Excel?

You can import models built in Excel directly into Power BI Desktop using: *Import > Power Query, Power Pivot, Power View* 

Imported models retain the following:

- Data source connections and queries
- Query editing procedures and applied steps
- Table relationships, hierarchies, field settings, etc.
- All calculated columns and DAX measures



PRO TIP: If you are more comfortable working in Excel, build your models there first then import to Power BI!

# POWER QUERY BEST PRACTICES





# Get organized before connecting and loading data

• Define clear and intuitive table/query names from the start, and establish an organized file/folder structure if you are working with local flat files to avoid changes to file names or paths



# Disable report refresh for any static data sources

• There's no need to constantly refresh data sources that don't change, like lookups or static data tables



# When working with large tables, only load the data you need

• Don't include hourly data when you only need daily, or transaction-level data when only need a product-level summary (extra data will only slow your report down!)