Power BI

Advanced Power BI (June 2024)

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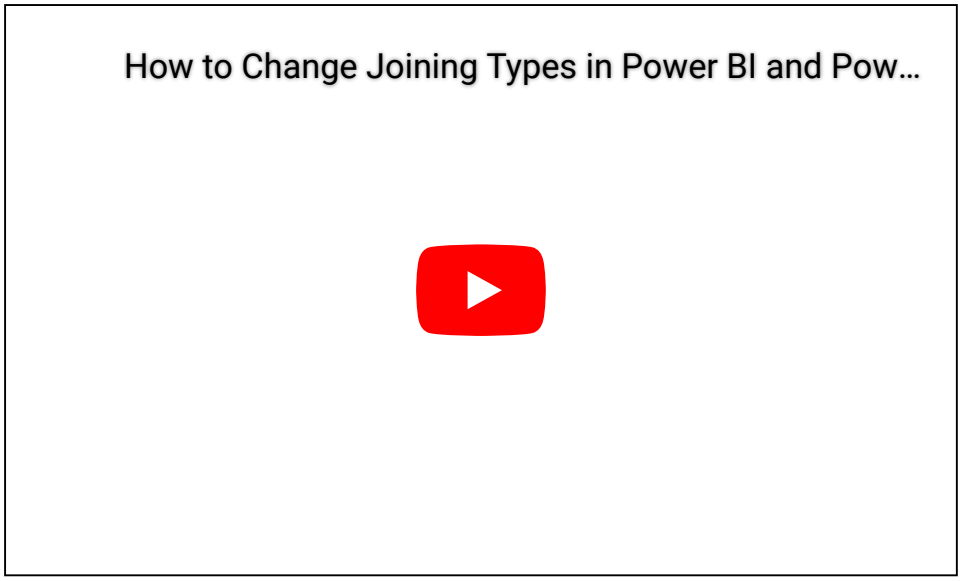
2 Relationship Types Download



Relationship Types

As Power BI Desktop attempts to create relationships between tables, it also automatically attempts to establish the cardinality and cross filter direction properties for that relationship. Further, if it does indeed identify and establish a relationship, it automatically marks that relationship as "active."

The cardinality property determines the direction of the relationship. According to Microsoft, there are four options for cardinality in a Power BI dataset.

1:1, 1:many, many:1, many : many

With composite models (both Import and DQ), you can establish a many-to-many relationship between tables, which removes requirements for unique values in tables. It also removes previous workarounds, such as introducing new tables only to establish relationships. However, in general you should seek to avoid many-to-many relationships.

In addition to editing the cardinality of a relationship, you can also change the cross-filter direction. The setting of Both is generally the preferred setting for most datasets, particularly for those arranged in a "star" schema. This setting allows Power BI to treat all aspects of the connected tables as if they are a single table. However, generally, you should not use this setting in situations where you have two or more fact tables that link to common dim tables. In situations such as this, the Single setting is preferred.

Watch the video to understand how to change relationship types.

To view the different join types, check out this link.

Download the file (at the top) and create a connection to a new Power BI file. You can explore the different results by varying the join types in the Query Editor.