

# Troubleshooting Guide

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This section outlines common problems you might encounter while completing the tasks, along with possible causes and suggested fixes.

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## Problem: Dropdown list not appearing

### Possible causes:

- Data validation not applied to the correct column
- Column was selected after entering values

### Fix:

- Select the column again
  - Go to **Data > Data validation**
  - Make sure "List of items" is selected and the values are entered correctly
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## Problem: "#REF!" error in **IMPORTRANGE**

### Possible causes:

- Access not granted to the source sheet
- Sheet name or range is incorrect

### Fix:

- Paste the **IMPORTRANGE** formula alone in any blank cell
  - Click "Allow access" when prompted
  - Double-check the sheet name and range (e.g. **Sheet1!A2:D**)
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## Problem: Pie chart shows wrong categories

### Possible causes:

- Label and data ranges are mismatched
- Empty or inconsistent category cells

### Fix:

- Check that your label range (e.g. **C2:C**) matches your data range (e.g. **D2:D**)
  - Remove any blank or misspelled categories
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## Problem: Conditional formatting highlights everything

#### Possible causes:

- Formula applies to the wrong range
- Row references include the header

#### Fix:

- Make sure the formatting range starts from row 2, not row 1
  - Check that your formula uses relative references (e.g., B2 not B\$2)
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### Problem: Circular dependency error

#### Possible causes:

- You entered a formula in a cell that's part of the formula's own output range

#### Fix:

- Move the formula to a cell outside the table it's operating on
  - Avoid pasting formulas into the middle of dynamic data blocks
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### Problem: Only one import shows in merged table

#### Possible causes:

- One of the **IMPORTRANGE** calls has a silent error
- The stacking formula is inside an area it tries to overwrite

#### Fix:

- Test each **IMPORTRANGE** formula individually first
  - Place the **QUERY** formula far below the imported ranges to avoid overlap
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### Problem: Filter not working as expected

#### Possible causes:

- Filter column contains inconsistent or misspelled values

#### Fix:

- Check for extra spaces or typos in the "Status" or "Category" columns
- Use the dropdowns created with data validation to enforce consistency