

# Excel Tables

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TABLES: WHAT ARE THEY AND WHY USE THEM?



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# Course Agenda



**Tables: What Are They and Why Use Them?**

**Create and Manage Tables**

**Working with Table Data**

**Exploring Other Excel Capabilities**



# Module Agenda



**What is a Table and when to use them?**

**Pros and cons of Tables vs. data ranges**

**How Tables are constructed**

- Table names
- Column names



# Excel Table

A container that holds a collection of related data; typically the data is manipulated as a set.

I also use the term Dataset.



# What do Tables do?



Tables make managing and analyzing a group of related data easier than working with just a range of data.



Because tables are Excel objects, they have properties that make working on the data within them easy.



# When Should Tables Be Used?



## **Data is already related**

Often the data already exists in a  
“neat” tabular format



## **Analyze and manipulate**

Sort the data, add totals,  
conditional formatting



# Pros and Cons

## What's good

Visual cue to the dataset

One click totals

One click filters

Slicers

Auto resizing

Formulas applied to the full column

Export to SharePoint

## What's not so good

No subtotals or auto grouping

Summarizing and  
Organizing Data in Excel



# Table Structure

Header row

Banded rows

Total row

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Classification	Food Name	Cost	Quantity	Value	Data
2	Cereals	Bread	3	2	10	
3	Cereals	Chickpeas	10	8	1	
4	Cereals	Oats	7	1	4	
5	Cereals	Pasta	8	8	7	
6	Cereals	Rice	9	9	2	
7	Confections	Candy	4	1	5	
8	Confections	Icing sugar	9	9	3	
9	Confections	Soft drinks	4	1	5	
10	Fruit	Grapes	1	9	3	
11	Fruit	Lemon	1	3	4	
12	Fruit	Orange	5	2	6	
13	Meat	Liver	9	3	6	
14	Meat	Sausage	9	7	7	
15	Meat	Steak	1	9	2	
16	Classification	Food Name	3	4	5	
17	Cereals	Bread	5	6	10	
18	Cereals	Chickpeas	6	6	7	
19	Cereals	Oats	3	7	9	
20	Cereals	Pasta	5	5	6	
21	Cereals	Oats	9	6	8	
22			26	26	26	26
23						

Calculated column

Sizing handle





# Structured References

Table name

Column name(s)

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Classification	Food Name	Cost	Quantity	Value	Data
2	Cereals	Bread	3	2	10	
3	Cereals	Chickpeas	10	8	1	
4	Cereals	Oats	7	1	4	
5	Cereals	Pasta	8	8	7	
6	Cereals	Rice	9	9	2	
7	Confections	Candy	4	1	5	
8	Confections	Icing sugar	9	9	3	
9	Confections	Soft drinks	4	1	5	
10	Fruit	Grapes	1	9	3	
11	Fruit	Lemon	1	3	4	
12	Fruit	Orange	5	2	6	
13	Meat	Liver	9	3	6	
14	Meat	Sausage	9	7	7	
15	Meat	Steak	1	9	2	
16	Classification	Food Name	3	4	5	
17	Cereals	Bread	5	6	10	
18	Cereals	Chickpeas	6	6	7	
19	Cereals	Oats	3	7	9	
20	Cereals	Pasta	5	5	6	
21	Cereals	Oats	9	6	8	
22			26	26	26	26
23						

Table name = Foods

Column name = Cost

Column specifier = Foods[Cost]

Structured references mean that formulas become self describing.

SUM(Foods[Cost]) vs SUM(C2:C27)



Demo



Table structure

Structured references



# Module Summary



**What is a Table and when to use them?**

**Pros and cons of Tables vs. data ranges**

**How Tables are constructed**

- Table names
- Column names



# Create and Manage Tables

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# Module Agenda



**Convert an existing data range**

**Create a table from scratch**

**Import data**

**Managing tables**

- Resizing
- Renaming
- Formatting
- Finding
- Deleting



# Convert an Existing Data Range

## CTRL - T

CTRL - L works too,  
because Tables used to  
be called Lists!

## Format as Table

From the Home tab

### Table (Ctrl+T)

Create a table to organize and  
analyze related data.

Tables make it easy to sort, filter,  
and format data within a sheet.

[? Tell me more](#)



# What Data Is Converted to a Table?



Excel defines the edges of the table where there are blank columns and blank rows



Blank cells within the range are okay



Select the range and then use any of the previously mentioned methods



# Creating a Table with No Data

Chances of you doing this

 Almost zero

.....

Creating tables using other methods



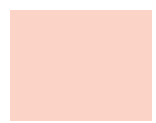
99+%





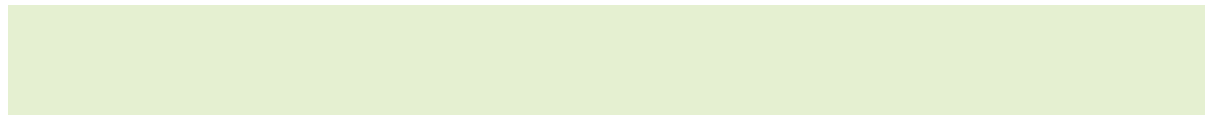
# Creating a Table with No Data

Chances of you doing this



Almost zero

Creating tables using other methods



99+%

You are more likely to convert an existing set of data...



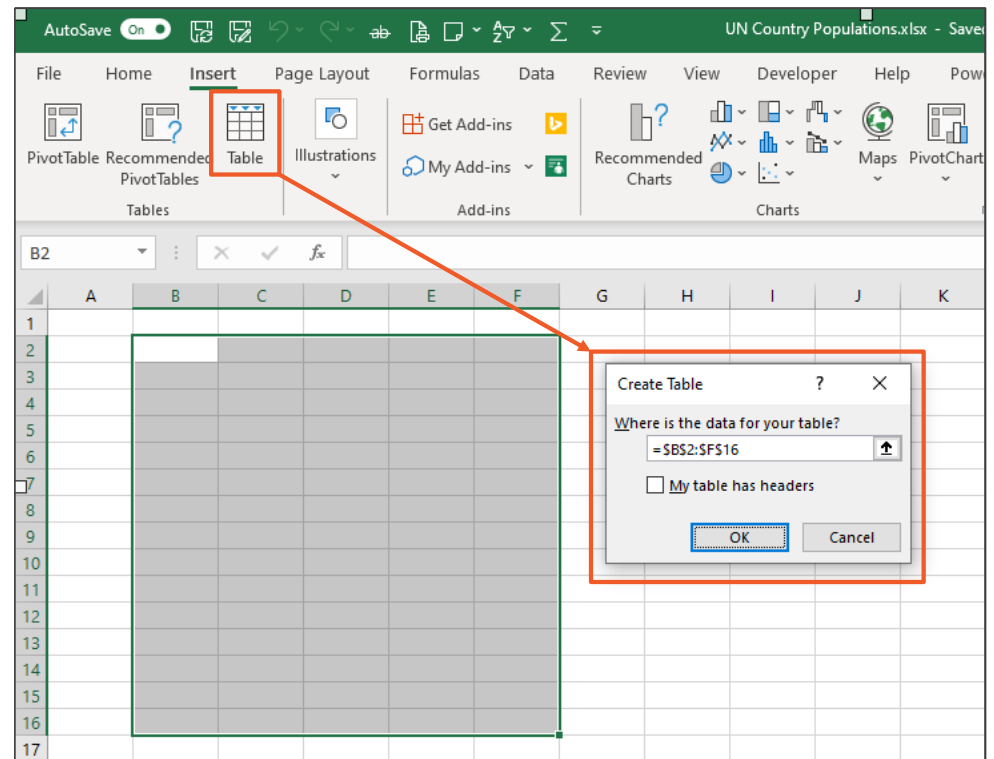
# Creating a Table with No Data

1

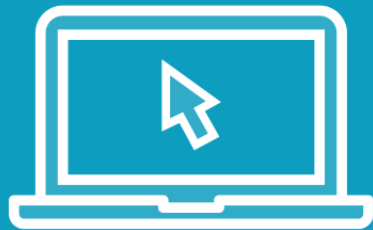
Select the range of empty cells

2

Use any of the previous 3 methods to create the table



Demo



Creating Tables



# Demo



Importing data into a Table

Creating a blank table



# Managing Tables

**Naming and renaming a table**

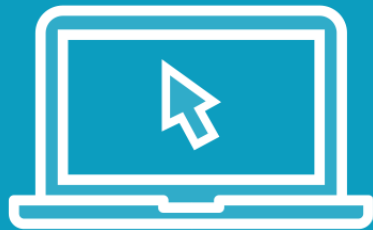
**Resizing a table**

**Finding a table using the  
Name Manager**

**Deleting a table**



Demo



Managing Tables



# Formatting Options

**Headers & Filters**

**Bands**

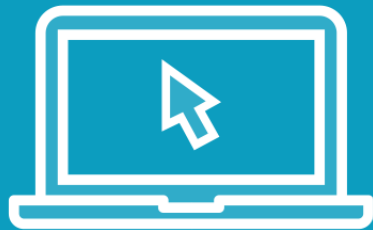
**Totals**

**First and last  
columns**

**Table styles**



Demo



**Formatting**





# Module Summary



**Convert an existing data range**

**Create a table from scratch**

## **Managing tables**

- Resizing
- Renaming
- Formatting
- Finding
- Deleting



# Working with Table Data

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# Module Agenda



**Removing duplicates**

**Sorting data**

**Adding totals to rows and columns**

**Using filters and creating slicers**

**Referencing table data in other  
worksheets**

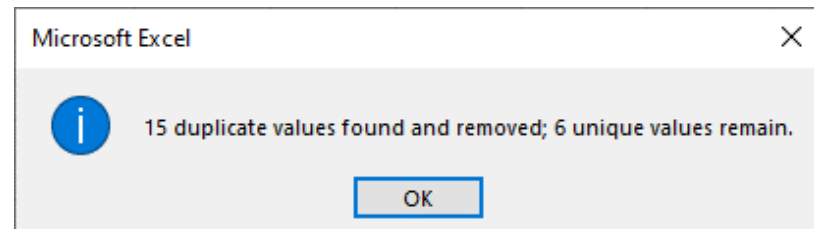
**Quick Analysis Tool**

**Neat features**



# Removing Duplicates and Sorting Data

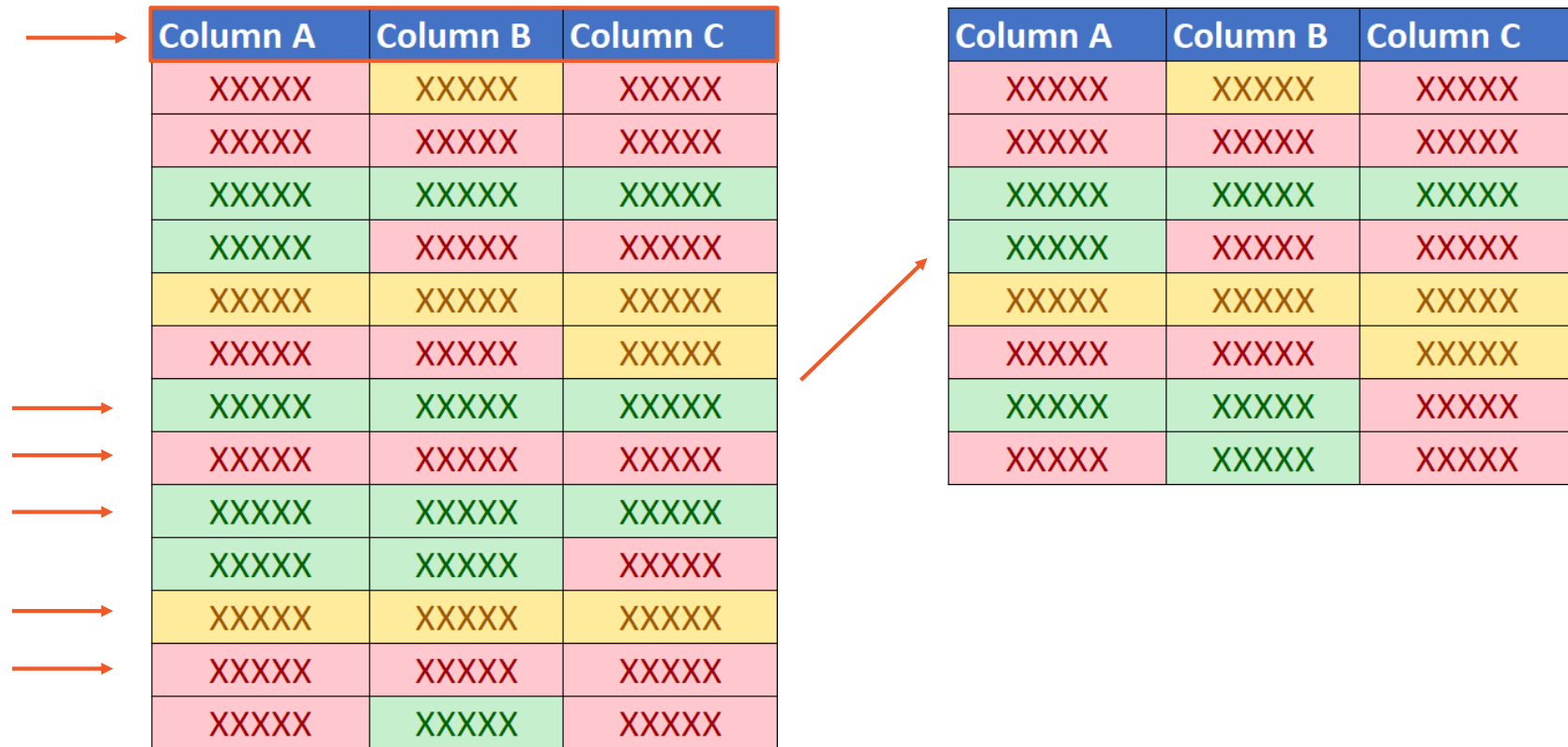
XXXXX	XXXX
XXXXX	XXXX
XXXXX	XXXX
XXXXX	
XXXXX	
XXXXX	
XXXXX	
XXXXX	
XXXXX	
XXXXX	
XXXXX	
XXXXX	
XXXXX	
XXXXX	
XXXXX	
XXXXX	



Choose which column(s) to check  
for duplicate values



# Removing Duplicates and Sorting Data



The diagram illustrates the process of removing duplicates and sorting data. It shows two tables: an original table on the left and a transformed table on the right. The original table has 12 rows, and the transformed table has 9 rows. The rows in the transformed table are sorted by Column A, and duplicate rows have been removed. An orange arrow points from the original table to the transformed table.

Column A	Column B	Column C
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX

Column A	Column B	Column C
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX



# Removing Duplicates and Sorting Data

Column A	Column B	Column C
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX



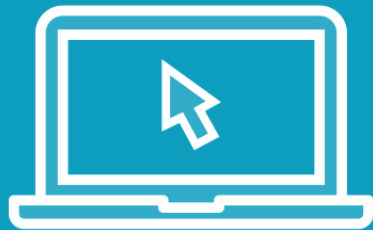
Largest to smallest

Smallest to largest

Custom sort



# Demo

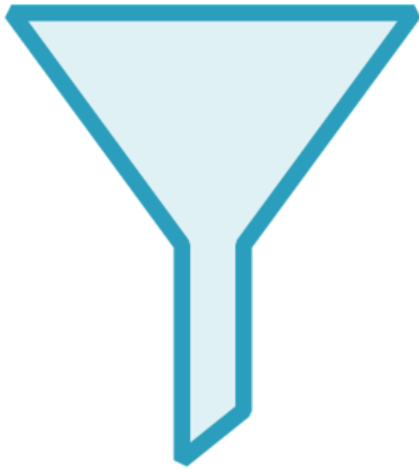


Removing duplicates

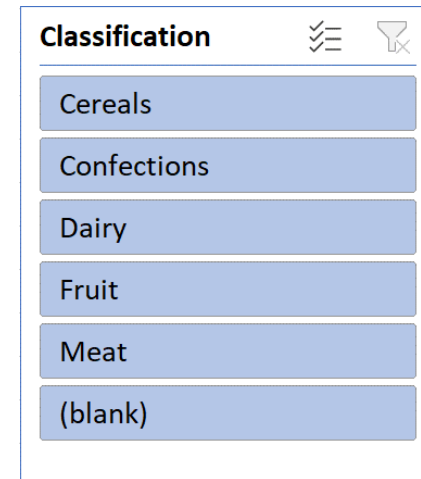
Sorting data



# Filters and Slicers



Access via a drop down from the  
column header  
Basic and logical filtering  
Filter by color



Visual buttons that float over  
the data  
Button values match the  
column content

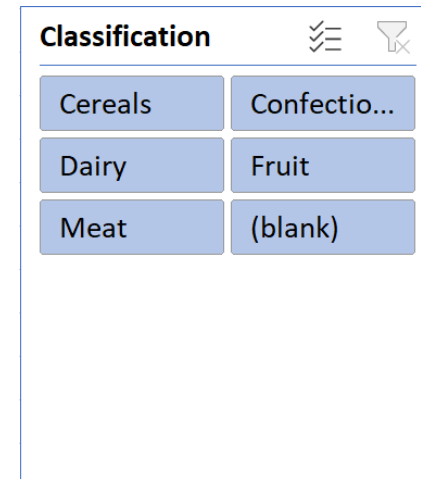




# Filters and Slicers



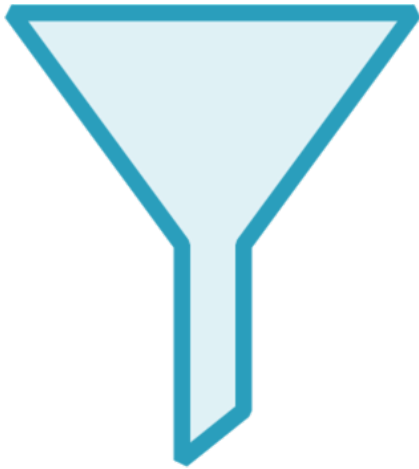
Access via a drop down from the  
column header  
Basic and logical filtering  
Filter by color



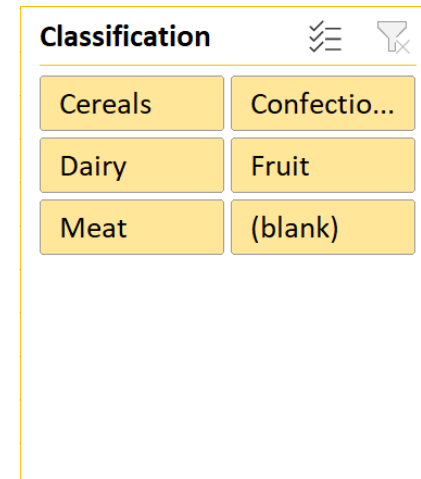
Visual buttons that float over  
the data  
Button values match the  
column content



# Filters and Slicers



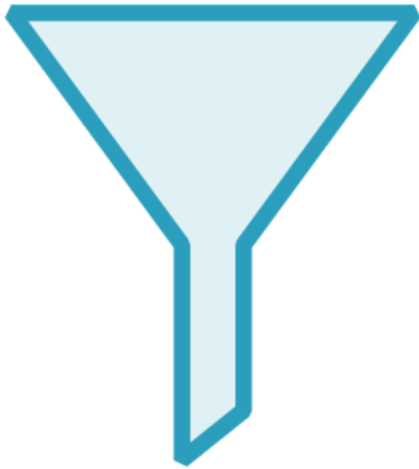
Access via a drop down from the  
column header  
Basic and logical filtering  
Filter by color



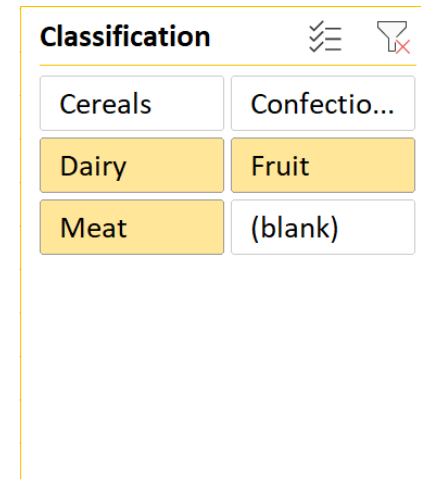
Visual buttons that float over  
the data  
Button values match the  
column content



# Filters and Slicers



Access via a drop down from the  
column header  
Basic and logical filtering  
Filter by color



Visual buttons that float over  
the data  
Button values match the  
column content



# Demo



## Using filters and creating slicers



# Easy Ways to Add Totals to Columns and Rows



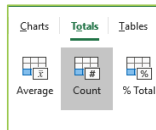
**Total Row – available from the Table Design tab**

Uses the subtotal function; SUM for numeric values; COUNTA for non-numeric values



**AutoSum function – available from the Home tab**

Useful for rows

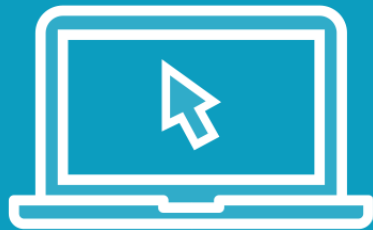


**Quick Access Tool – CTRL-Q**

Options for Columns and Rows



Demo



**Adding totals to Columns and Rows**



# Referencing Table Data in Other Worksheets

Column1	Column2	Column3	Column4
99	13	61	97
2	76	27	54
64	25	20	45
14	74	25	4
47	28	60	35
42	33	78	42
21	67	35	1
72	93	52	77
12	100	24	88
25	99	15	5
99	17	89	27
14	34	8	3
18	94	38	61

**Table 1**

Contains 4 columns

Column1	Column2	Column3	Column4
99	13	61	97
2	76	27	54
64	25	20	45
14	74	25	4
47	28	60	35
42	33	78	42
21	67	35	1
72	93	52	77
12	100	24	88
25	99	15	5
99	17	89	27
14	34	8	3
18	94	38	61

**Structured reference**

=SUM(Table1[Column4])  
= 539

Column1	Column2	Column3	Column4
99	13	61	97
2	76	27	54
64	25	20	45
14	74	25	4
47	28	60	35
42	33	78	42
21	67	35	1
72	93	52	77
12	100	24	88
25	99	15	5
99	17	89	27
14	34	8	3
18	94	38	61

**Structured reference**

=MIN(Table1[#Data])  
= 1

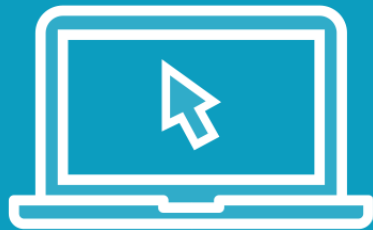


<code>= ROWS(table)</code>	←	Returns the # of rows
<code>= COLUMNS(table)</code>	←	Returns the # of columns
<code>= [@Column1]-[@Column2]</code>	←	@ implies the current row, subtracting the cell in Column2 from Column1 - here the formula is inside the table
<code>= [@sales]-[@cost]</code>	←	
<code>= SUM(table[ColumnName])</code>	←	Returns the SUM of ColumnName
<code>= MAX(table[ColumnName])</code>	←	Returns the MAX of ColumnName





Demo



## Referencing data from other worksheets

- Structured references



# Neat Features



## **Sizing handle**

## **Scrolling**

- The column headings remain visible

## **Sorting**

- Includes all data in the table
- By color

## **Filters**

- By color
- Multiple columns



## Neat Features



**Auto extension of tables**

- Rows or columns

**Auto insertion of formulas**

**Export to SharePoint List**



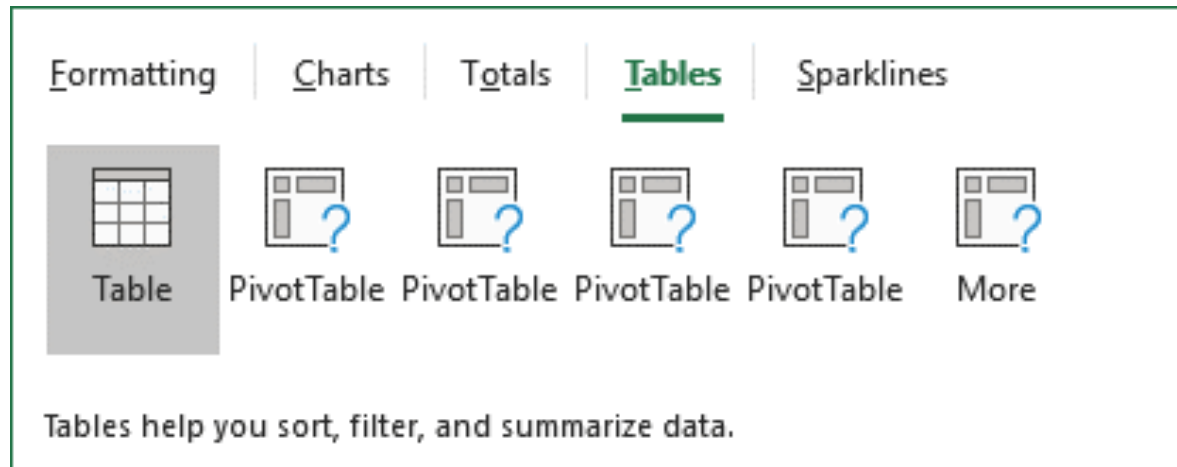
Demo



Neat features

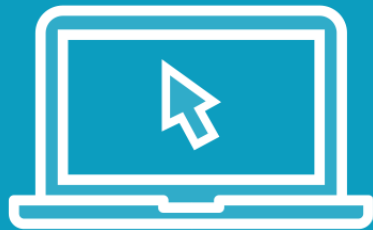


# The Quick Analysis Tool



The QAT provides quick access to features

Demo



**The Quick Analysis Tool**  
- CTRL-Q



# Module Summary



Using filters and creating slicers

Removing duplicates

Sorting data

Adding totals to rows and columns

Referencing table data in other  
worksheets

Neat features

Quick Analysis Tool

