**[How to Select Variables with the KEEP & DROP Option](https://sasexamplecode.com/how-to-select-variables-with-the-keep-drop-option/)**

1. you can use the KEEP=-option in the DATA statement and in the SET statement. In most cases, the result is the same
2. We recommend using the KEEP=-option in the SET statement to improve the efficiency of your code.
3. So, use the DROP option in the SET statement to speed-up your SAS code.
4. KEEP and DROP statements are comparable to the KEEP and DROP options in the DATA statement.
5. the KEEP and DROP statements won’t make your SAS code more efficient.

**data** work.my\_ds;

infile datalines dlm=",";

input Product $ Price Units SaleDate :date9.;

format Price numx12.2 SaleDate date9.;

datalines;

Milk, **1.50**, **2**, 02NOV2020

Bread, **1.20**, **3**, 02NOV2020

Apple, **0.25**, **2**, 03NOV2020

Cheese, **3.00**, **1**, 03NOV2020

Soap, **2.75**, **1**, 03NOV2020

;

**run**;

*/\* KEEP Option in DATA statement (I) \*/*

**data** work.keep\_option\_data\_1 (keep=Product Price);

set work.my\_ds;

**run**;

*/\* KEEP Option in SET statement (I) \*/*

**data** work.keep\_option\_set\_1;

set work.my\_ds (keep=Product Price);

**run**;

*/\* KEEP Option in DATA statement (II) \*/*

data work.keep\_option\_data\_2 (keep=Product Price);

set work.my\_ds;

PriceEuros = Price \* 0.85;

run;

/\* KEEP Option in SET statement (II) \*/

data work.keep\_option\_set\_2;

set work.my\_ds (keep=Product Price);

PriceEuros = Price \* 0.85;

Run;

*/\* DROP Option in DATA statement (I) \*/*

**data** work.drop\_option\_data\_1 (drop=SaleDate);

set work.my\_ds;

**run**;

*/\* DROP Option in SET statement (I) \*/*

**data** work.drop\_option\_set\_1;

set work.my\_ds (drop=SaleDate);

**run**;

*/\* DROP Option in DATA statement (II) \*/*

**data** work.drop\_option\_data\_2 (drop=SaleDate);

set work.my\_ds;

SaleWeek = week(SaleDate);

**run**;

*/\* DROP Option in SET statement (II)*

*No error message:*

* NOTE: Variable SaleDate is uninitialized.
* NOTE: Missing values were generated as a result of performing an operation on missing values.
* SaleWeek & SaleDate are missing

*\*/*

**data** work.drop\_option\_set\_2;

set work.my\_ds (drop=SaleDate);

SaleWeek = week(SaleDate);

**run**;

**data** work.sales\_02nov2020

work.sales\_03nov2020;

set work.my\_ds (drop=Price);

if SaleDate = "02NOV2020"D then output work.sales\_02nov2020;

else if SaleDate = "03NOV2020"D then output work.sales\_03nov2020;

keep Product Units;

**run**;