

## Power BI Data Import & Connection Q&A

### List three data sources Power BI can connect to.

- Excel workbooks
- SQL Server databases
- Web data (via URL)

### What is the first step to import data into Power BI Desktop?

Click Home → Get Data, then choose your data source.

### How do you refresh imported data in Power BI?

In Power BI Desktop: Home → Refresh.

In Power BI Service: set up scheduled refresh or click Refresh Now.

### What file formats can Power BI import directly? (Name two.)

- .xlsx (Excel)
- .csv (Comma-separated values)

### What does the 'Navigator' window show after selecting a data source?

It lists available tables, sheets, or queries from the chosen source, allowing preview and selection.

### Import Sales\_Data.csv and load only the 'Product' and 'Price' columns.

M-code:

let

```
Source = Csv.Document(File.Contents("C:\Data\Sales_Data.csv"), [Delimiter=";",  
Columns=4, Encoding=65001, QuoteStyle=QuoteStyle.None]),  
PromotedHeaders = Table.PromoteHeaders(Source, [PromoteAllScalars=true]),  
SelectedColumns = Table.SelectColumns(PromotedHeaders, {"Product", "Price"})
```

in

```
SelectedColumns
```

### How would you change OrderDate to a date format during import?

M-code:

```
Table.TransformColumnTypes(PreviousStep, {"OrderDate", type date})
```

Or in Power Query: Transform → Data Type → Date

### What is the difference between 'Load' and 'Transform Data' in the import dialog?

- Load: Directly imports data as-is into the model.
- Transform Data: Opens Power Query Editor to clean/shape data before loading.

### Why might you see an error when connecting to a SQL database? (Name one reason.)

- Incorrect server or database name
- Invalid credentials
- Firewall blocking connection

### How do you replace a data source after importing it?

Go to Home → Data source settings, select the source, click Change Source, update path/connection.

### Write the M-code to import only rows where Quantity > 1.

M-code:

let

```
Source = Csv.Document(File.Contents("C:\Data\Sales_Data.csv"), [Delimiter="," ,  
Encoding=65001, QuoteStyle=QuoteStyle.None]),  
PromotedHeaders = Table.PromoteHeaders(Source, [PromoteAllScalars=true]),  
ChangedType = Table.TransformColumnTypes(PromotedHeaders, {"Quantity",  
Int64.Type}),  
FilteredRows = Table.SelectRows(ChangedType, each [Quantity] > 1)  
in  
FilteredRows
```

### How would you change the data source if Sales\_Data.csv changed?

Use Data source settings → Change Source to point to the new file path or name.

### Troubleshoot: Your CSV import fails due to a 'mixed data type' error—how do you fix it?

- Change column type to Text before transformations.
- Use Detect Data Type or manually set types in Power Query.

### Connect to a live SQL database with parameters (e.g., filter by year).

M-code:

let

```
YearParam = 2023,  
Source = Sql.Database("ServerName", "DatabaseName", [Query="SELECT * FROM Sales  
WHERE YEAR(OrderDate) = " & Number.ToText(YearParam)])  
in  
Source
```

### How would you automate data imports using Power BI and Power Automate?

Use Power Automate to trigger dataset refresh in Power BI after file update (e.g., new CSV in OneDrive/SharePoint). Flow can run on schedule or on file change event.