

Create DAX calculations in semantic models

1. Introduction

<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/training/modules/dax-power-bi-create-calculations/1-introduction>

Introduction

Completed

When you first create a semantic model by applying Power Query queries, the model consists of tables and columns. At this point, the model probably isn't ready for use. That's because you might need to create or adjust model relationships, create other tables or columns, add hierarchies, or set model properties. You might also identify the need for calculations to summarize the model data, especially when the requirement can't be achieved by summarizing a single column. For example, you might want to calculate year-to-date (YTD) sales revenue, which requires special time filters.

You can use Data Analysis Expressions (DAX) to add three types of calculations to your semantic model to complete your model design:

- **Calculated tables**, which can be useful to create date tables or role-playing dimensions, or to enable what-if analysis.
- **Calculated columns**, which can be added to tables in your model.
- **Measures**, which achieve summarization over model data.

In this module, you learn why and how to create each of these calculation types.

2. Create calculated tables

<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/training/modules/dax-power-bi-create-calculations/2-calculated-tables>

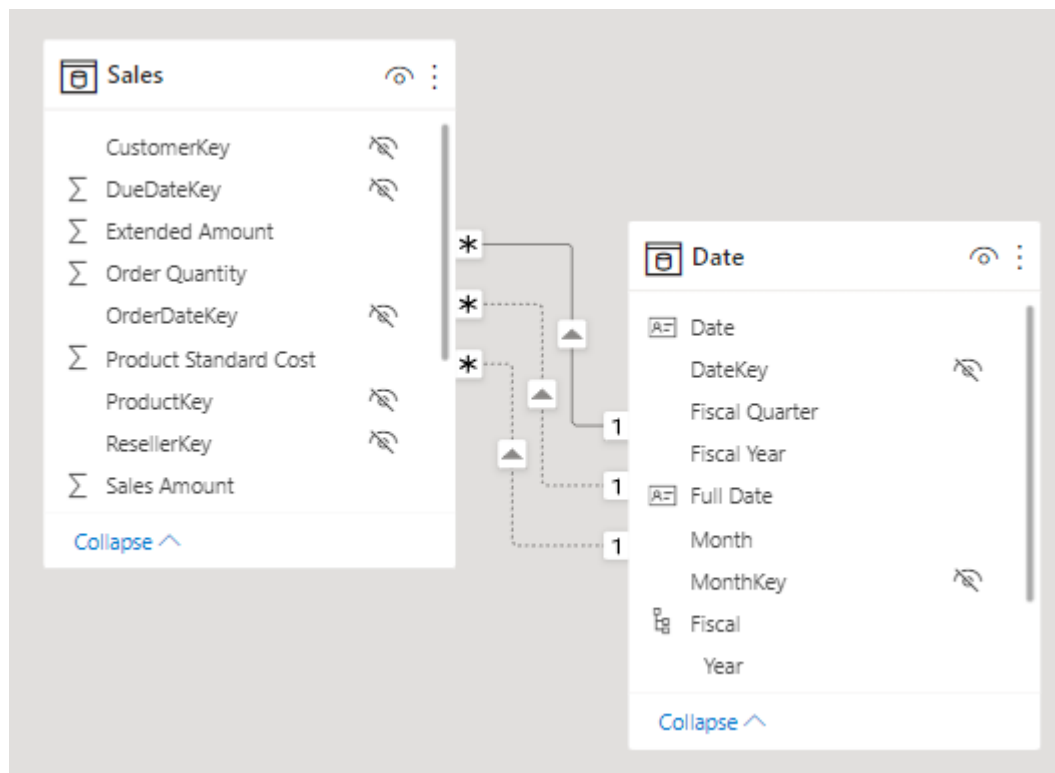
Create calculated tables

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A calculated table is created with a DAX formula that returns a table object, allowing you to duplicate or transform existing model data to produce a new table.

Duplicate a table

A common design challenge in data modeling is handling multiple relationships between tables. For example, the **Sales** table might have three relationships to the **Date** table, as shown in the following diagram:



The **Sales** table stores sales data by order date, ship date, and due date, resulting in three relationships to the **Date** table. However, only one relationship can be active at a time, as indicated by a solid line in the diagram. The other relationships are inactive and shown as dashed lines.

In our example, the active relationship filters the **OrderDateKey** column in the **Sales** table, so filters applied to the **Date** table affect sales by order date only.

To enable filtering sales by ship date, a new table can be created by duplicating the **Date** table with the following formula:

```
Ship Date = 'Date'
```

This formula creates a new table named **Ship Date** with the same columns and rows as the original **Date** table. When the **Date** table is refreshed, the **Ship Date** table is also recalculated to remain synchronized. Now you can create an active relationship between **Ship Date** and **Sales** tables to allow filtering by ship dates too.

Configure duplicate tables

When you create a calculated table, you need to apply any custom configurations to the new duplicate table you want carried over. For instance, it's a good idea to rename columns so that they better describe their purpose.

In our example, the `Fiscal Year` column in the `Ship Date` table can be renamed as `Ship Fiscal Year`. The `Ship Full Date` column should be sorted by the `Ship Date` column and the `MonthKey` column can be hidden to improve sorting and reporting.

Calculated tables are useful to work in scenarios when multiple relationships between two tables exist, as previously described. However, calculated tables increase the model's storage size and can prolong data refresh times, especially when they depend on other tables.

Note

While duplicate tables solve this challenge, there are other more performant solutions. We cover this concept again when discussing measures later in this module.

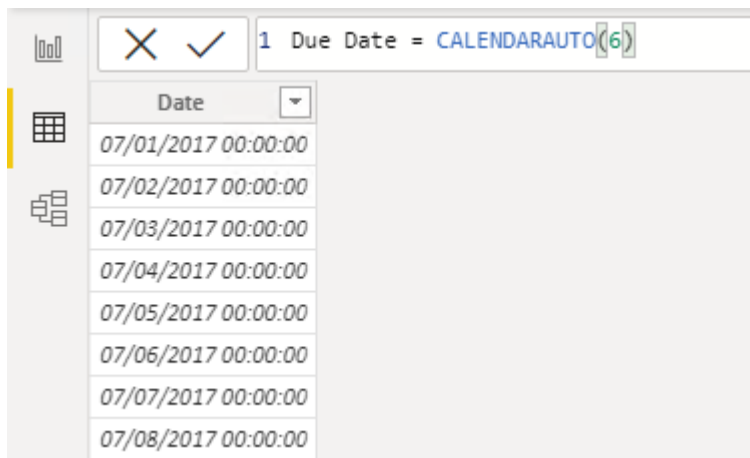
Create a date table

A good use case for calculated tables is to add a date table to your model. Date tables are required to apply special time filters known as *time intelligence*.

You can create a calculated date table using the `CALENDARAUTO` function. The `CALENDARAUTO` function scans all date and date/time columns in the model to determine the earliest and latest dates, then generates a complete set of dates that span all years in the data. The argument specifies the last month of the financial year; for example, passing `6` sets June as the year end.

```
Due Date = CALENDARAUTO(6)
```

The resulting `Due Date` table contains a single column of dates. The following image shows the `Due Date` table in data view, with dates sorted from earliest to latest:



Date
07/01/2017 00:00:00
07/02/2017 00:00:00
07/03/2017 00:00:00
07/04/2017 00:00:00
07/05/2017 00:00:00
07/06/2017 00:00:00
07/07/2017 00:00:00
07/08/2017 00:00:00

Tip

The `CALENDAR` function can also be used to create a date table by specifying a start and end date, either as static values or as expressions based on model data.

If the earliest date in the model is October 15, 2021, and the latest is June 15, 2022, the function returns dates from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022. This ensures the table includes complete years, which is required for marking a date table.

Mark as a date table

Once you create a date table, you need to *Mark it as a date table* in Power BI Desktop. This setting allows you to use time intelligence functions in DAX calculations. When you specify your own date table, Power BI Desktop performs the following validations of that column and its data, to ensure that the data contains:

- Unique values.
- No null values.
- Contiguous date values (from beginning to end).
- Same timestamp across each value for Date/Time data types.

This setting applies to any date tables, either imported or created in Power Query or calculated tables.

Note

You must either use a custom date table or use the built-in auto/date time feature in Power BI to use time intelligence. The auto/date time feature has limited values and can't be customized, which is one reason to consider using a custom date table.

3. Create calculated columns

<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/training/modules/dax-power-bi-create-calculations/3-calculated-columns>

Create calculated columns

Completed

Occasionally, you need more columns than exist in your data. Ideally, you add these columns directly to the data source, which supports easier maintenance and allows the column logic to be reused in

other models or reports. However, if you need to add the column once connected to the data in Power BI, you can either create a custom column in Power Query Editor or add a calculated column to the semantic model. No matter how you add the column, the result is the same from a report user's perspective.

In general, custom columns in Power Query are preferred because they're loaded into the model in a more compact and optimal way. Calculated columns are recommended only when adding columns to a calculated table or when the formula:

- Depends on summarized model data.
- Requires specialized modeling functions available only in DAX, such as `RELATED`, `RELATEDTABLE`, or functions for parent-child hierarchies.

Create calculated columns

A DAX formula can be used to add a *calculated column* to any table in the model. The formula must return a single value (scalar) for each row.

Calculated columns in import models increase storage size and can prolong data refresh times, especially when they depend on other tables that are refreshed. Therefore, be cautious when using too many calculated columns and consider if a measure can be used instead.

In the following examples, several calculated columns are created to support fiscal analysis to demonstrate the versatility of calculated columns.

Fiscal Year

This column determines the fiscal year for each date. The fiscal year starts in July, so dates from July to December are assigned to the next calendar year. The formula concatenates "FY" with the year, incrementing the year by one for dates in the second half of the year.

```
Due Fiscal Year =  
"FY"  
    & YEAR('Due Date'[Due Date])  
    + IF(  
        MONTH('Due Date'[Due Date]) > 6,  
        1  
    )
```

The following steps describe how Microsoft Power BI evaluates the calculated column formula:

1. The addition operator (+) is evaluated before the text concatenation operator (&).
2. The `YEAR` function returns the whole number value of the due date year.
3. The `IF` function returns the value when the due date month number is 7-12 (July to December); otherwise, it returns BLANK. (For example, because the Adventure Works financial year is July-June, the last six months of the calendar year will use the next calendar year as their financial year.)

4. The year value is added to the value that is returned by the `IF` function, which is the value one or BLANK. If the value is BLANK, it's implicitly converted to zero (0) to allow the addition to produce the fiscal year value.
5. The literal text value `"FY"` concatenated with the fiscal year value, which is implicitly converted to text.

Fiscal Quarter

This column assigns a fiscal quarter to each date, based on the fiscal year structure where Quarter 1 is July–September. The formula appends `Q` and the quarter number to the fiscal year label.

```
Due Fiscal Quarter =  
'Due Date'[Due Fiscal Year] & " Q"  
  & IF(  
    MONTH('Due Date'[Due Date]) <= 3,  
    3,  
    IF(  
      MONTH('Due Date'[Due Date]) <= 6,  
      4,  
      IF(  
        MONTH('Due Date'[Due Date]) <= 9,  
        1,  
        2  
      )  
    )  
  )  
)
```

Month Key

The `MonthKey` formula multiplies the due date year by the value 100 and then adds the month number of the due date. It produces a numeric value that can be used to sort the `Due Month` text values in chronological order.

```
MonthKey =  
(YEAR('Due Date'[Due Date]) * 100) + MONTH('Due Date'[Due Date])
```

Full Date Label

The `FORMAT` function converts the `Due Date` column value to text by using a format string. In this case, the format string produces a label that describes the year, abbreviated month name, and day:

```
Due Full Date =  
FORMAT('Due Date'[Due Date], "yyyy mmm, dd")
```

Note

Many user-defined date/time formats exist. For more information, see [Custom date and time formats for the FORMAT function](#).

After these additions, the `Due Date` table contains six columns: the original date column and five calculated columns. These columns support both time intelligence functions and readability for report consumers.

1 MonthKey =
2 (YEAR('Due Date'[Due Date]) * 100) + MONTH('Due Date'[Due Date]))

Due Date	Due Fiscal Year	Due Fiscal Quarter	Due Month	Due Full Date	MonthKey
07/01/2017 00:00:00	FY2018	FY2018 Q1	2017 Jul	2017 Jul, 01	201707
07/02/2017 00:00:00	FY2018	FY2018 Q1	2017 Jul	2017 Jul, 02	201707
07/03/2017 00:00:00	FY2018	FY2018 Q1	2017 Jul	2017 Jul, 03	201707
07/04/2017 00:00:00	FY2018	FY2018 Q1	2017 Jul	2017 Jul, 04	201707
07/05/2017 00:00:00	FY2018	FY2018 Q1	2017 Jul	2017 Jul, 05	201707
07/06/2017 00:00:00	FY2018	FY2018 Q1	2017 Jul	2017 Jul, 06	201707
07/07/2017 00:00:00	FY2018	FY2018 Q1	2017 Jul	2017 Jul, 07	201707

Understand row context

Power BI evaluates a calculated column's formula for each row in the table, which is called row context. Row context just means "the current row." For example, here's the `Due Fiscal Year` calculated column:

```
Due Fiscal Year =  
"FY"  
    & YEAR('Due Date'[Due Date])  
    + IF(  
        MONTH('Due Date'[Due Date]) <= 6,  
        1  
    )
```

When Power BI runs this formula, `'Due Date'[Due Date]` gives the value from the current row. If you've used Excel tables, this idea might feel familiar.

Row context only applies to the current table. If you need values from another table, you have two main options:

- If a relationship exists between the two tables, use the `RELATED` or `RELATEDTABLE` function. `RELATED` gets a value from the one-side of a relationship. `RELATEDTABLE` gets a table of values from the many-side.
- If there's no relationship, use the `LOOKUPVALUE` function.

Try to use `RELATED` when you can. It usually works faster than `LOOKUPVALUE` because of how Power BI stores and indexes data.

Here's an example. This formula adds a `Discount Amount` column to the `Sales` table:

```
Discount Amount =  
(  
    Sales[Order Quantity]  
    * RELATED('Product'[List Price])  
) - Sales[Sales Amount]
```

Power BI calculates this formula for each row in the `Sales` table. It gets `Order Quantity` and `Sales Amount` from the current row. To get `List Price` from the `Product` table, it uses the `RELATED` function to find the right value for each sale.

Row context always applies when Power BI evaluates calculated column formulas. It also comes into play with iterator functions, which let you create more advanced summaries. You learn about iterator functions later in this module.

4. Understand implicit measures

<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/training/modules/dax-power-bi-create-calculations/4-implicit-measures>

Understand implicit measures

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Measures in Power BI models are either *implicit* or *explicit*. Implicit measures are automatic behaviors that let visuals summarize column data. Explicit measures, often called *measures*, are calculations you add to your model. This section explains how implicit measures work and how you can use them.

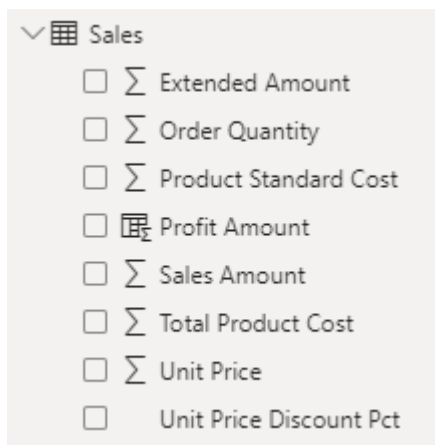
Identify implicit measures

As a data modeler, you control how a column summarizes by setting the **Summarization** property. You can choose **Don't summarize** or select a specific aggregation function. If you set a column to **Don't summarize**, the sigma symbol disappears in the **Data** pane.

In the **Data** pane, a column with the sigma symbol (Σ) shows two facts:

- The column is numeric.
- Values are summarized when used in a visual that supports summarization.

The following image shows the `Sales` table with implicit measures, a calculated column, and one column that can't be summarized.



Notice in the example with the **Sales** table, if you add the **Sales Amount** field from the **Sales** table to a matrix visual that groups by fiscal year and month, Power BI summarizes the values implicitly. The **Sum** aggregation function is selected by default.

Fiscal Year	Sales Amount
FY2018	\$23,860,891.17
2017 Jul	\$1,423,357.32
2017 Aug	\$2,057,902.45
2017 Sep	\$2,523,947.55
2017 Oct	\$561,681.48
2017 Nov	\$4,764,920.16
2017 Dec	\$596,746.56

If you add the **Unit Price** field to the matrix visual, Power BI uses **Average** as the default summarization, because summing unit prices doesn't make sense since they're rates, not totals.

Fiscal Year	Sales Amount	Unit Price
FY2018	\$23,860,891.17	\$1,273.63
2017 Jul	\$1,423,357.32	\$1,817.15
2017 Aug	\$2,057,902.45	\$1,181.42
2017 Sep	\$2,523,947.55	\$1,030.56
2017 Oct	\$561,681.48	\$3,228.05
2017 Nov	\$4,764,920.16	\$1,009.71
2017 Dec	\$596,746.56	\$3,174.18

The default summarization is now set to **Average** (the modeler knows that it's inappropriate to sum unit price values together because they're rates, which are non-additive).

Implicit measures allow the report author to start with a default summarization technique and lets them modify it to suit their visual requirements. Numeric columns support the widest range of aggregation functions to choose from, including:

- Sum
- Average
- Minimum

- Maximum
- Count (Distinct)
- Count
- Standard deviation
- Variance
- Median

Summarize non-numeric columns

Non-numeric columns like text, dates, and boolean (true/false) values can also be summarized in your visuals. While the sigma symbol (Σ) only appears next to numeric fields in the Data pane, these columns are still being aggregated.

- Text columns: First, Last, Count, Count (Distinct)
- Date columns: Earliest, Latest, Count, Count

This flexibility is useful when you want to answer questions such as:

- "How many unique products are there?" (Count distinct on a text column)
- "What was the earliest order date?" (Earliest on a date column)
- "How many orders were marked as complete?" (Count on a boolean column)

You can choose the aggregation option that best fits your analysis when you add a non-numeric field to your visual.

Considerations for implicit measures

Implicit measures are easy to use and flexible. They let report authors start with a default summarization and change it to fit their needs. Implicit measures let report authors quickly visualize data without needing to write calculations. As a data modeler, you spend less time creating explicit measures.

However, even if you set a default summarization, report authors can change it to something that might not make sense. For example, they could set **Unit Price** to **Sum**, which produces misleading results, as shown in the following image. The Unit Price values are large because they're the sum of unit prices instead of the static unit price per product.

Fiscal Year	Sales Amount	Sum of Unit Price
FY2018	\$23,860,891.17	\$13,905,519.77
2017 Jul	\$1,423,357.32	\$1,164,795.52
2017 Aug	\$2,057,902.45	\$1,115,258.56
2017 Sep	\$2,523,947.55	\$1,291,296.17
2017 Oct	\$561,681.48	\$561,681.48
2017 Nov	\$4,764,920.16	\$2,159,760.38
2017 Dec	\$596,746.56	\$596,746.56

The biggest limitation is that implicit measures only work for simple scenarios. They can summarize column values using a single aggregation function, but they can't handle more complex calculations. For example, if you need to calculate the ratio of each month's sales amount over the yearly sales amount, you must create an explicit measure with a DAX formula.

5. Create explicit measures

<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/training/modules/dax-power-bi-create-calculations/5-explicit-measures>

Create explicit measures

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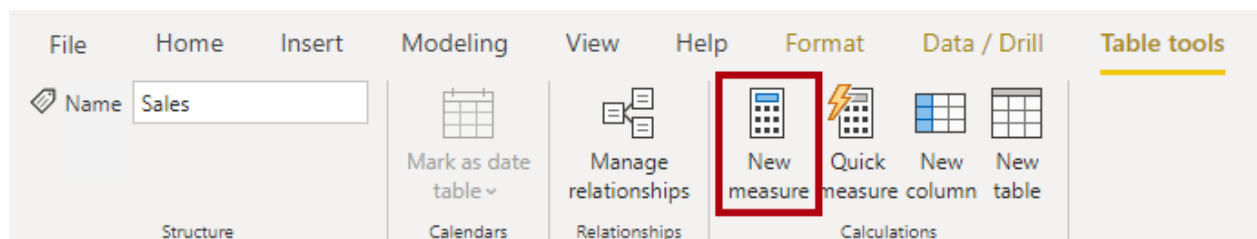
You can add a measure to any table in your model by writing a DAX formula. A measure formula must return a single value. This section explains how to create explicit measures.

Measures don't store values in the model. Instead, Power BI calculates them at query time to summarize model data. Measures can't reference a table or column directly, so you must use a function to summarize the data.

Simple measures

A *simple* measure aggregates the values of a single column, just like an implicit measure.

For example, you can add a measure to the **Sales** table. In the **Data** pane, select the **Sales** table. On the **Table Tools** ribbon, select **New measure**.



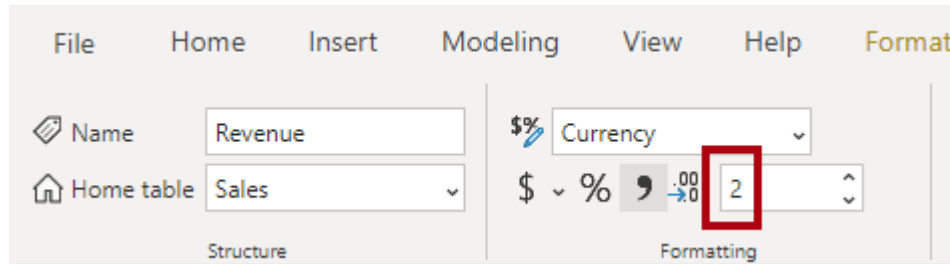
The following formula creates a measure called *Revenue*. This measure uses the **SUM** function to total the values in the **Sales Amount** column. If you add this measure to a table alongside the **Sales Amount** implicit measure, the results are the same.

```
Revenue =  
SUM(Sales[Sales Amount])
```

Tip

Adding measures and hiding columns helps report authors use the explicit measures instead.

In the **Measure tools** contextual ribbon, you can format the measure, set data type, and change the home table. The home table refers to where the measure shows when looking at the data pane.



Tip

It's a good practice to set the formatting options right after you create a measure. This ensures your values look consistent in all report visuals.

Consider you might need a measure to calculate **Profit** as shown in the following code:

```
Profit =  
SUM(Sales[Profit Amount])
```

In this example, the **Profit Amount** column is a calculated column. This approach isn't optimal because you don't need that column. In the next section, you see how to create a measure that calculates profit directly, which reduces model size and improves refresh times.

The following code creates two different measures to return **Order Line Count** and **Order Count**. The **COUNT** function counts non-BLANK values in a column. The **DISTINCTCOUNT** function counts unique values. Since an order can have multiple order lines, the **Sales Order** column has duplicates. Using **DISTINCTCOUNT** gives you the correct order count.

```
Order Line Count =  
COUNT(Sales[SalesOrderLineKey])  
  
Order Count =  
DISTINCTCOUNT('Sales Order'[Sales Order])
```

You can also write the **Order Line Count** measure using **COUNTROWS**, which counts the number of rows in a table:

```
Order Line Count =  
COUNTROWS(Sales)
```

All the measures referenced are considered simple measures because they aggregate a single column or single table.

Fiscal Year	Order Count	Order Line Count	Cost	Minimum Price	Average Price	Maximum Price	Profit	Quantity	Revenue
FY2018	3,198	10,918	\$20,824,958	\$4.75	\$1,274	\$3,578.27	\$3,035,934	24,349	\$23,860,891
FY2019	4,738	26,050	\$30,362,108	\$2.29	\$567	\$2,443.35	\$3,708,000	83,339	\$34,070,109
FY2020	23,519	84,285	\$46,070,842	\$1.33	\$329	\$2,443.35	\$5,807,433	167,088	\$51,878,275
Total	31,455	121,253	\$97,257,908	\$1.33	\$465	\$3,578.27	\$12,551,366	274,776	\$109,809,274

Create compound measures

A *compound measure* references one or more other measures. For example, you can redefine the **Profit** measure by referencing other measures. This measure can be used instead of the calculated column previously referenced.

```
Profit =
[Revenue] - [Cost]
```

This change to the model presents an important lesson: By removing the calculated column, you optimize the semantic model because it results in a decreased semantic model size and shorter data refresh times. The **Profit Amount** calculated column wasn't required after all because the **Profit** measure can directly produce the required result by using existing measures.

Note

Sometimes, it makes sense to define measures that depend on other measures. Always test changes carefully, because updates can affect all dependent measures.

Use Quick measures

Quick measures let you perform common calculations without writing DAX yourself. Power BI generates the DAX expression for you, which helps you learn and build your DAX skills.

For example, you can use a Quick measure to create a **Profit Margin** measure through the following steps:

1. Select Quick measure in the Table tools ribbon.
2. Choose Mathematical operations > Division.
3. Add the **Profit** measure into **Numerator** and **Revenue** into **Denominator**.

6. Use iterator functions

<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/training/modules/dax-power-bi-create-calculations/6-iterator-functions>

Use iterator functions

Completed

Iterator functions evaluate an expression for each row in a table. They give you flexibility and control over how your model summarizes data.

Single-column summarization functions, such as `SUM`, `COUNT`, `MIN`, and `MAX`, have equivalent iterator functions with an "X" suffix, like `SUMX`, `COUNTX`, `MINX`, and `MAXX`. Specialized iterator functions also exist for filtering, ranking, and semi-additive calculations over time.

Every iterator function requires a table and an expression. The table can be a model table or any expression that returns a table. The expression must return a single value for each row.

Single-column summarization functions, like `SUM`, act as shorthand. Power BI internally converts `SUM` to `SUMX`. For example, both of the following measures return the same result and have the same performance:

```
Revenue = SUM(Sales[Sales Amount])
```

```
Revenue =  
SUMX(  
    Sales,  
    Sales[Sales Amount]  
)
```

Iterator functions evaluate the expression for each row in a table, using row context—meaning they process one row at a time to compute the final result. Then the table is evaluated in filter context. For example, if a report visual filters by fiscal year FY2020, the `Sales` table contains only sales rows from that year.

Important

Using iterator functions with large tables and complex expressions can slow performance. Functions like `SEARCH` and `LOOKUPVALUE` can be expensive. When possible, use `RELATED` for better performance.

Iterator functions for complex summarization

Iterator functions let you aggregate more than a single column. For example, a revenue measure can multiply order quantity, unit price, and a discount factor for each row, then sum the results.

```
Revenue =  
SUMX(  
    Sales,  
    Sales[Order Quantity] * Sales[Unit Price] * (1 - Sales[Unit Price Discount Pct])  
)
```

Iterator functions can also reference related tables. The discount measure can use the `RELATED` function to access the list price from the product table:

```
Discount =  
SUMX(  
    Sales,  
    Sales[Order Quantity]  
    * (  
        RELATED('Product'[List Price]) - Sales[Unit Price]  
    )  
)
```

The following image shows a table visual with the Month, Revenue, and Discount columns. Revenue and Discount are the measures previously created.

Month	Revenue	Discount
2017 Jul	\$1,423,357.32	\$326,219.06
2017 Aug	\$2,057,902.45	\$1,031,506.86
2017 Sep	\$2,523,947.55	\$1,342,355.67
2017 Oct	\$561,681.48	\$0.00
2017 Nov	\$4,764,920.16	\$2,692,205.61
2017 Dec	\$596,746.56	\$0.00
2018 Jan	\$1,327,674.63	\$475,813.07
2018 Feb	\$3,936,463.31	\$2,237,412.77
2018 Mar	\$700,873.18	\$0.00
2018 Apr	\$1,519,275.24	\$588,995.26
2018 May	\$2,960,378.09	\$1,514,891.49
2018 Jun	\$1,487,671.19	\$1,659,893.12

Iterator functions for higher grain summarization

Iterator functions can also summarize data at different levels of detail (grain). For example, you might want to calculate an average at the line item level or at the sales order level.

In this example, the **Sales** table contains one row for each line item in a sales order. Each row includes details such as the sales order number, product, quantity sold, unit price, and discount. Multiple rows can have the same sales order number, representing different items within the same order.

To calculate the average revenue per order line (line item), you can use the **AVERAGEX** function to iterate over each row in the **Sales** table. The formula calculates revenue for each line item, then averages the result across all line items in the current filter context:

```
Revenue Avg Order Line =
AVERAGEX(
    Sales,
    Sales[Order Quantity] * Sales[Unit Price] * (1 - Sales[Unit Price Discount Pct.])
)
```

Month	Revenue	Discount	Revenue Avg
2017 Jul	\$1,423,357.32	\$326,219.06	\$2,220.53
2017 Aug	\$2,057,902.45	\$1,031,506.86	\$2,179.98
2017 Sep	\$2,523,947.55	\$1,342,355.67	\$2,014.32
2017 Oct	\$561,681.48	\$0.00	\$3,228.05
2017 Nov	\$4,764,920.16	\$2,692,205.61	\$2,227.64
2017 Dec	\$596,746.56	\$0.00	\$3,174.18
2018 Jan	\$1,327,674.63	\$475,813.07	\$2,329.25
2018 Feb	\$3,936,463.31	\$2,237,412.77	\$2,321.03
2018 Mar	\$700,873.18	\$0.00	\$3,200.33
2018 Apr	\$1,519,275.24	\$588,995.26	\$2,182.87
2018 May	\$2,960,378.09	\$1,514,891.49	\$2,219.17
2018 Jun	\$1,487,671.19	\$1,659,893.12	\$1,398.19

If you want to calculate the average revenue per sales order (rather than per line item), you can use the **VALUES** function to get a list of unique sales order numbers first. Then, **AVERAGEX** iterates over each sales order and averages the total revenue for each order:

```
Revenue Avg Order =
AVERAGEX(
    VALUES('Sales Order'[Sales Order]),
    [Revenue]
)
```

The **VALUES** function returns the unique sales orders based on the current filter context, so **AVERAGEX** iterates over each sales order for each month.

Month	Revenue	Discount	Revenue Avg Order Line	Revenue Avg Order
2017 Jul	\$1,423,357.32	\$326,219.06	\$2,220.53	\$4,352.77
2017 Aug	\$2,057,902.45	\$1,031,506.86	\$2,179.98	\$8,794.45
2017 Sep	\$2,523,947.55	\$1,342,355.67	\$2,014.32	\$9,670.30
2017 Oct	\$561,681.48	\$0.00	\$3,228.05	\$3,228.05
2017 Nov	\$4,764,920.16	\$2,692,205.61	\$2,227.64	\$12,441.04
2017 Dec	\$596,746.56	\$0.00	\$3,174.18	\$3,174.18
2018 Jan	\$1,327,674.63	\$475,813.07	\$2,329.25	\$5,698.17
2018 Feb	\$3,936,463.31	\$2,237,412.77	\$2,321.03	\$12,301.45
2018 Mar	\$700,873.18	\$0.00	\$3,200.33	\$3,200.33
2018 Apr	\$1,519,275.24	\$588,995.26	\$2,182.87	\$6,356.80
2018 May	\$2,960,378.09	\$1,514,891.49	\$2,219.17	\$9,642.93
2018 Jun	\$1,487,671.19	\$1,659,893.12	\$1,398.19	\$4,752.94

Ranking with iterator functions

The `RANKX` function calculates ranks by iterating over a table and evaluating an expression for each row.

Order direction can be ascending or descending. Ranking revenue usually uses descending order, so the highest value ranks first. Ranking something like complaints might use ascending order, so the lowest value ranks first. By default, `RANKX` uses descending order and skips ranks for ties.

For example, a product quantity rank measure can use `RANKX` and the `ALL` function to rank products by quantity:

```
Product Quantity Rank =
RANKX(
    ALL('Product'[Product]),
    [Quantity]
)
```

The `ALL` function removes filters, so `RANKX` ranks all products. In the following image, two products tie for tenth place, so the next product is ranked twelfth and rank 11 is skipped.

Bike Sales

Product	Quantity	Product	Quantity	Rank
Mountain-200 Black, 38	2,977			1
Mountain-200 Black, 42	2,664			2
Mountain-200 Silver, 38	2,394			3
Road-650 Black, 52	2,265			4
Road-650 Red, 44	2,244			5
Mountain-200 Silver, 42	2,234			6
Road-650 Red, 60	2,221			7
Mountain-200 Silver, 46	2,216			8
Mountain-200 Black, 46	2,111			9
Road-650 Red, 48	1,886			10
Road-650 Red, 62	1,886			10
Road-650 Black, 58	1,865			12
Road-550-W Yellow, 48	1,763			13
Road-550-W Yellow, 38	1,744			14
Road-250 Black, 44	1,642			15



You can also use dense ranking, which assigns the next rank after a tie without skipping numbers. To use dense ranking, the measure can include the `DENSE` argument:

```
Product Quantity Rank =
RANKX(
    ALL('Product'[Product]),
    [Quantity],
    ,
    ,
    DENSE
)
```

Now, after two products tie for tenth place, the next product is ranked eleventh and numbering continues sequentially without skipping rank 11.

Bike Sales		
Product	Quantity	Product Quantity Rank
Mountain-200 Black, 38	2,977	1
Mountain-200 Black, 42	2,664	2
Mountain-200 Silver, 38	2,394	3
Road-650 Black, 52	2,265	4
Road-650 Red, 44	2,244	5
Mountain-200 Silver, 42	2,234	6
Road-650 Red, 60	2,221	7
Mountain-200 Silver, 46	2,216	8
Mountain-200 Black, 46	2,111	9
Road-650 Red, 48	1,886	10
Road-650 Red, 62	1,886	10
Road-650 Black, 58	1,865	11
Road-550-W Yellow, 48	1,763	12
Road-550-W Yellow, 38	1,744	13
Road-250 Black, 44	1,642	14

In this visual, the total row for the **Product Quantity Rank** measure shows one, because the total for all products is also ranked and there's only one value.

Road-350-W Yellow, 40	1,477	19
Road-750 Black, 52	1,338	20
Total	90,220	1

To avoid ranking the total, the measure can use the **HASONEVALUE** function to return BLANK unless a single product is filtered:

```
Product Quantity Rank =
IF(
    HASONEVALUE('Product'[Product]),
    RANKX(
        ALL('Product'[Product]),
        [Quantity],
        ,
        DENSE
    )
)
```

Now, the total for **Product Quantity Rank** is blank.

Road-350-W Yellow, 40	1,477	19
Road-750 Black, 52	1,338	20
Total	90,220	

The `HASONEVALUE` function checks if the product column has a single value in filter context. This is true for each product group, but not for the total, which represents all products.

Iterator functions provide powerful ways to summarize, aggregate, and rank data in Power BI models. They support complex calculations and let you control the level of detail in your reports.

7. Exercise - Create DAX calculations

<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/training/modules/dax-power-bi-create-calculations/7-lab>

Exercise - Create DAX calculations

Completed

In this exercise, you learn how to use DAX to:

- Create calculated tables.
- Create calculated columns.
- Create measures.

This lab takes approximately **45** minutes to complete.

Note

A virtual machine containing the client tools you need is provided, along with the exercise instructions. Use the "Launch lab" button to launch the virtual machine.

A limited number of concurrent sessions are available. If the hosted environment is unavailable, please try again later.

Alternatively, you can [open the instructions in a separate window](#).

Access your environment

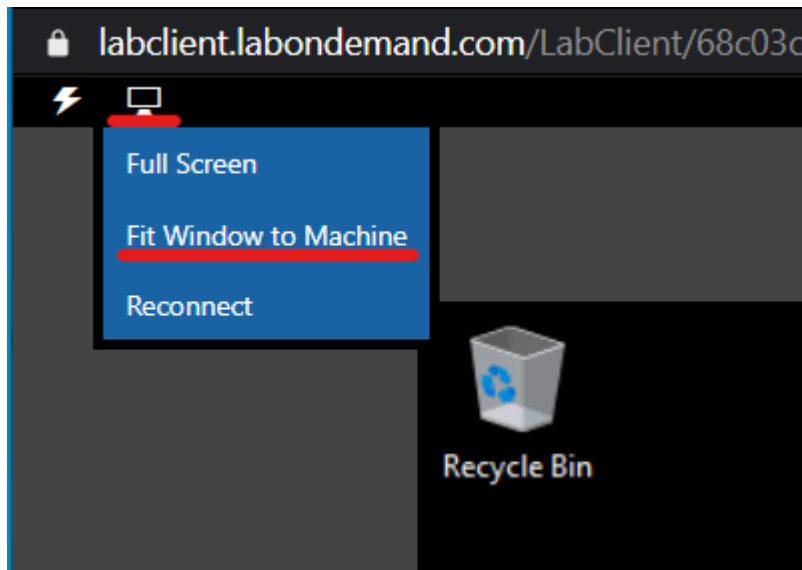
Before you start this lab (unless you are continuing from a previous lab), select **Launch lab** above.

You are automatically logged in to your lab environment as data-ai\student.

You can now begin your work on this lab.

Tip

To dock the lab environment so that it fills the window, select the PC icon at the top and then select **Fit Window to Machine**.



8. Check your knowledge

<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/training/modules/dax-power-bi-create-calculations/8-check>

Check your knowledge

Completed

9. Summary

<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/training/modules/dax-power-bi-create-calculations/9-summary>

Summary

Completed

This module covered using DAX calculations to extend your semantic model. You learned the differences between calculated columns and measures, including when and how Power BI evaluates

them and how they store data. Explicit measures are important because they allow you to create complex DAX formulas to achieve the precise calculations that your report visuals need.

You also learned how calculated columns are evaluated within row context, and iterator functions are available in measures for advanced row-by-row calculations.

Understanding how to create and use DAX calculations is fundamental for building effective, flexible, and maintainable semantic models in Power BI. These concepts help you design reports that deliver accurate insights and support a wide range of analytical requirements.

For more information, see [Introduction to DAX in Power BI](#).