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Power BI Unleashed

Turn Data into Stories That Matter - 1 day

FA-0361 · 1 day

Data & Analytics

Introduction

Raw data is just noise until someone makes it sing. Power BI is Microsoft's answer to that challenge – a toolkit that lets you transform numbers into narratives and metrics into meaning.

This isn't your typical "follow along" training. We're diving into the messy, real-world data that actually crosses your desk. Guided by an instructor who's been solving business problems since floppy disks were cutting edge, you'll build dashboards that answer the questions your stakeholders are actually asking.

Learning outcomes

- Develop proficiency in navigating and utilizing Power BI Desktop for data analysis.
- Construct and manage tables within Power BI to organize and interpret data efficiently.
- Apply visual calculations to derive insights and enhance data storytelling.
- Implement filters and slicers to create dynamic, user-interactive reports.
- Design and customize a variety of graphs and visualizations to represent data compellingly.
- Build interactive dashboards that provide comprehensive data overviews and facilitate decision-making.
- Establish and manage relationships between datasets to ensure data integrity and coherence.
- Utilize the Power BI Query Editor for data transformation and preparation tasks.
- Integrate Power BI with Excel to enhance data analysis capabilities.

Prerequisites

- Basic understanding of data concepts and familiarity with Microsoft Excel.
- No prior experience with Power BI is required.

Training outline

1. Introduction to Power BI Desktop

1. Overview of Power BI components and ecosystem.
2. Installing and setting up Power BI Desktop.
3. Navigating the Power BI interface: ribbons, panes, and views.
4. Connecting to various data sources: Excel, databases, web data.

2. Creating and Managing Tables in Power BI Desktop

1. Importing data into Power BI.
2. Understanding data types and field properties.
3. Creating and formatting tables.
4. Best practices for data organization and cleanliness.

3. Implementing Visual Calculations

1. Introduction to DAX (Data Analysis Expressions) for creating calculated columns and measures.
2. Using Quick Measures for common calculations.
3. Applying conditional formatting to enhance data interpretation.
4. Recent updates: Conditional formatting support for visual calculations.

4. Utilizing Filters and Slicers

1. Difference between filters and slicers.
2. Implementing basic and advanced filters.
3. Designing slicers for user-driven data exploration.
4. Syncing slicers across multiple pages for cohesive filtering.

5. Designing Graphs and Visualizations

1. Exploring various visualization types: bar charts, line graphs, pie charts, etc.
2. Customizing visual elements: colors, labels, and themes.
3. Incorporating new visualization features from recent updates.
4. Best practices for selecting appropriate visuals based on data and audience.

6. Building Interactive Dashboards

1. Combining multiple visuals into cohesive dashboards.
2. Design principles for effective dashboard layouts.
3. Adding interactive elements: buttons, bookmarks, and tooltips.
4. Ensuring responsiveness for various devices, including mobile optimization.

7. Establishing Relationships Between Datasets

1. Understanding the importance of data relationships.
2. Creating and editing relationships between tables.
3. Managing relationship cardinality and cross-filter direction.
4. Handling complex data models with multiple relationships.

8. Exploring the Power BI Query Editor

1. Introduction to the Query Editor interface.
2. Performing data transformation tasks: filtering rows, pivoting/unpivoting columns.
3. Merging and appending queries for comprehensive datasets.
4. Implementing custom functions and advanced transformations.

9. Analyzing Data with Excel Integration

1. Exporting Power BI data to Excel for further analysis.
2. Creating Excel-based visualizations from Power BI datasets.
3. Utilizing Power BI Publisher for Excel to pin Excel items to dashboards.
4. Benefits and considerations of integrating Power BI with Excel.

Interactive Elements:

- **Hands-On Exercises:** Participants will work on real-world datasets to apply learned concepts, reinforcing their understanding through practice.
- **Group Activities:** Collaborative tasks will encourage knowledge sharing and problem-solving among attendees.
- **Q&A Sessions:** Dedicated time for participants to ask questions and engage in discussions about practical applications and challenges.

By the end of this immersive one-day course, participants will be equipped with the skills to harness Power BI's capabilities, transforming data into actionable insights through interactive and visually appealing dashboards.

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