

Date Table Design Using DAX

Duration: 1 hour

Session Overview

This session introduces how to build Date and supporting tables using DAX to strengthen Power BI data models. Participants will understand where DAX fits within Power BI, how it differs from Power Query, and when it should be used for table creation. The session covers creating a proper Date table, adding essential date attributes, and building duplicate tables, along with best practices and common mistakes.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Understand the importance of Date and supporting tables in Power BI
- Explain what DAX is and when to use it for table creation
- Create and correctly mark a Date table using DAX
- Add commonly used date attributes for reporting
- Build duplicate or supporting tables using DAX
- Identify common mistakes and performance considerations

Pre-requisites

Foundation understanding of Power BI concepts and DAX is mandatory

Session Agenda

Introduction & Context Setting

- Why Date and supporting tables are critical in Power BI models
- Common issues caused by missing or incorrect date tables
- Where DAX fits in Power BI (vs Power Query)

What Is DAX?

- Introduction to Data Analysis Expressions (DAX)
- Difference between DAX measures, calculated columns, and calculated tables
- When and why to use DAX for table creation

Creating a Date Table Using DAX

- Importance and key components of a proper Date table
- Creating a Date table using DAX (CALENDAR / CALENDARAUTO)
- Adding commonly used date attributes:
 - Year, Quarter, Month, Month Name, Day

- Marking the Date table correctly