

Stop Your Power BI Reports From Breaking



Plan Before Building

- **Define clear business questions upfront**
- **Identify key metrics and dimensions needed**
- **Map out data sources and relationships**
- **Sketch a simple diagram of your model**
- **Get stakeholder agreement on the plan**



Clean Your Data First

- **Resolve inconsistencies in data types**
- **Remove unnecessary columns to reduce bloat**
- **Handle null and blank values appropriately**
- **Standardize formats like dates and currencies**
- **Perform cleaning in the source or Power Query**



Master Star Schema

- Structure your model with fact and dimension tables
- Use fact tables for measurable metrics
- Use dimension tables for descriptive attributes
- Avoid creating one big flat table
- This simplifies relationships and improves performance



Manage Relationships Wisely

- Set relationships to avoid ambiguous paths
- Use single-direction cross-filtering for clarity
- Prefer a single date dimension table
- Mark date tables as such in Power BI
- Avoid unnecessary bi-directional relationships



Write Robust DAX

- Use calculated columns sparingly, measures generously
- Avoid circular references in your formulas
- Utilize time intelligence functions correctly
- Test measures with different filters applied
- Name measures clearly for easy identification



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