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Power BI *Made Easy*



Topic: Last Refresh Date



DATA MINING

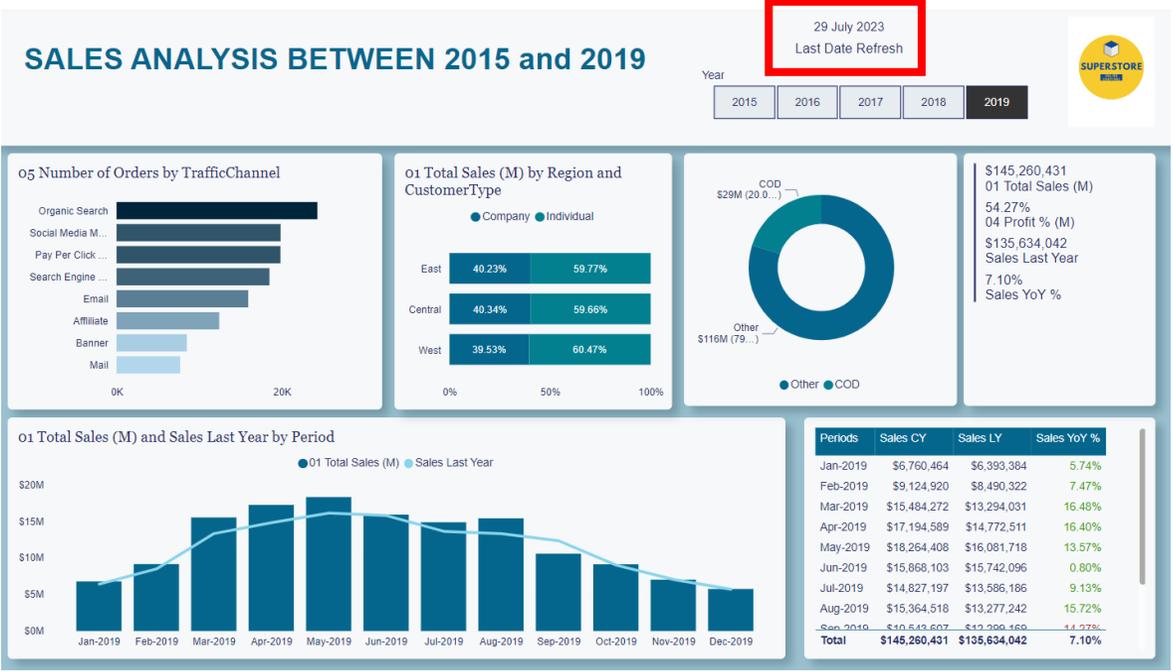
www.vistacompany.ir

Introduction



It is important to show the last refresh date on a Power BI report for several reasons:

- It allows users to know how up-to-date the data is. This is especially important if the data is used to make decisions or track trends.
- It helps users to identify tables that need to be refreshed. If the last refresh date is older than a certain number of days, then the user knows that the table needs to be refreshed in order to get the most up-to-date data.
- It can help to improve the accuracy of the data. If the user knows that the data is not up-to-date, then they may be more likely to double-check the data before making a decision.



In addition, showing the last refresh date can help to improve the overall credibility of the report. By showing that the data is up-to-date, the user is more likely to trust the information in the report.



Use cases

Here are some examples of how the last refresh date can be used in a Power BI report:

- You could add a text box to the report that shows the last refresh date.
- You could create a visual that shows the last refresh date for each table in the report.
- You could use the last refresh date in a calculation to determine whether or not the data is up-to-date.
- The best way to show the last refresh date in a Power BI report will depend on the specific needs of the report.

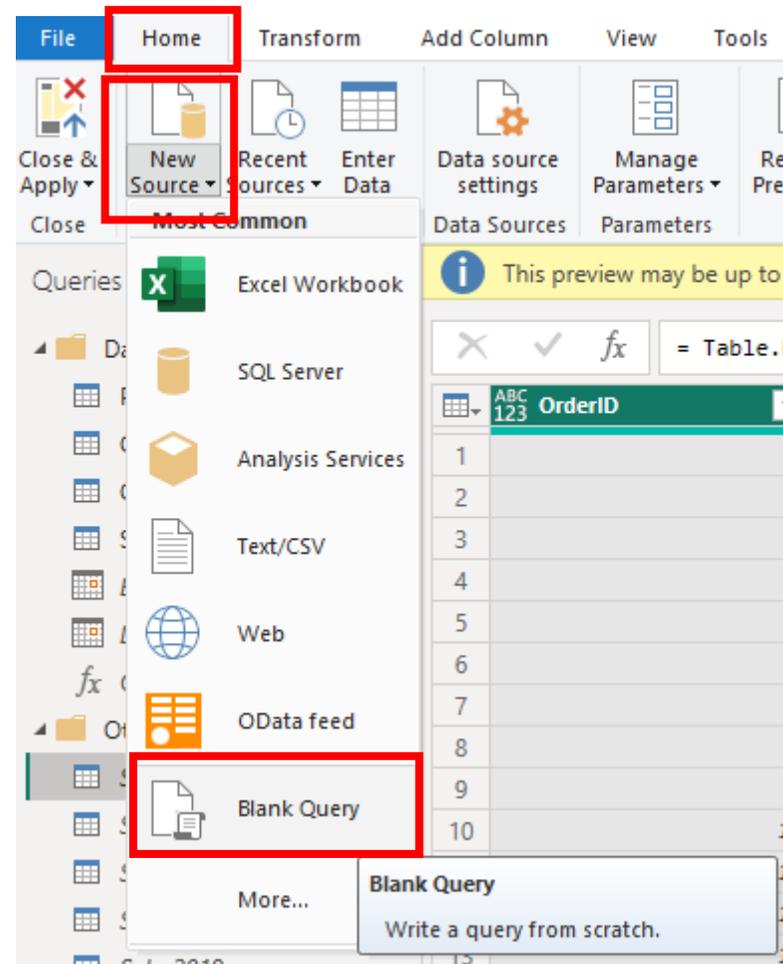
However, by following the tips above, you can ensure that the last refresh date is displayed in a way that is clear and informative.

Step 1: Create a blank query using M

- Go to Power Query Editor via the Transform Data
- Next, Go to Home, New Source and Blank Query

Step 1

Swipe



Step 2: Insert M code to create date

- Enter the M code in the formula bar = DateTime.LocalNow
- Press Enter

Step 2

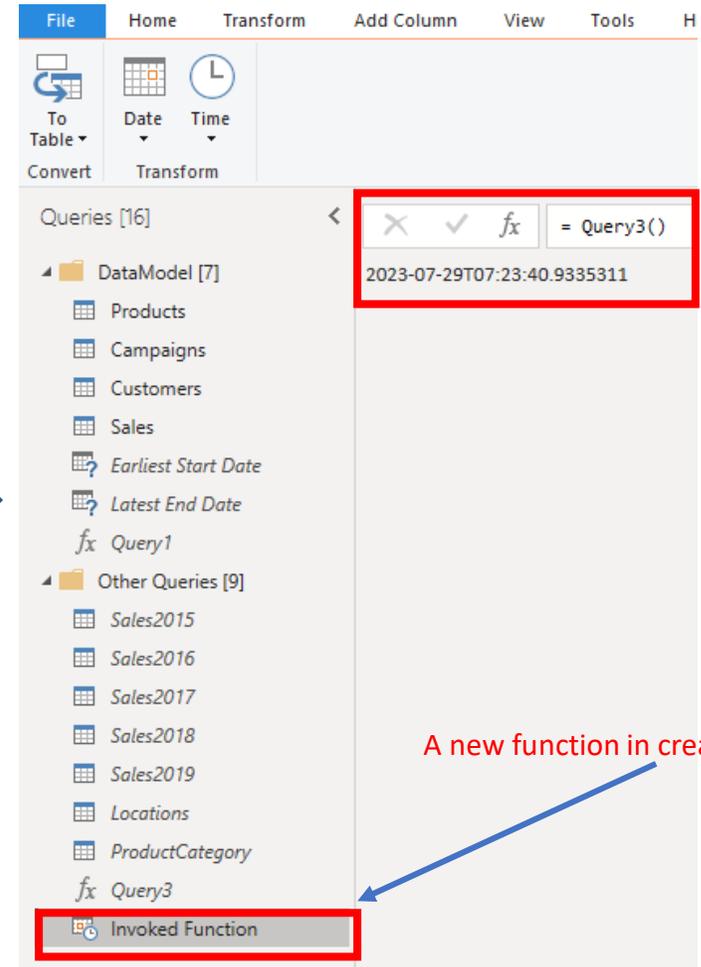
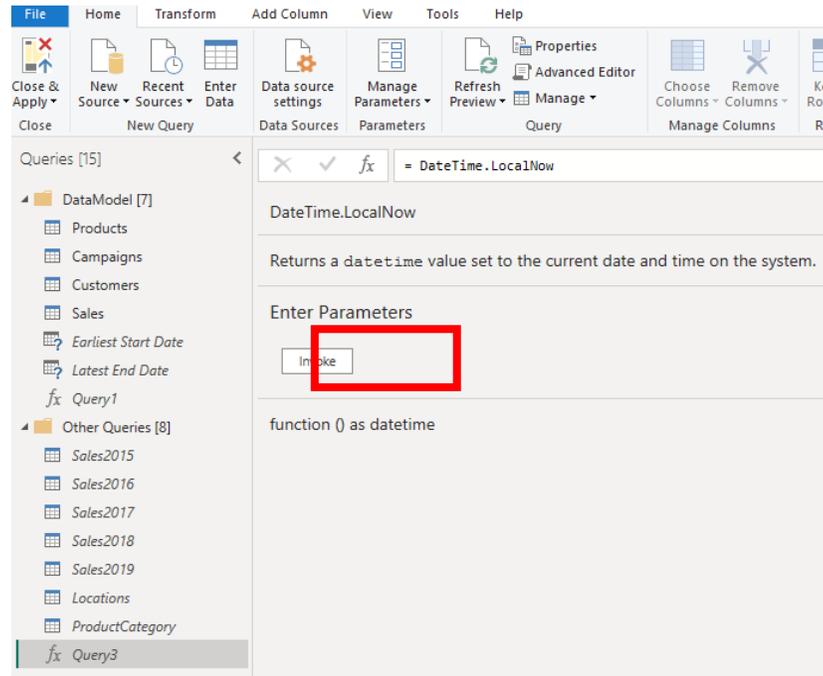
Swipe

The screenshot displays the Microsoft Power BI Desktop interface. The ribbon at the top includes tabs for File, Home, Transform, Add Column, View, Tools, and Help. The 'Transform' tab is active, showing options like 'New Query', 'Data Sources', 'Parameters', 'Query', and 'Manage Columns'. The 'Queries' pane on the left lists various queries, with 'Query3' highlighted in red. The formula bar at the top right contains the M code '= DateTime.LocalNow', which is also highlighted in red. Below the formula bar, the 'DateTime.LocalNow' function is detailed, including its description and an 'Invoke' button. A red box highlights the formula bar, and a blue arrow points from the text 'New query has been created and appears in the Queries pane' to the 'Query3' entry in the Queries pane.

New query has been created and appears in the Queries pane

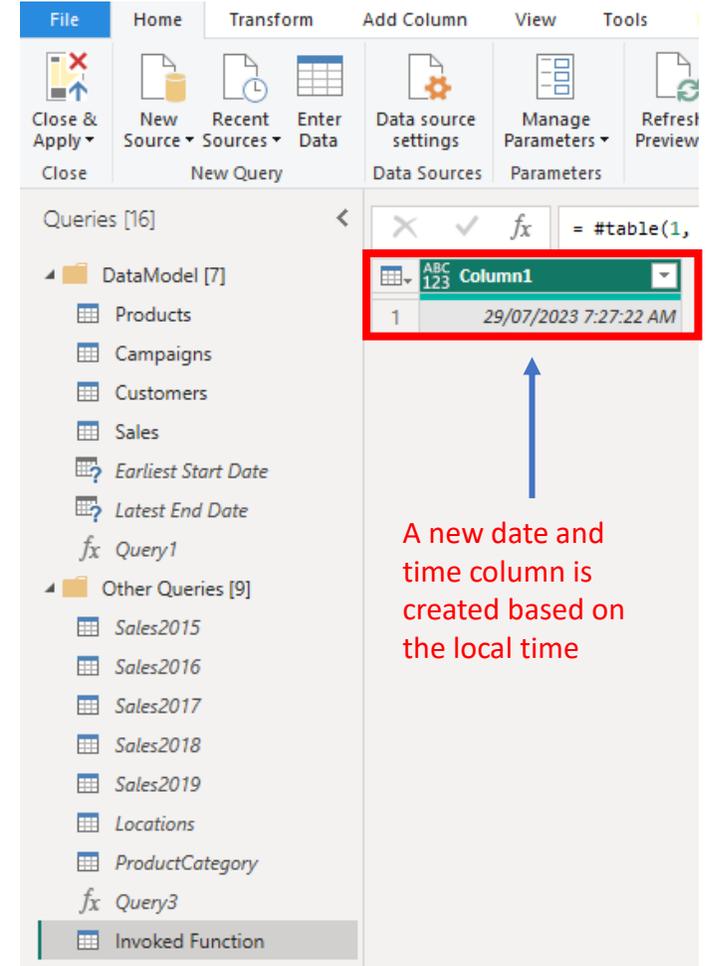
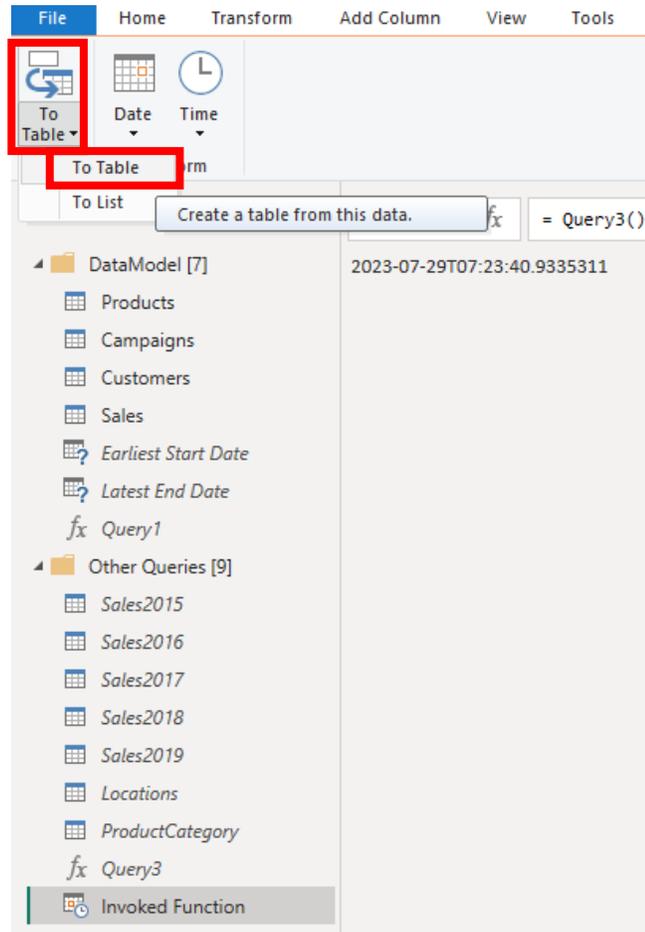
Step 3: Invoke the date query created

- Enter the M code in the formula bar = DateTime.LocalNow
- Press Enter



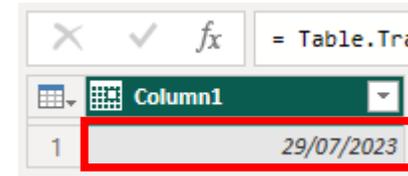
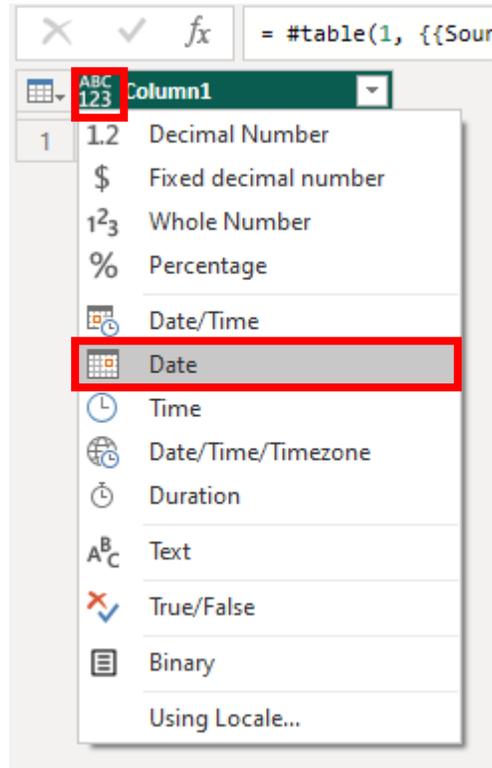
Step 4: Convert to a Table

- Go to File, then To Table and select To Table



Step 5: Format Column to Date

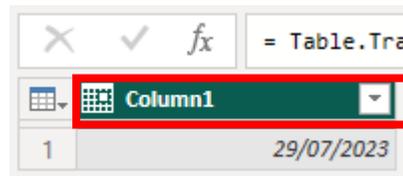
- Go to File, then To Table and select To Table



Step 6: Rename Column and Query

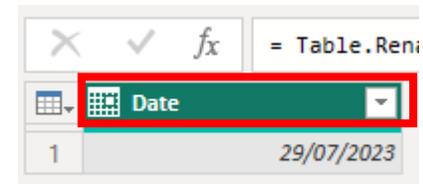
Step 6

- Double click on Column 1 header and rename to Date
- Press Enter



A screenshot of a table in a data tool. The table has a header row with a column labeled 'Column1' and a data row with the value '29/07/2023'. The 'Column1' header is highlighted with a red box. Above the table, there is a formula bar with a dropdown menu showing 'Table.Tra'.

Column1
29/07/2023



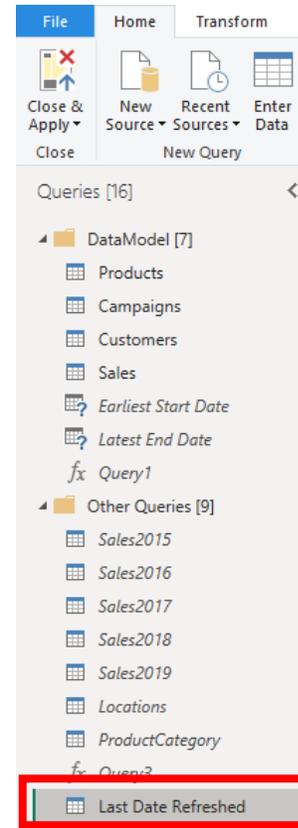
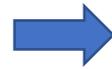
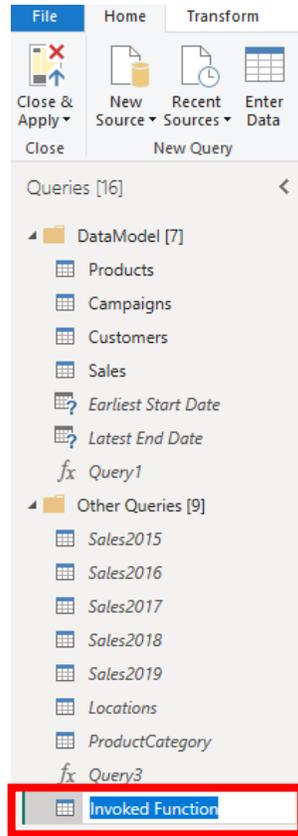
A screenshot of a table in a data tool, showing the result of the renaming process. The table has a header row with a column labeled 'Date' and a data row with the value '29/07/2023'. The 'Date' header is highlighted with a red box. Above the table, there is a formula bar with a dropdown menu showing 'Table.Reni'.

Date
29/07/2023

Swipe

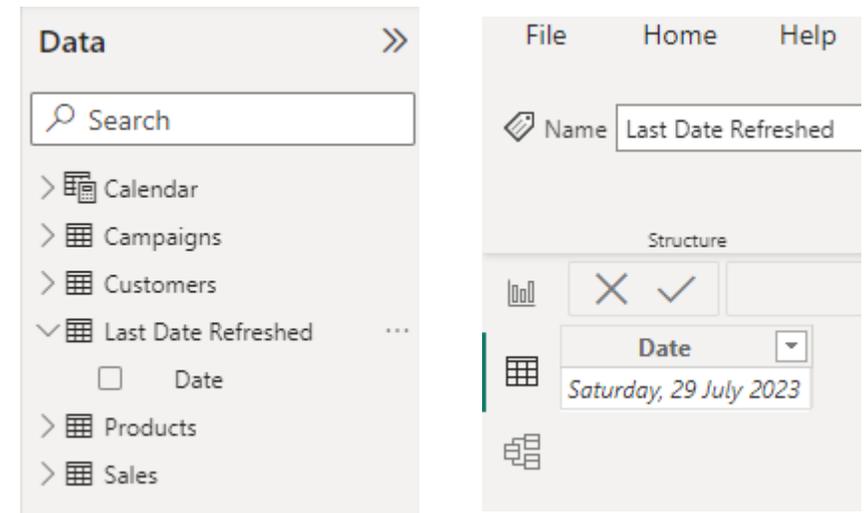
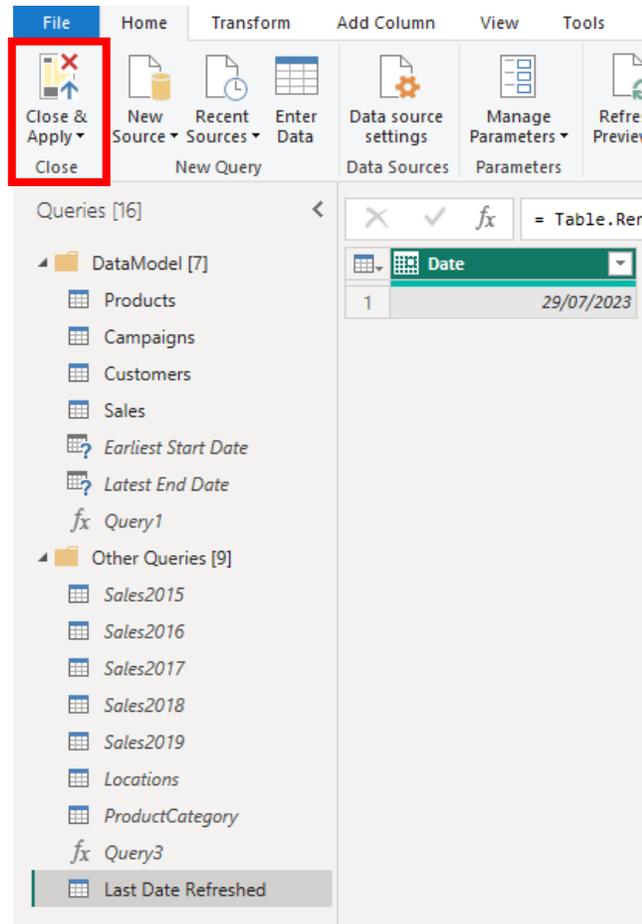
Step 7: Rename Query

- Double click on the Invoke Function in the Queries pane
- Rename to “Last Date Refreshed”
- Press Enter



Step 8: Close and Apply changes

- Click on Close & Apply and you are done



Once the new table has been loaded to Power BI you see it showing under the Data pane as well in the Data view.

Step 9: Format Date Column

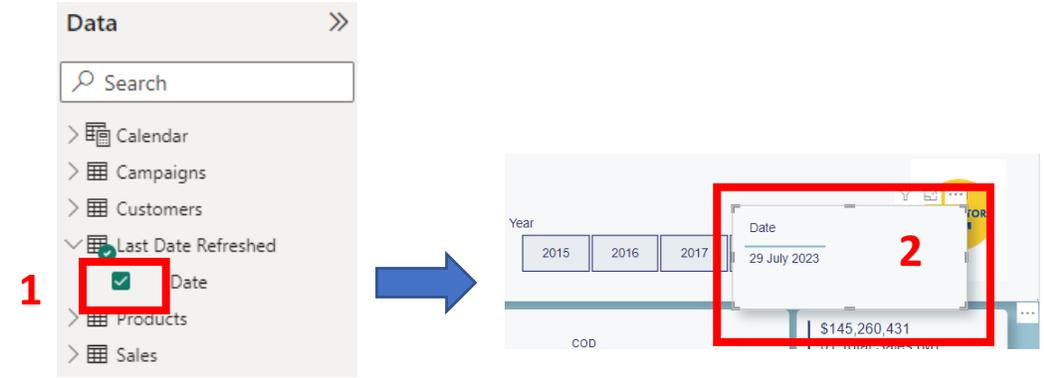
- Click on Date column in the Data pane
- Apply date format as you desired under Column tools, Format



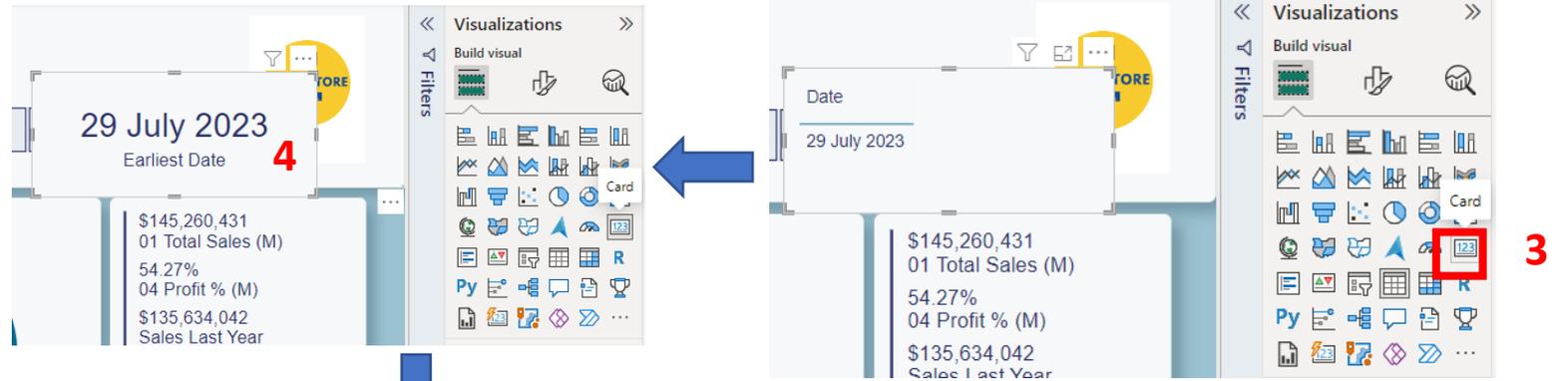
The screenshot illustrates the process of formatting a date column in Power BI. On the left, the 'Data' pane shows the 'Date' column selected, highlighted with a red box. A blue arrow points from this pane to the main report view. In the main view, the 'Column tools' ribbon is active, and the 'Format' dropdown menu is open, also highlighted with a red box. The dropdown menu lists various date formats, including 'Short Date', 'Long Date', and several custom formats like 'd mmmm yyyy' and 'dd/mm/yyyy'. The background shows a report with a bar chart titled '05 Number of Orders by Tra...' and a table titled '01 Total Sales (M) and Sales...'. The 'Table tools' ribbon is also visible, with 'Column tools' highlighted in red.

Step 10: Insert Last Date Refreshed into Report page and apply visualisation settings

- Click on the box next to Date column in the Data pane (1)
- The Date column is inserted as a table (2)
- Convert the table to a Card visual (3)
- Apply visualisation settings to the Card visual as desired (4)
- Place your card visual where you want - you are now done (5)



Start here





The content provided in this guide is generated using advanced language models, including ChatGPT and Google Bard. We would like to clarify that while we strive to offer useful and informative information, we do not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, or reliability of the research conducted by these language models.

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While we have made diligent efforts to approximate the facts on various topics, the dynamic nature of information means that some details may change over time or be subject to interpretation.

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AI Language Models used



[ChatGPT \(openai.com\)](https://openai.com)

ChatGPT is a language model developed by OpenAI. It stands for "Chat Generative Pre-trained Transformer." It is based on the GPT (Generative Pre-trained Transformer) architecture, specifically GPT-3.5, which is one of the most advanced versions of the model.

GPT-3.5 is designed to understand and generate human-like text based on the input it receives. It has been trained on a vast amount of diverse data from the internet and can perform a wide range of natural language processing tasks, such as answering questions, summarizing text, translating languages, simulating conversations, and much more.

Bard is a large language model, also known as a conversational AI or chatbot trained to be informative and comprehensive. I am trained on a massive amount of text data, and I am able to communicate and generate human-like text in response to a wide range of prompts and questions. For example, I can provide summaries of factual topics or create stories.



[Bard \(google.com\)](https://google.com)

Swipe



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