

Import Basics

Trifacta® can import data from a variety of flat file formats and other distributed sources.

NOTE: Trifacta does not modify a source. Instead, a set of metadata is associated with the raw data, which enables transformation of the source. On export, a new version of the data is written to one or more specified output destinations.

For more information on the formats supported for input, see *Supported File Formats*.

Basic steps:

1. When data is imported, a reference to it is stored by the platform as an **imported dataset**. The source data is not modified.
2. In the application, you modify the recipe associated with a dataset to transform the imported data.

Steps:

NOTE: Any user with a valid user account can import data from a local file.

1. Login.
2. In the menubar, click **Datasets**. Click **Import Data**.
3. To add a dataset:
 - a. Select the connection where your source is located. For this basic workflow, select **Upload** to upload a file from your local desktop. You can select multiple files to upload. For this example, select only one file.
 - b. Navigate and select the file or files for your source. Click **Open**.
 - c. To queue the dataset for uploading, click the Plus icon next to its name.
4. To begin working with a dataset, you must first add it into a **flow**, which is a container for datasets. Click the Add Dataset to a Flow checkbox and enter the name for a new flow.

Tip: If you have selected a single file, you can begin wrangling it immediately. Click **Import and Wrangle**. The flow is created for you, and your dataset is added to it.

5. Click **Import & Add to Flow**.
6. After the flow has been created, open the flow and select the dataset to begin transforming it. See *Transform Basics*.