

Lookup Wizard

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Through the Transformer page, you can perform lookups from one set of values in your dataset into another set of values in another dataset using a simple wizard. To perform a lookup, select the caret next to a column title, and then select **Lookup....**

A **lookup** compares each value in the selected column against the values in a selected column of the target dataset. Where a match is found, the values in other columns of the target dataset are inserted as new columns in the dataset from which the lookup was executed.

For example, your enterprise is changing the names of all of your products. Instead of performing a complex set of replace transforms, you can perform a lookup from your `productName` column into a two-column dataset, which contains the original name and the new name in separate columns. When the new name is inserted into your source dataset via lookup, you can delete the source column and continue transforming your data with the new names.

- You cannot perform lookups on columns of Object or Array data type.
- A lookup essentially performs a left join between the first dataset and the second one. However, lookups are less flexible in terms of defining and editing them.

NOTE: If column values are non-unique, the resulting dataset can be significantly larger than the original dataset.

This workflow is best demonstrated by example. In this case, your raw sales data records product information in internal numeric identifiers. For analysis, you may want to integrate data from your products master data based on the internal identifier, so that you have a product description and other useful information as part of your dataset.

Lookup Wizard - Step 1

In the first step, you select the dataset against which you would like to perform your lookup for matching data for the `Item_Nbr` column. In this example, the products dataset is selected, since it contains the list of recognized products:

Tip: You can search your available flows and datasets. When you search for flows, all datasets in the flow are matched.

Step 1 of 2 Select data to Lookup ?



Search...

1 2

All (29) Imported (27) Reference (2) Recipe (0)

NAME	SOURCE	LAST UPDATED
POS-r02.txt	HDFS	Today at 10:17 AM
POS-r03.txt	HDFS	Today at 10:17 AM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REF_PROD.txt	HDFS	Today at 10:17 AM
REF_CAL.txt	HDFS	Today at 10:17 AM
USDA Farmers Market 2014	HDFS	Today at 10:15 AM
BOH August.csv	HDFS	Today at 9:49 AM

Cancel Select

Figure: Lookup Wizard - Step 1

Lookup Wizard - Step 2

After you select the dataset against which to perform the lookup, you select the field in the target dataset to use as the lookup key. The **lookup key** provides the set of identifiers for which you are trying to find a match for each value in the source column. In this case, the lookup key column has the same name as the source column: ITEM_NBR.

Step 2 of 2 Select Lookup Key ?

ITEM_NBR

< Back Cancel Execute Lookup

Figure: Lookup Wizard - Step 2

Column Cleanup

When the lookup is executed, for each value in the source `item_nbr` column that can be found in the target dataset's `ITEM_NBR` column, all of the other columns in the corresponding row of the second dataset are inserted as separate columns in the first dataset. These columns are inserted to the immediate right of the column that was used for the lookup:

#	Store_Nbr	#	Item_Nbr	RBC	PRODUCT DESC	#	CAT_CD	#	GRP_CD	#	CLASS_CD	#	FL_CLASS_CD
1 - 250		322k - 580k		70 Categories		7 - 81		10 - 75		5 - 50		5 - 75	
	1	381000			ACME LAWN GARDEN BAG CLEAR		07		75		05		
	2	325000			ACME COOKIES CHOC CHIP		81		10		25		
	2	325000			ACME COOKIES CHOC CHIP		81		10		25		
	2	403000			ACME SANDWICH BAG		07		70		05		
	2	449000			ACME SODAS SALTED		81		30		15		
	2	490000			ACME SCENTED OIL REFILL-CTRY SUN		07		65		20		
	2	560000			ACME LARGE FUDGE GRAHAMS COOKIES		81		10		25		
	2	573000			ACME SUGAR ICE WAFERS VANILLA		81		10		25		
	3	486000			ACME ZOO ANIMAL FRUIT SNACKS 6'S		81		70		30		
	3	488000			ACME WAFERS SUGER ICE		81		10		25		
	3	490000			ACME SCENTED OIL REFILL-CTRY SUN		07		65		20		
	3	490000			ACME RICE CRACKERS ONION		81		20		30		
	3	503000			ACME GARBAGE BAG BLACK		07		75		15		
	3	530000			ACME FUDGE DIP CHOC CHIP COOKIE		81		10		25		
	3	560000			ACME LARGE FUDGE GRAHAMS COOKIES		81		10		25		
	3	573000			ACME SUGAR ICE WAFERS VANILLA		81		10		25		
	4	325000			ACME COOKIES CHOC CHIP		81		10		25		
	4	325000			ACME COOKIES CHOC CHIP		81		10		25		
	4	326000			ACME DIGESTIVE RICH TEA BISCUITS		81		10		25		
	4	327000			ACME ASSORTED COOKIES DRP		81		10		25		
	4	328000			ACME KITCHEN BAG		07		75		10		

Figure: Lookup Wizard - Results

NOTE: If the second dataset contains multiple matching entries for individual lookup key values from the first dataset, rows from the first dataset are duplicated in the results.

NOTE: You may need to delete some of the columns that have been imported into your dataset.

Auto-updating Lookups

After you have added a lookup to your recipe, subsequent changes to that reference data are automatically reflected in the dataset.

Tip: If you must freeze the data in the dataset that you are using for a lookup, you should create a copy of the dataset as a snapshot. See *Dataset Details Page*.

To use the copy, delete the lookup and rebuild it using the copied version. See *Fix Dependency Issues*.