

Learning to Calculate Averages Using DAX in Power BI

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RECOMMENDED CITATION

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You can use the following syntax in DAX to calculate the average value in a column:

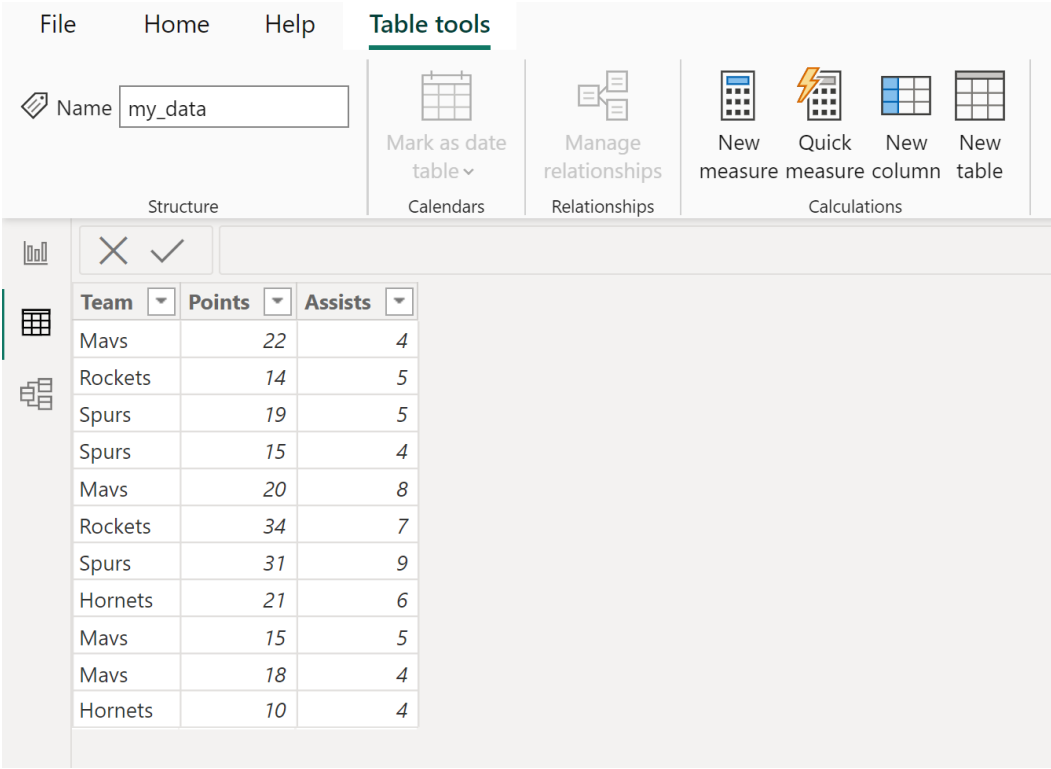
Avg Points = AVERAGE('my_data')

This particular example creates a new measure named **Avg Points** that calculates the average value in the **Points** column of the table named **my_data**.

The following example shows how to calculate the average value of a column in Power BI in practice.

Example: How to Calculate Average in Power BI

Suppose we have the following table in Power BI named **my_data** that contains information about points scored by basketball players on various teams:

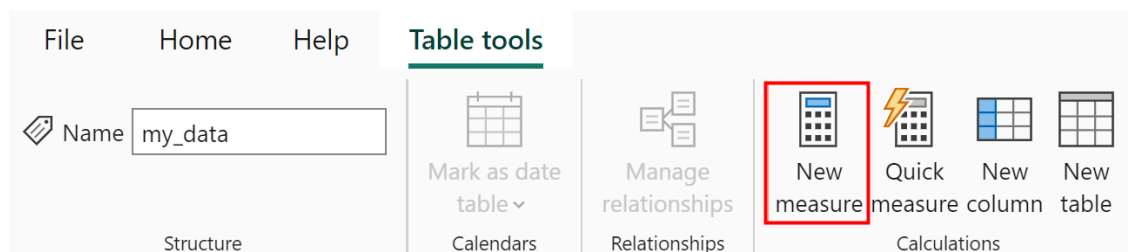


The screenshot shows the Power BI interface with the 'Table tools' ribbon selected. The ribbon includes options like 'Name' (set to 'my_data'), 'Mark as date table', 'Manage relationships', and 'Calculations' (with sub-options: 'New measure', 'Quick measure', 'New column', 'New table'). Below the ribbon, a table is displayed with the following data:

Team	Points	Assists
Mavs	22	4
Rockets	14	5
Spurs	19	5
Spurs	15	4
Mavs	20	8
Rockets	34	7
Spurs	31	9
Hornets	21	6
Mavs	15	5
Mavs	18	4
Hornets	10	4

Suppose we would like to calculate the average value in the **Points** column.

To do so, click the **Table tools** tab along the top ribbon, then click the **New measure** icon:



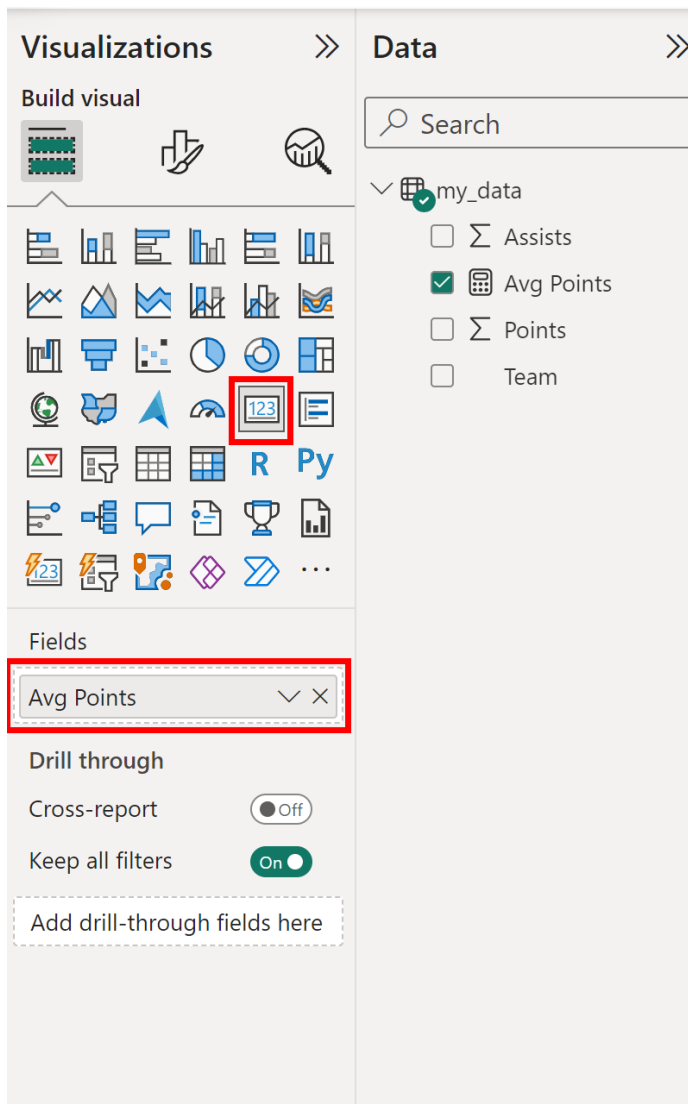
Then type in the following formula into the formula bar:

Avg Points = AVERAGE('my_data')

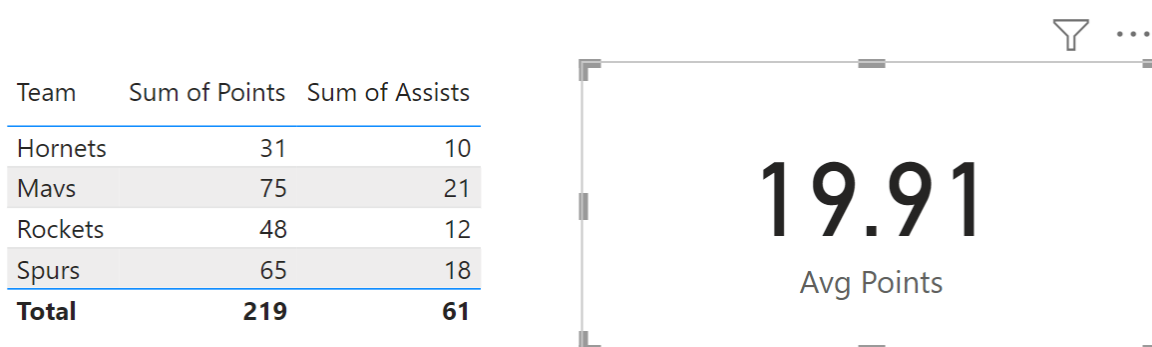
This will create a new measure named **Avg Points** that contains the average of values in the **Points** column of the table:

1 Avg Points = AVERAGE('my_data'[Points])			
Team	Points	Assists	
Mavs	22	4	
Rockets	14	5	
Spurs	19	5	
Spurs	15	4	
Mavs	20	8	
Rockets	34	7	
Spurs	31	9	
Hornets	21	6	
Mavs	15	5	
Mavs	18	4	
Hornets	10	4	

If we'd like, we can display this value by going to the **Report View** in Power BI, then by clicking the **Card** icon under the **Visualizations** tab, then by dragging the **Avg Points** measure under the **Fields** label:



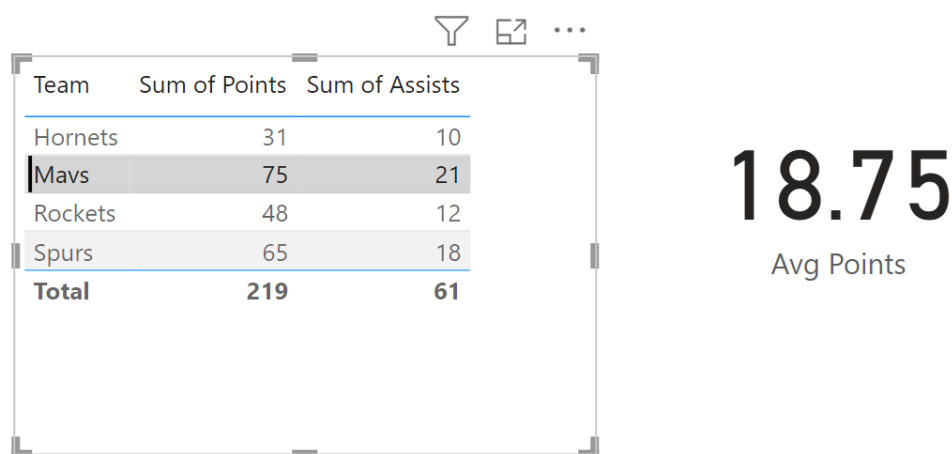
This will produce the following card that displays the average value in the **Points** column of the table:



We can see that the average value in the **Points** column is **19.91**.

If we click on any of the individual names in the **Team** column of the table in the report, then the card will automatically update to show the average points value for that particular team.

For example, suppose we click the **Mavs** team name in the table:



The card automatically updates to show that the average of values in the **Points** column for the **Mavs** is **18.75**.

Additional Resources

The following tutorials explain how to perform other common tasks in Power BI: