## Why didn't my spreadsheet upload correctly?

If you are experiencing weird results when uploading files, it is probably due to the following:



Your spreadsheets must contain only **rows and columns**. Comments, titles, and release dates before the first header row are interpreted as column headers. Totals and subtotals at the bottom of the spreadsheet should be removed.

Your spreadsheets must contain only rows and columns. Each row is a data point (e.g. a retail sale, a banking transaction, a customer, etc). Each column is information about that data point (e.g. a date, a time, a location, an attribute, a measure, etc). The first row contains the column headers.

It can be a common practice to add a title to the top of your spreadsheet, and the date that the data was generated, like this:

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1	GO_Sample_File_Sales.xlsx													
2	Last modified:	May 1, 2023												
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5	Retailer country Canada	Province or State Alberta	City	T3E 2V9	T3E	Order method type Telephone	Warehouse Store							
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8	Canada	Alberta	Calgary Calgary	T3E 2V9	T3E	Web	Warehouse Store							
9	Canada	Alberta	Calgary	T3E 2V9	T3E	Web	Warehouse Store							
10	Canada	Alberta	Calgary	T3E 2V9	T3E	Web	Warehouse Store							
11	Canada	Alberta	Peace River	T90 2W2	T90	Web	Equipment Rental Store							
12	Canada	Alberta	Calgary	T3E 2V9	T3E	Web	Warehouse Store							
13	Canada	Alberta	Calgary	T3E 2V9	T3E	Telephone	Warehouse Store							
14	Canada	Alberta	Calgary	T3E 2V9	T3E	Telephone	Warehouse Store							
15	Canada	Alberta	Calgary	T3E 2V9	T3E	Web	Warehouse Store							
16	Canada	Alberta	Calgary	T3E 2V9	T3E	Telephone	Warehouse Store							
17	Canada	Alberta	Peace River	T90 2W2	T90	Web	Equipment Rental Store							
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19	Canada	Alberta	Calgary	T3E 2V9	T3E	Web	Warehouse Store							
20	Canada	Alberta	Calgary	T3E 2V9	T3E	Web	Warehouse Store							
21	Canada	Alberta	Calgary	T3E 2V9	T3E	Web	Warehouse Store							
22	Canada	Alberta	Peace River	T90 2W2	T90	Special	Equipment Rental Store							
23	Canada	Alberta	Calgary	T3E 2V9	T3E	Telephone	Warehouse Store							

Do not do this! Before uploading this file to Cognos, you must delete the first four rows so that the column headers start at the top.

Another common practice is to add a line of totals to the bottom of your spreadsheet (or even to add subtotals throughout your spreadsheet), like this:

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65510		129	37.38	67.5	67.5	2,954.75	6,205.08	4,999.92	11,205		
65511		166	37.38	67.5	67.5	11,205	6,205.08	4,999.92	11,205		
65512		166	37.38	67.5	67.5	11,205	6,205.08	4,999.92	11,205		
65513		166	37.38	67.5	67.5	11,205	6,205.08	4,999.92	11,205		
65514		166	37.38	67.5	67.5	11,205	6,205.08	4,999.92	11,205		
65515		269	25.48	38.3	38.3	10,302.7	6,854.12	3,448.58	10,302.7		
65516		621	25.455	38.3	38.3	23,784.3	15,805.07	7,979.23	23,784.3		
65517		621	25.455	38.3	38.3	23,784.3	15,805.07	7,979.23	23,784.3		
65518		269	25.48	38.3	38.3	10,302.7	6,854.12	3,448.58	10,302.7		
65519		269	25.48	38.3	38.3	10,302.7	6,854.12	3,448.58	10,302.7		
65520		621	25.455	38.3	38.3	23,784.3	15,805.07	7,979.23	23,784.3		
65521		621	25.455	38.3	38.3	23,784.3	15,805.07	7,979.23	23,784.3		
65522		269	25.48	38.3	38.3	10,302.7	6,854.12	3,448.58	10,302.7		
65523		269	25.48	38.3	38.3	10,302.7	6,854.12	3,448.58	10,302.7		
65524		621	25.455	38.3	38.3	23,784.3	15,805.07	7,979.23	23,784.3		
65525		621	25.455	38.3	38.3	23,784.3	15,805.07	7,979.23	23,784.3		
65526		269	25.48	38.3	38.3	10,302.7	6,854.12	3,448.58	10,302.7		
65527		436	18.52	26.8	26.8	11,684.8	8,074.72	3,610.08	11,684.8		
65528		1,331	21.125	31.0625	31.0625	39,848.05	27,210.37	12,637.68	39,848.05		
65529		436	18.52	26.8	26.8	11,684.8	8,074.72	3,610.08	11,684.8		
65530		1,331	21.125	31.0625	31.0625	39,848.05	27,210.37	12,637.68	39,848.05		
65531		436	18.52	26.8	26.8	11,684.8	8,074.72	3,610.08	11,684.8		
65532		1,331	21.125	31.0625	31.0625	39,848.05	27,210.37	12,637.68	39,848.05		
65533		436	18.52	26.8	26.8	11,684.8	8,074.72	3,610.08	11,684.8		
65534		1,331	21.125	31.0625	31.0625	39,848.05	27,210.37	12,637.68	39,848.05		
65535		436	18.52	26.8	26.8	11,684.8	8,074.72	3,610.08	11,684.8		
65536		1,331	21.125	31.0625	31.0625	39,848.05	27,210.37	12,637.68	39,848.05		
65537		436	18.52	26.8	26.8	11,684.8	8,074.72	3,610.08	11,684.8		
65538		1,331	21.125	31.0625	31.0625	39,848.05	27,210.37	12,637.68	39,848.05		
65539		436	18.52	26.8	26.8	11,684.8	8,074.72	3,610.08	11,684.8		
65540		1 331	21 125	31.0625	31.0625	30 848 05	27 210 37	12 637 68	30.848.05		
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Again, you must delete these rows prior to uploading the file to Cognos.

Finally, some spreadsheets contain an extra tab that contains detailed descriptions of the data and how it was generated. This extra tab must be deleted prior to uploading.



If you create a dashboard that connects directly to your uploaded file (which many people do!), then the text of your column headers will be what you see when you go to **drag and drop** your data onto the dashboard. Therefore, it is a good idea to craft your column headers carefully prior to uploading the file. For example, "Retailer country" is much more user friendly than "DB\_COL6\_RTLR\_CTRY".