Custom Sort in Power BI

Purpose

This document covers how to apply custom sort in Power BI Service. This is high level document and assume resource has basic knowledge of Power BI Concepts.

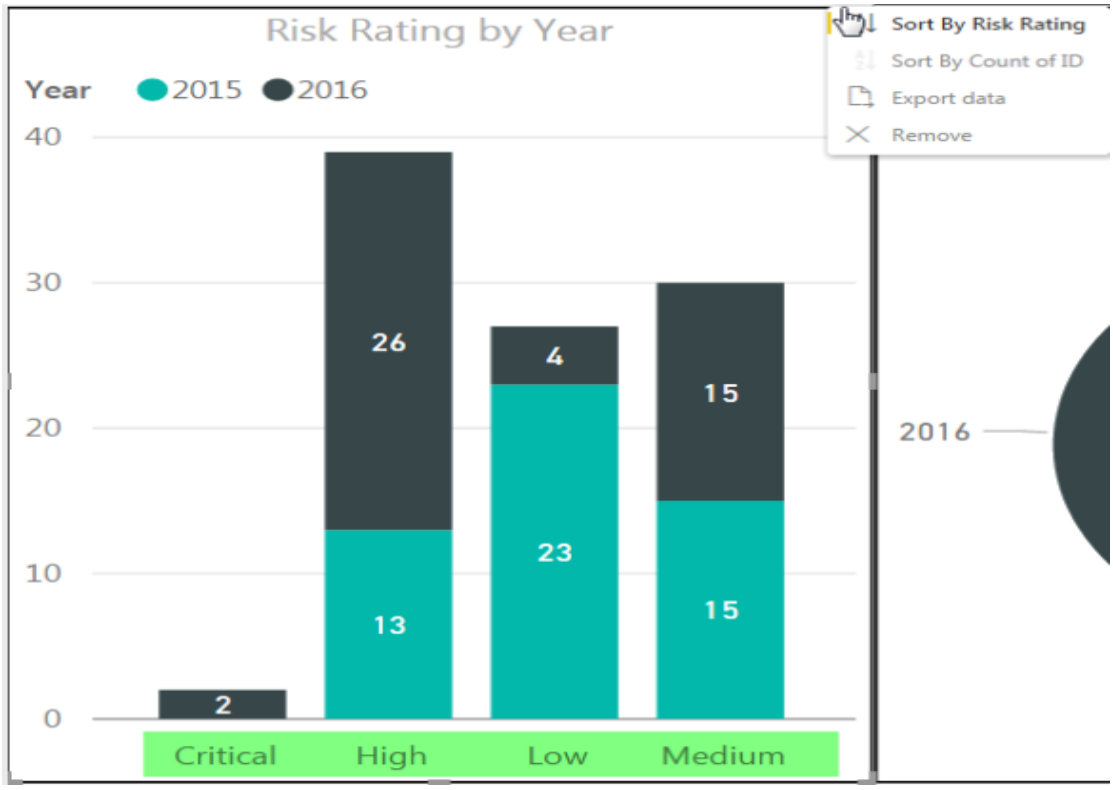
What is Custom Sort?

Custom sort allows you to define a specific order for displaying data. It is an easy way to predefine your own order for displaying data.

What if we want sort non-alphabetically?

In Power BI there is no option to apply custom sort by default. If we want to sort non-alphabetically, in an order that makes sense i.e highest to lowest, or whatever the case, then we can meet this demand with the help of “Related” DAX function.

If we apply sorting to below graph, it will sort alphabetically i.e Z-A which is the default behavior.



If we want to sort it as Critical, High, Medium, and then Low

How will we achieve this?

We have existing table i.e Table 1 having columns Year, Risk Rating, and Type. We want to sort the column named "**Type"** in such way that order should be Critical, High, Medium, and then Low.

See here:

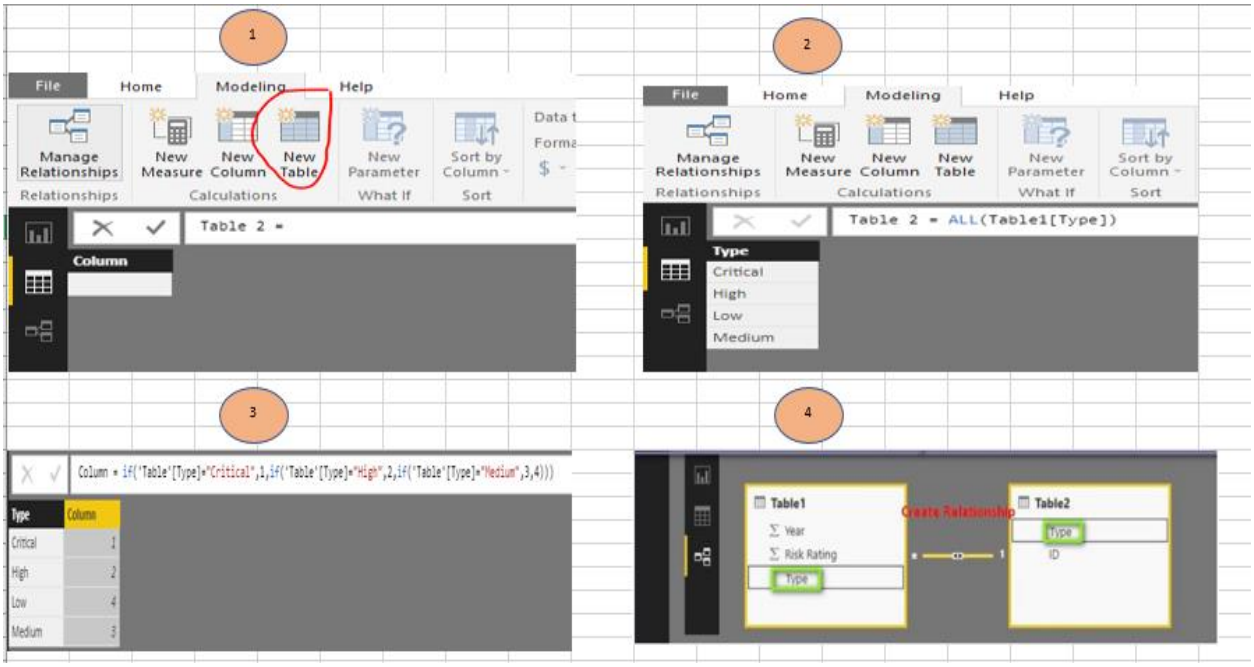
1. Create new table i.e Table 2

2. Add new column for which you want sorting from original table to the newly created table using following formula

Table 2= ALL(Table1[Type])

3. Create one more column as shown in step 3 of following screenshot.

4. Create relationship between newly created table i.e Table 2 and the original table i.e Table 1.



5.Then create a calculated column in original table with following formula.

Column = RELATED(Table2[ID])

Year	Risk Rating	Type	Column
2015	0	Critical	1
2015	13	High	2
2015	23	Low	4
2015	15	Medium	3
2016	2	Critical	1
2016	26	High	2
2016	4	Low	4
2016	15	Medium	3

At last, select the Type column and make it sorted by above created column.