

BrioQuery Best Practices and Recommendations

How do I format the date field?

- **Make sure that the column data type is set to the correct data type.** If you need data in a column to be in “Date” format but is showing up as “Timestamp”, double-click the topic on the request line, click “Options” and select “Date” from the dropdown then process your query. This will eliminate the need to create computed columns which reformat timestamps to dates.

What should I compare?

- **When comparing column values, make sure they are of the same data type** (i.e. String to String) otherwise you may end up with surprising results.

How often should I save my work?

- **Save often.** Brio crashes and sometimes, the network can have hiccups. Saving often when developing or modifying a report can help you keep your sanity.

Is there a benefit to applying limits to my query?

- Yes. Limiting your query will save you time!
- When creating a new query, **bring in tables and/or views one at a time**, join the tables using the appropriate columns and join type then drag only the columns that you need to the request line and apply the necessary filters.
- As much as possible, apply **filters on Query Sections and not Results**. There is no advantage in letting the query retrieve 100,000 rows only to filter out 20 rows in the result set. This not only makes it easier for the database server to process your query, it also consumes less of your pc's resources.

How do I check my lines and table relationships?

- **Uncheck Auto-join option in** Data Model Options if you know which columns you want to join, otherwise the query will join all columns from tables with matching column names.

Is there an easy way to eliminate duplicates?

Eliminating duplicates can make the results display a little easier to read.

1. To minimize the data requested from the database, there are two options:
 - From the Query section, select Query -> Query Options -> and check ‘Return Unique Rows.’