

# Custom Table Question Type

The Custom Table question type allows you to arrange and repeat questions of different types in a table format.

Question types that can be added as columns are:

- Radio Buttons
- Dropdown Menus
- Checkboxes
- Textboxes
- Essays

## When to use it

Use Custom Tables to repeat a series of different question types for a list items (row headers).

For each Car Repair Company garage you have visited in the past 12 months, please indicate the following:

- whether you were satisfied with your experience
- all services received (check all that apply)
- the service representative who helped you

	Were you satisfied with the service?		What services did you receive (check all that apply)				Service Representative
	Yes	No	Oil change	Tire repair	Brakes	Other	
Garage 1	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text" value="James"/>
Garage 2	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Garage 3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>

Check it out in an [example survey](#)!

[Add a survey](#) with this question to your account!

## Best Practice Tip

In addition to considering the below feature limitations, you should also consider potential survey fatigue before using Custom Tables in your survey.

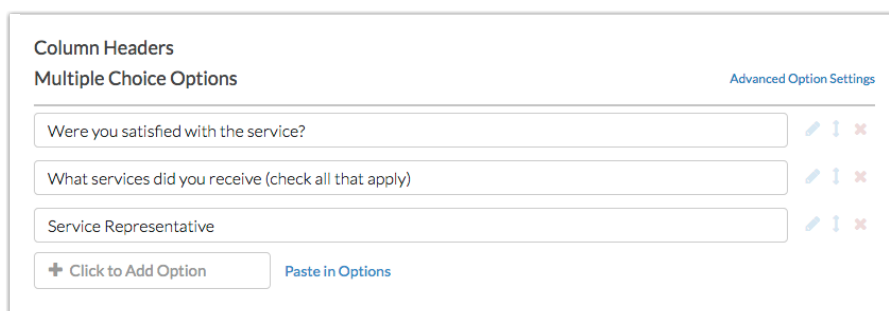
While, from a survey design perspective, it is nice to consolidate data collection into a single question, survey respondents often find these tables cumbersome and difficult to answer. As a general rule, the simpler your survey questions, the better your survey response rates will be.

## Limitations

- Custom tables cannot be saved to the [Question Library](#) .
- Textbox subquestions within a Custom Table do not have [validation settings](#) .
- Subquestions cannot be conditionally shown/hidden within a Custom Table.
- Editing [Reporting Values](#) after data is collected will NOT update responses already collected.
- Custom Table row headers have a character limit of 1000.

## Setup

1. Click the **Question** link on the page where you would like to add your Custom Table.
2. Select **Custom Table** from the **Question Type** dropdown and enter your overall question text.
3. Enter your **Column Headers**, these are the questions you wish to ask. There will be two default column headers, Radio and Essay. You can delete these or customize them to get started.



The screenshot shows a 'Column Headers' section for a 'Multiple Choice Options' question. It features three input fields for column headers: 'Were you satisfied with the service?', 'What services did you receive (check all that apply)', and 'Service Representative'. Each field has a pencil icon for editing, a vertical double-headed arrow for reordering, and a red 'x' for deletion. At the bottom, there is a '+ Click to Add Option' button and a 'Paste in Options' link. An 'Advanced Option Settings' link is also visible in the top right corner.

4. Click the **pencil** icon next to each Column Header to choose the type of question and to input the answer options. You will need to specify both an *answer option* (left column) and a *reporting value* (right column) for each option you add to the subquestion.
-

Edit Option
Settings ♥ Need Help?

**Option Title**

Were you satisfied with the service?

**Question Type:**

Radio Buttons

Required

**Answer Options**

↑	Yes	Yes	✕
↑	No	No	✕

+ Click to Add Option
Paste in Options

5. Once you are done with the Column Headers, it's time to add the **Row Headers**. These are the categories or list items that you would like to repeat for each question. Add these as needed and don't forget to **Save Question**.

**Row Headers**

Garage 1
✎ ✕

Garage 2
✎ ✕

Garage 3
✎ ✕

+ Click to Add Option
Paste in Options

## Survey Taking

On a desktop and most laptops, the Custom Table question type looks like so.

For each Car Repair Company garage you have visited in the past 12 months, please indicate the following:

- whether you were satisfied with your experience
- all services received (check all that apply)
- the service representative who helped you

	Were you satisfied with the service?		What services did you receive (check all that apply)				Service Representative
	Yes	No	Oil change	Tire repair	Brakes	Other	
Garage 1	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	James
Garage 2	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Garage 3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

When optimized for mobile devices the Custom Table question type looks very similar but a line break will be added between subquestions to prevent the need for horizontal scrolling on smaller screens.

By default, survey questions show one-at-a-time on mobile devices to prevent the need for scrolling on smaller screens. You can turn off this [one-at-a-time interaction](#) if you wish.

The image shows a mobile survey interface. At the top is a blue header with the word "Survey". Below it, the text "Garage 1" is displayed. The first question is "Were you satisfied with the service?". There are two radio button options: "Yes" (selected) and "No". The second question is "What services did you receive (check all)". There are four checkbox options: "Oil change" (checked), "Tire repair" (unchecked), "Brakes" (checked), and "Other" (unchecked). Below the checkboxes is the text "Service Rep". At the bottom of the screen is a dark navigation bar with a left arrow, a progress bar showing "1%", and a right arrow.

## Reporting

Custom Tables report as a single element with each subquestion grouped by row. You do have the option to group the subquestions by column instead. Check out the corresponding [question type tutorial](#) for each subquestion in your Custom Table to see how it will report. Learn about this and other [Custom Table reporting options](#) .

# Exporting

By default, the [CSV/Excel](#) export will display a column for each sub-question, or multiple columns in the case of the checkbox sub-question. The answer(s) selected or entered by the respondent will be present in the cells within that column.

Business: What services do you normally use?: Please describe your flight habits for each category listed below.:Please describe your flight habits for each category listed below.	Leisure: What services do you normally use?: Please describe your flight habits for each category listed below.:Please describe your flight habits for each category listed below.	Business: Departure Time: Please describe your flight habits for each category listed below.:Please describe your flight habits for each category listed below.	Leisure: Departure Time: Please describe your flight habits for each category listed below.:Please describe your flight habits for each category listed below.	Business: Arrival Time: Please describe your flight habits for each category listed below.:Please describe your flight habits for each category listed below.	Leisure: Arrival Time: Please describe your flight habits for each category listed below.:Please describe your flight habits for each category listed below.	Business: Comments: Please describe your flight habits for each category listed below.	Leisure: Comments: Please describe your flight habits for each category listed below.
Flight	Flight + Hotel	Morning	No Preference	Afternoon	Morning	I use business class	Use cheap airlines
Flight + Hotel	Flight + Hotel	Afternoon	Afternoon	Morning	Morning	First Class Only	Free Drinks are welcome

When you use a Custom Table question in your survey, you will see an additional option when creating a CSV/Excel Export. After you click to create an export, the **Create a New CSV/Excel Export** pop-up will show a **Custom Tables** section.

Here you can elect to either **Group by Row** or **Group by Column** (default). This will determine how your Custom Table question will be export to Excel.

## Group by Column

When you group by column, the Excel export will group all of your Custom Table rows together for each column of the Custom Table.

	Were you satisfied with the service?		What services did you receive (check all that apply)				Service Representative
	Yes	No	Oil change	Tire repair	Brakes	Other	
Garage 1	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Garage 2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Garage 3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>

Looking at the above example Custom Table, when *grouped by column* the Excel export columns will be ordered as follows:

First Excel Column	Second Excel Column	Third Excel Column
<i>Column 1</i> Answer for Row 1	<i>Column 1</i> Answer for Row 2	<i>Column 1</i> Answer for Row 3

## Group by Row

When you group by row, the Excel export will group all of your Custom Table columns together for each row of the Custom Table.

	Were you satisfied with the service?		What services did you receive (check all that apply)				Service Representative
	Yes	No	Oil change	Tire repair	Brakes	Other	
Garage 1	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Garage 2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Garage 3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>

Looking at the above example Custom Table, when *grouped by row* the Excel export columns will be ordered as follows:

First Excel Column	Second Excel Column	Third Excel Column
Column 1 Answer for <i>Row 1</i>	Column 2 Answer for <i>Row 1</i>	Column 3 Answer for <i>Row 1</i>



### Best Practice Tip: Grid Questions on Mobile Devices

Grid questions are often used to allow your survey respondents to make comparisons. For example, in the below question, survey respondents are implicitly making a comparison across the various ice cream brands listed in the rows.

Indicate your level of satisfaction with the ice cream brands you purchase:

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Dairy Cream	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tasty Treat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wholesome	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sugar Cow	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ice Dream	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jill's	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mike and Sammy's	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cold Cream	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Homemade	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Because this is the most common and best use of grid question types it is important to note how grid question types display on mobile. Grid questions will be displayed one grid row per page. This will reduce horizontal scrolling trouble as well as problems survey respondents typically experience trying to select the correct option.

### Grid Questions

6. At which meals are the food groups represented in your diet?

	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Snacks
Fruits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vegetables	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grains	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proteins	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dairy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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### Grid Questions

6. At which meals are the food groups represented in your diet?

Fruits

Breakfast

Lunch

Dinner

Snacks



11%



Mobile





Related Articles

