

IMPORTRANGE + QUERY

Pulling live, filtered data from a Google Sheets file you don't own

fx

```
=QUERY(  
  IMPORTRANGE("[source file URL]", "[sheet name]![range]"),  
  "SELECT [columns] WHERE [column] = '[value]'",  
  [header rows]  
)
```

1	Point to the source file IMPORTRANGE's first argument is the exact URL of the other spreadsheet, not a tab in your own file.
2	Grant access once The first connection between two files needs a one-time "Allow access" click before any data flows.
3	Name the sheet and range Tells Sheets exactly which tab and which cells to pull in.
4	Count columns as Col1, Col2... Letters like A and C only work when QUERY points straight at real sheet cells. A formula's output isn't anchored to the grid, so QUERY counts columns by position instead: Col1, Col2, Col3.
5	Set the header count Tells QUERY how many rows at the top are titles, not data.

A1

What it's for

Reading a live slice of someone else's spreadsheet without copying it.

B1

When to use it

The source is owned and updated by another team, and you only need part of it.

C1

Why

A manual copy goes stale the moment the source changes. This one doesn't.

Operations, Augmented

On Excel instead of Sheets? The same idea lives in Power Query (Data tab, Get Data), built into Excel itself, no Power BI required.