



INKWELL DATA

Product Guide

Free, private tools for spreadsheets and data files. Convert, clean, transform, compare, merge, summarize and query CSV, Excel, JSON and Parquet files, right in your browser. Every tool, with examples.

inkwelltools.com/data

Free · no account · nothing is uploaded

About Inkwell Data

A toolkit for the everyday data jobs that eat up an afternoon in Excel: converting formats, cleaning exports, spotting what changed, combining files and getting quick totals.

Everything runs inside your web browser. When you add a file, your own computer reads it and does the work. There is no server receiving your data, no account to create and no daily limit, so customer lists, financial exports and HR files never leave your device.

Values are kept exactly as they appear in your file. ZIP codes like 02134, account numbers and long IDs are never turned into numbers or scientific notation the way spreadsheets often do. Numbers are only typed as numbers when you ask for it, for example when writing Excel or JSON.

10 tools	9 one-click conversions	6 formats in	9 formats out	0 uploads	\$0 always free
-------------	----------------------------	-----------------	------------------	--------------	--------------------

The tools at a glance

Tool	What it's for
File converter	Any supported format to any other: CSV, TSV, Excel, JSON, JSON Lines, Parquet, SQL inserts, Markdown and HTML tables.
Data cleaner	One-click fixes: trim spaces, remove invisible characters, blank out "N/A", tidy headers, drop empty rows and columns.
Transform & recipes NEW	Step-by-step column work (split, combine, rename, dates, numbers, filters) that you can save and re-run on next month's file.
Remove duplicates	Find duplicate rows across all columns or just the ones that matter, like email.
Compare two files NEW	See which rows were added, removed or changed between two versions, cell by cell.
Merge & join	Stack many files into one, or join two files on a shared key like a VLOOKUP.
File splitter	Break a large file into chunks, or one file per value (e.g. per region).
Summarize & pivot NEW	Counts, sums, averages and pivot tables without formulas.
SQL on files	Real SQL on your files with DuckDB, the analytics engine data teams use, running in your tab.
Data profiler	Column types, blanks, distinct counts and top values: a health check before you trust a file.

Supported files

Reads: CSV, TSV and text files (separator detected automatically), Excel .xlsx (choose any sheet), JSON (including nested objects, which become dotted columns like *address.city*), JSON Lines and Parquet.

Writes: CSV (optionally Excel-friendly), TSV, Excel .xlsx with a frozen, filtered header row, JSON, JSON Lines, Parquet, SQL CREATE + INSERT statements, Markdown and HTML tables.

Everyday file jobs

File converter

FREE

Pick a file, pick a format, download. The preview shows the first 100 rows so you can check the file was read correctly before converting.

How to use it

1. Drop your file on the converter, or open one of the ready-made pages like CSV to Excel.
2. Choose the output format. For SQL, set the table name; for CSV, tick "Excel-friendly" if accented characters matter.
3. Click **Convert & download**.

Example: a CRM export arrives as JSON with nested contact details. Convert it to Excel and each nested field gets its own column.

One-click pages: CSV to Excel · Excel to CSV · JSON to CSV · CSV to JSON · Excel to JSON · JSON to Excel · CSV to Parquet · Parquet to CSV · CSV to SQL

Data cleaner

FREE

Fixes the usual mess in exported files in one pass: extra spaces, invisible characters, curly quotes, placeholder values like "N/A", "null" or "-", inconsistent headers and empty rows or columns.

Example: a vendor list with trailing spaces and "N/A" everywhere imports badly into your accounting system. Clean it, then download.

Remove duplicates

FREE

Tick the columns that define a duplicate. Ignore case and spaces, keep the first or last copy, and download the removed rows to double-check.

Example: dedupe a mailing list by Email only, keeping the most recent row.

File splitter

FREE

Split by row count (e.g. 10,000 rows per file for an upload limit) or by a column, with one file per value, downloaded together as a zip.

Example: send each regional manager only their region's rows.

Merge & join

FREE

Stack combines many files with the same kind of data into one, lining up columns by name and adding a source_file column. **Join** matches two files on a key, like an Excel VLOOKUP, with left, inner or full joins.

Example: stack twelve monthly sales exports into one year, then join it to a product list on SKU to add category and cost.

Transform & recipes

The tool for the cleanup you do every month. Build a list of steps once, save it as a recipe, then run it on next month's file in one click.

Steps you can add

NEW

Rename a column Remove columns Keep & reorder columns Find & replace Split a column
Combine columns Change text case / trim Standardize dates Clean up numbers Fill blank cells
Filter rows Sort rows Add a column Remove duplicate rows

How to use it

1. Add your file, then choose a step from **Add a step** and fill in its options.
2. Keep adding steps. The preview updates after each one, and each step shows what it changed ("4 converted", "12 rows removed").
3. Edit, reorder or switch off any step at any time.
4. Click **Save recipe** and give it a name, then download the result.

Example: split "Full Name" into First and Last, turn dates like 3/14/2026 and 14 Mar 2026 into 2026-03-14, turn "\$1,200.50" and "(300)" into 1200.5 and -300, fill down the Region column, and keep only the eight columns your system needs.

Running a recipe again

Next month, add the new file and pick your recipe from **Saved recipes**. Every step re-runs straight away. Steps find columns by name, so it still works if the columns arrive in a different order.

If a column was renamed at the source, that one step is flagged and skipped and the rest still run. Click **Edit** on the flagged step to point it at the right column.

Keeping and sharing recipes

Saved recipes live in your browser. Use **Export recipe file** to keep a backup or send it to a colleague, and **Import recipe file** to load one.

A recipe file holds only the steps, never any of your data, so it is safe to email.

Dates it understands

2026-03-14 · 3/14/2026 · 14/03/2026 · 14 Mar 2026 · March 14, 2026 · 20260314 · Excel date numbers. Output as YYYY-MM-DD, MM/DD/YYYY, DD/MM/YYYY, 14 Mar 2026, year-month or year. For ambiguous dates like 03/04/2026, choose whether your file is month-first (US) or day-first (UK/EU).

Compare & summarize

Compare two files

NEW

Find out exactly what changed between two versions of a file: last month's export and this month's, the copy you sent and the copy that came back, a backup and the live list.

How to use it

1. Add the original file on the left and the updated file on the right. They can be different formats.
2. Tick the column that identifies each record, such as Customer ID, SKU or Email. (Leave all unticked to compare whole rows.)
3. Click **Compare files**. You'll see counts of added, removed, changed and unchanged rows, and which columns changed most.
4. Browse the Changed, Added and Removed tabs, where changed cells show the old value crossed out next to the new one, then download the full report.

Example: the price list a supplier sent back has 3 new SKUs, 1 discontinued one, and 14 price changes. The report's **what_changed** column reads "Price: 4.25 → 4.60" for each one.

Differences in upper/lower case, extra spaces and number formatting (5 vs 5.00) are ignored by default. Untick those options to see every difference.

Summarize & pivot

NEW

Totals without formulas. Group rows by one or more columns and calculate counts, sums, averages, minimum, maximum, median, unique counts or non-blank counts. Spread a column across the top to make a pivot table, with a total row or column.

How to use it

1. Tick the column(s) to group by, such as Region.
2. Add calculations, such as Count of rows and Sum of Amount.
3. Optionally choose **Spread across columns by** (e.g. Status or Month) for a pivot table, then **Summarize** and download.

Example: sales by region and month: run a recipe that turns Order Date into year-month, then summarize by Region, spread by month, with Sum of Amount.

Amounts like \$1,200.50, 45% and (300) are understood as numbers. Anything that isn't a number is skipped and counted so you know.

SQL, profiling & privacy

SQL on files

FREE

Load one or more files as tables and query them with full SQL, including joins, window functions and aggregations. It is powered by DuckDB, the analytics engine data teams run on servers, compiled to run in your tab. The engine (about 8 MB) downloads on first use only.

Example: `SELECT region, SUM(amount) FROM sales GROUP BY 1 ORDER BY 2 DESC`, then download the result as Excel.

Data profiler

FREE

A health check for an unfamiliar file: each column's likely type, how many cells are blank, how many distinct values there are, the most common values, and flags for things like stray spaces or mixed types.

Example: before importing a contacts file, the profiler shows that Email is mostly blank, ZIP has leading zeros that must stay as text, and 40 Customer IDs have stray spaces.

Privacy

Inkwell Data has no server side. Your files are opened by your browser, processed in memory on your device and discarded when you close the tab. Nothing is uploaded, logged or stored. Saved recipes are kept in your browser's local storage and contain only the steps you chose.

Limits and tips

There are no usage limits. The practical size limit is your device's memory: files with a few hundred thousand rows work well on a typical laptop; very large files are best handled with SQL on files. Excel sheets hold up to 1,048,576 rows. Older .xls files should be re-saved as .xlsx or .csv first.

Getting help

Questions, ideas or a tool you wish existed? Email info@inkwelltools.com or use the contact form at inkwelltools.com.

Best first step: open the File converter, drop in a file you work with often, and look at the preview. Then try the Data profiler on the same file.

THANKS FOR READING

Your data. *Your device.*

That's the whole idea behind Inkwell Data: the spreadsheet jobs that eat up an afternoon, done in minutes, without sending your files anywhere.

inkwelltools.com/data ♦ Free ♦ Private

PART OF THE INKWELL TOOLS FAMILY

Inkwell PDF

Merge, convert, sign & secure PDFs

Inkwell Artifact

AI-assisted project docs & handoffs

Inkwell Media

Free in-browser image, video & audio tools

Inkwell Learn

Hands-on tech & cert-prep courses with shareable certificates

Inkwell Blot

Short links, QR codes & bio pages

All tools

inkwelltools.com