



SALES FORECASTING AND STOCK OPTIMISATION

How to fill out our template?



1. WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE STARTING YOUR AI JOURNEY!

Are you ready for us to embark on this Al journey together and get to know our Al-based optimization platform better? We assume your answer is yes, and we are glad to inform you that you are on your way to **better inventory control** and **sales forecasting**. The core of our journey together is to lower the risk and help you understand all the benefits before deploying the whole solution in your organization.

Before you start the journey, it's wise to plan all the necessary steps in the right way at the very beginning. We would ask you to keep in mind these **two key points** before you start filling out our pre-defined template:

- 2 years of data per item is required for the best simulation, and
- You can create one Excel file or three CSV files (one file per sheet) in case of a large amount of data that does not fit Excel.

For this purpose, we would kindly ask you to **fill out the following sheets:**

- Sales (required),
- Items (required),
- Vendor (required),
- Orders (optional),
- Substitutes (optional),
- Item Status (optional),
- Promotions (optional),
- Package conversion (optional).

2. SALES - REQUIRED

The sales sheet is composed of 6 columns:

- Date contains dates starting from today 2 years (or less),
- **Item code** is the item code for current item,
- Sales Quantity is the real sale of this item on this day:
 - On 24.2.2019 we sold 30 units of itemcode1 (all retail stores, wholesale, web, etc.),
 - Stock Quantity contains stock level at the end of the month (one value per month):
- On 28.2.2019 we had 7012 items on stock,
- **Purchase Quantity** is the number of units put on stock:
 - On 28.3.2019 we put on stock 1800 units of itemcodel, which increased overall stock to 5431 units,
- Daily Stock Quantity is the amount of units at the end of the day.

	А	В	С	D	E	F	
1	Date	Item Code	Sales - Quantity	Stock - Quantity	Purchase - Quantity	Daily Stock - Quantity	
2	24.2.2019	itemcode1	30	0	0	7250	
3	25.2.2019	itemcode1	65	0	0	7185	
4	26.2.2019	itemcode1	91	0	0	7094	
5	27.2.2019	itemcode1	47	0	0	7047	
6	28.2.2019	itemcode1	36	7012	0	7012	
7	1.3.2019	itemcode1	81	0	0	6931	
8	2.3.2019	itemcode1	64	0	0	6867	
9	3.3.2019	itemcode1	56	0	0	6811	



3. ITEMS - REQUIRED

Items sheet contains information about the items for which we run the inventory optimisation service. Items sheet contains five columns, three of which are mandatory and two are optional:

- (mandatory) **Item Code** is the item code for the item
- (mandatory) Item Name is the name of the item
- (mandatory) Vendor Code is the vendor code
- (optional) **Unit Cost** is the purchase price per unit
- (optional) **Unit Price** is the selling price per unit

	А	В	C	D	F	F	G	
1	Item Code	-	Vendor Code	Unit Cost	Unit Price			
2	itemcode1	Blue candy	Sumi	10	15			
3	itemcode2	Green candy	Sumi	12	25			
4	itemcode3	White chocolate	Godiva	100	120			
5	itemcode4	Dark chocolate	Godiva	50	100			
6	itemcode5	Orange chocolate	Godiva	500	800			
7	itemcode6	Milk chocolate	Godiva	1000	1500			

4. VENDORS - REQUIRED

The sheet contains all vendors associated with items in the items sheet and their ordering parameters. We can have one or multiple vendors. Vendor sheet contains six columns all required for generating the order recommendations.

The columns are:

- Vendor Code is the vendor code
- Vendor Name is the vendor name
- Order Frequency in Days is the number of days between two orders
- Lead Time is the time in days required for items to be delivered
- Manipulation Days is the time in days required for items to be put on stock in the warehouse
- **Next Order Date** is the date of the next order on which we will generate the oreder recommendations

Note: In the example below we see that we want to order Godiva vendor on monthly bases (30 days) and that we would like to make first order on 1/4/2021. The time between the order and items being put on stock is 23 days (lead time + manipulation days).

4	Α	В	C	D	E	F	G	ſ
1	Vendor Code	_	Order Frequency In Days		_	Next Order Date	0	٦ľ
2	Godiva	Godiva chocolate	30	21	2	1.04.2021		1
3	Sumi	Sumi candy	45	10	2	2.04.2021		
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5. ORDERS - OPTIONAL

In case we have already put some orders and we are expecting the items to be put on stock in the future we can list the items and quantities in this sheet.

The sheet contains four columns:

- Expected Date of Delivery is the date we expect the order to be put on stock
- Item Code is the code of an item we expect delivery for
- Vendor Code is the vendor code for the item
- Incoming Quantity is the expected quantity

Note: This information is used to simulate the future stock and use this in generating next order recommendations.

4	А	В	С	D	E
1	Expected Date Of Delivery	Item Code	Vendor Code	Incoming - Quantity	
2	5.4.2021	itemcode1	Sumi	2000	
3	6.4.2021	itemcode2	Sumi	2500	
4			1		
5					
6					
7					
8					

6. SUBSTITUTES - OPTIONAL

In many cases we have certain amount of substitute items on stock. We can use this sheet to connect two items together. For example, if we discontinue one item that has a substitute, we can use the remaining stock for sell out and order only the new item. We also use historic data of the discontinued item to forecast the future of the new substitute item.

The substitutes have only two columns:

- Item Code the item for which we generate the recommendations
- Substitute For Item Code the item that is discontinued, blocked or not available for orders

2	Α	В	С
1	Item Code	Substitute For Item Code	
2	itemcode6	itemcode8	
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			



7. ITEM STATUS - OPTIONAL

In case we included items that are not active anymore into the PoC, we should indicate which items are active, blocked or discontinued. We can give that information in this sheet. The item status sheet contains two columns:

- Item Code the item for which we generate the recommendations
- **Status** which indicates the current status of the item
 - It can be active, blocked, or discontinued

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à	А	В	С	D	E F
1	Item Code	Status			
2	itemcode1	active			
3	itemcode2	active			
4	itemcode3	blocked			
5	itemcode4	active			
6	itemcode5	active			
7	itemcode6	mcode6 active			
	↓ →	Vendors	Orders	Substitutes	Item Status

8. **PROMOTIONS - OPTIONAL**

In case we would like to evaluate promotional items or promotions in general, we can include historic and future promotions per item in this sheet.

The sheet contains four columns:

- Item Code the item for which we state the promotion interval
- From start date of the promotion
- **To** end date of the promotion
- **Promotion Type** is the type of promotion
 - We can have one or multiple types of promotion
 - By default, we have discounts, seasonal and vendor discount types

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	А	В	С	D	E	F	G
1	Item Code	From	То	Promotion Type			
2	itemcode1	1.05.2020	15.05.2020	discount			
3	itemcode1	1.12.2020	25.12.2020	seasonal			
4	itemcode1	10.10.2020	10.11.2020	vendor discount			
5	itemcode1	1.08.2021	1.09.2021	seasonal			
6	itemcode1	1.09.2021	1.10.2021	vendor discount			
	< →	Vendors	Orders	Substitutes	Item Status	Prom	otions



9. PACKAGE CONVERSION - OPTIONAL

If we want to evaluate the rounding of recommended orders to packages or palettes, we can include the conversion types in this sheet. We can have one or multiple conversions per item.

The package conversion contains four columns:

- Item Code the item for which we have a conversion rule
- Unit From is the package from which we converse to larger package
 ST is piece, KAR is carton and PAL is pallet
- Unit To is the package type to which we converse smaller package
 - ♦ ST is piece, KAR is carton and PAL is pallet
- **Quantity Unit Measure** is quantity representing how many units go from smaller unit (From) to larger unit (To)

Note: An example, itemcodel can be ordered in pieces, cartons, or pallets. Pallet contains 1000 pieces and carton contains 200 pieces. One pallet contains 5 cartons.

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ż	A	В	С	D	Е	F	G	н	
1	Item Code	Unit From	Unit To	Quantity Unit Measure					
2	itemcode1	ST	PAL	1000					
3	itemcode1	ST	ST	1					
4	itemcode1	ST	KAR	200					
5	itemcode1	KAR	PAL	5					
6	itemcode?	ST	DAL	500					



If you have any question, don't hesitate to contact us:

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Note: Your submitted data will be used only for the purpose of demonstrating all the great possibilities of our AI-based optimization platform, as well as giving you useful recommendations on how to improve your inventory management and sales forecasting. Your submitted data will not be distributed outside our organization.