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# How to filter your row data

This document briefly explains how to use the data filter syntax.

## Column names

If a column name contains any of these special characters `~ ( ) # \ / = > < + - * % & | ^ ' „ [ ]`, you must enclose the column name within square brackets `[ ]`. If a column name contains right bracket `]` or backslash `\`, escape it with backslash (`\]` or `\\`).

```
1. "id = 10";           // no special character in column name "id"
2. "$id = 10";          // no special character in column name "$id"
3. "[#id] = 10";        // special character "#" in column name "#id"
4. "[[id\\]] = 10";     // special characters in column name "[id]"
```

## Literals

**String values** are enclosed within single quotes `' '`. If the string contains single quote `'`, the quote must be doubled.

```
1. dataView.RowFilter = "Name = 'John'"           // string value
2. dataView.RowFilter = "Name = 'John 'A'''"       // string with single
quotes "John 'A'"
3. dataView.RowFilter = String.Format("Name = '{0}'", "John
'A'").Replace("'", "'");
```

**Number values** are not enclosed within any characters. The values should be the same as is the result of `int.ToString()` or `float.ToString()` method for invariant or English culture.

```
1. dataView.RowFilter = "Year = 2008"             // integer value
2. dataView.RowFilter = "Price = 1199.9"           // float value
3. dataView.RowFilter =
    String.Format(CultureInfo.InvariantCulture.NumberFormat,
4.                  "Price = {0}", 1199.9f);
```

**Date values** are enclosed within sharp characters `# #`. The date format is the same as is the result of `DateTime.ToString()` method for invariant or English culture.

```
1. dataView.RowFilter = "Date = #12/31/2008#"       // date value (time
is 00:00:00)
2. dataView.RowFilter = "Date = #2008-12-31#"       // also this format
is supported
```

```
3. dataView.RowFilter = "Date = #12/31/2008 16:44:58#" // date and time
   value
4. dataView.RowFilter =
   String.Format(CultureInfo.InvariantCulture.DateTimeFormat,
5.                 "Date = #{0}#", new DateTime(2008, 12, 31, 16, 44,
   58));
```

**Alternatively** you can enclose all **values** within single quotes ' '. It means you can use string values for numbers or date time values. In this case the current culture is used to convert the string to the specific value.

```
1. dataView.RowFilter = "Date = '12/31/2008 16:44:58'" // if current
   culture is English
2. dataView.RowFilter = "Date = '31.12.2008 16:44:58'" // if current
   culture is German
3. dataView.RowFilter = "Price = '1199.90'" // if current
   culture is English
4. dataView.RowFilter = "Price = '1199,90'" // if current
   culture is German
```

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