

The Coolest Technique to Remove Empty Rows and Columns: Unpivot/Pivot

The Unpivot transforms the select columns into two columns where in each row you will find pairs of **Attribute** and **Value**. For each cell in the original table, the **Attribute** will contain its column name, and the **Value** will contain its value. And here is why we will use Unpivot – It ignores empty cells. As a result, pivoting the table back will lose the entire rows and columns which were originally empty.

Here are the steps:

1. Import the table into Query Editor.
2. In **Add Column** tab, click **Index Column**.
3. Select the column **Index**, right click on its header and select **Unpivot Other Columns**. And here is the big trick – Power Query will remove all the empty cells following the Unpivot step.
4. Now select the column **Attribute**, and in **Transform** tab, click **Pivot Column**.
5. In the **Pivot Column** window, select **Value** as **Values Column**, and select Don't **Aggregate** in **Advanced Options** → **Aggregate Value Function**. Then click **OK** (See screenshot below).
6. Finally remove the column **Index**.

