How do I calculate the interval between two dates?

You can use the \textit{datediff function} in a calculated field to compute the interval (days, weeks, etc.) between two dates.

| Pro Tip: Before you set up the datediff calculation, set the field validation for your source data. The function will not work if your source fields are not validated as dates. |

Syntax for Calculation Equation: \texttt{datediff ([date1], [date2], "units", "dateformat", returnSignedValue)}

1. Options for "units":
   - "y" (years, 1 year = 365.2425 days)
   - "M" (months, 1 month = 30.44 days)
   - "d" (days)
   - "h" (hours)
   - "m" (minutes)
   - "s" (seconds)

2. Options for "dateformat":
   The "dateformat" parameter must be "ymd", "mdy", or "dmy" which refer to the format of BOTH date/time fields as Y-M-D, M-D-Y, or D-M-Y, respectively. If not defined, it will default to "ymd".

3. Options for "returnSignedValue":
   The parameter "returnSignedValue" must be either true or false (lowercase) and denotes whether you want the returned result to be either signed (have a minus in front if negative) or unsigned (absolute value), in which the default value is false, which returns the absolute value of the difference.

   \begin{itemize}
     \item If \texttt{returnSignedValue} is set to \texttt{true}:
     \begin{itemize}
       \item The result will be negative if [date1] is larger than [date2].
     \end{itemize}
   \end{itemize}

   \begin{itemize}
     \item If \texttt{returnSignedValue} is set to \texttt{false}:
     \begin{itemize}
       \item The result will ALWAYS be a positive number.
       \item The order of the dates in the equation does not matter because the resulting value will always be positive (the + sign is implied and not displayed).
     \end{itemize}
   \end{itemize}
Example:

**Step 1:** Set up the source fields with date validation.

![Image of source fields setup](image1.png)

**Step 2:** Set up the calculated field with the appropriate syntax.

![Image of calculated field setup](image2.png)