

# MDX Help Sheet

Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about MDX... *but were afraid to ask.*



**Member** – [Brackets go around a Member]

**Tuple** – Collection of Members indicating an Essbase intersection (Parenthesis go around a Tuple)

**Set** – Collection of Tuples {Curly Brackets go around a Set}

## Basic Syntax

SELECT

    {([Year])} ON COLUMNS,                      ← Column Set

    {([Jan])} ON ROWS                              ← Row Set

FROM Sample.Basic                                ← Source Cube

WHERE ([East],[Cola],[Sales])                ← Where Clause / Slicer

**Levels**([Dimension], number) – all members of a dimension at a level number.

**Generations**([Dimension], number) – all members of a dimension at a generation number.

**Members**([Dimension]) – all members of a dimension.

**Children**([member]) – Return a member's children, non-inclusive.

{[member], **Children**([member])} – Return a member's children, inclusive.

**Descendants**() – Return a member's descendants (inclusive)

Descendants([Product])                            ← All descendants of Product including Product

Descendants([Colas], Levels([Product], 0))    ← All level 0 members under Colas

Descendants([Product],[Product].Level,AFTER) ← All descendants excluding Product

**Crossjoin**({Set 1}, {Set 2})                   ← Join two sets together

**Order()** – Sort the rows

By data – Order(Children([Product]), [Sales])

By metadata – Order(Children([Product]), [Product].CurrentMember.MEMBER\_NAME)

Sort descending – Order(Children([Product]), [Sales], BDESC)

## Filter()

By value – Filter(Children([Market]), Profit < 0)

By Boolean – Filter(Children([Market]), IsUDA([Market].CurrentMember, "Major Market"))

Suppress Shared Members –

Filter(Descendants([Products]),Not [Products].CurrentMember.SHARED\_FLAG)

**Generate() / Looping** – For each Tuple in Set1, return Set2. Ex. For each child of [Product], return the member's first child. Note: Add curly brackets on the second argument.

Generate({Children([Product])},  
    {FirstChild([Product].CurrentMember)})

**Hierarchize()** – Put a set of members in the same order as the outline. Add optional POST argument so children are listed before parents.

Hierarchize(Members([Product]), POST)           ← All Products with children listed before parents.

**DIMENSION PROPERTIES** – Add this keyword to return member properties.

List of properties: MEMBER\_NAME, MEMBER\_ALIAS, LEVEL\_NUMBER, GEN\_NUMBER, IS\_EXPENSE, COMMENTS, MEMBER\_UNIQUE\_NAME, SHARED\_FLAG (undocumented).

Example returns the Product level # on each row:

DIMENSION PROPERTIES [Product].LEVEL\_NUMBER ON ROWS

## Property\_Expr()

Example returns all Product dimension members, parent and alias:

Members([Product])

DIMENSION PROPERTIES

Property\_Expr([Product],MEMBER\_NAME,Parent(CurrentAxisMember()),"Parent"),

Property\_Expr([Product],MEMBER\_ALIAS,CurrentAxisMember(),"Alias") ON ROWS

### Comments

/\* Multi Line  
 Comment \*/  
 -- Single Line Comment

### Suppressing Missing Values / Blocks

Use NON EMPTY keywords before the Set. Example:  
 NON EMPTY Descendants([Product]) on Rows ← eliminates any rows with all #MISSING  
 NONEMPTYBLOCK Descendants([Product]) on Rows ← can improve performance in BSO cubes

**WITH MEMBER** – Define a calculated member that can be used in the query.  
**UDA([Member Name], "UDA")** – Selects all Essbase members with that UDA.  
**Sum()** - Returns the sum of values of Tuples in a Set.

Example sums all Markets with Major Market UDA:  
 WITH MEMBER  
     [Market].[Major Markets] as 'SUM(UDA([Market], "Major Market"))'  
 SELECT  
     Children([Year]) ON COLUMNS,  
     {[Major Markets]} ON ROWS  
     WHERE ([Product],[Actual],[Sales])

### WITH SET – Create reusable, custom sets.

WITH SET [New England] as '{[Connecticut],[New Hampshire],[Massachusetts]}'  
 SELECT {[New England]} ON COLUMNS,  
     {[Sales]} ON ROWS

### Shared Member Issues

Ex. Get all the children of a Set of Shared Members  
 Generate(Children([Alt Org Hier]),{Children(StrToMbr([Org].CurrentMember.MEMBER\_NAME))})

### INSERT – Copy data from one intersection to another

```
INSERT
    "([Year].[Jan])" TO "([Year].[Feb])" ← Copy data from Jan to Feb
INTO [Sample].[Basic]
FROM (Select
    {[Jan]} on Columns,
    {[Connecticut]} on Rows
    FROM [Sample].[Basic]
    Where ([Actual],[Sales],[Cola]))
```

### ASO Member Formula examples using IIF() and CASE

Only ASO member formulas use MDX. They are expressions that return a value.  
 Example to create a Measure to calculate average sales per month in a quarter:

```
IIF(IsLevel([Time].CurrentMember,0),
    Avg(Siblings([Time].CurrentMember),[Sales]),MISSING)
Same example but this works for the Quarter level members too:
CASE [Time].CurrentMember.LEVEL_NUMBER
    WHEN 0
        THEN Avg(Siblings([Time].CurrentMember),[Sales])
    WHEN 1
        THEN Avg(Children([Time].CurrentMember),[Sales])
    ELSE MISSING
END
```

**Server Export** – OVERWRITE and COLUMNDELIMITER arguments are optional.  
 EXPORT INTO FILE "filename" OVERWRITE USING COLUMNDELIMITER "delimiter"  
 SELECT...

**Local Export** – run the following command in MaxL before MDX statement for delimited export.  
 set column\_separator "delimiter";