How to Become a Data Analyst

Qualification, Skills and Salary

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Introduction

With the increase in data generation, the term "data analyst" has found its prominence today. However, to become a data analyst, there are a set of required <u>data analyst skills</u> and a few steps that have to be followed.

In this article on how to become a data analyst, you will get an in-depth understanding of what you must do to become a data analyst, unearth the skills required to bag this position and you'll get a step closer to your dream of becoming a data analyst.

To fulfill the responsibilities a data analyst must possess a vast and rich skillset:

1. Degree and Domain Expertise
2. Knowledge of Programming
3. Knowledge of Data Analysis Tools
4. Understanding of Statistics and Machine Learning Algorithms
5. Knowledge of Data Visualization Tools

Before we discuss the above steps in detail, let us check out what is data analytics? Who is a data analyst? And what does a data analyst do, etc?

What is Data Analytics?

From a bird's eye view, the term "analyze" can mean scrutinizing something to derive useful information from it. Hence, data analytics can be defined as the process in which meaningful insights are drawn from raw data by scrutinizing it.

Who is a Data Analyst?

A data analyst is a professional who takes this data and figures out numerous measures, such as how to improve customer experience, price new materials, and how to reduce transportation costs, to name a few. Data Analysts deal with data handling, data modeling, and reporting.

What Does a Data Analyst Do?

The role of data analyst has become increasingly important as businesses have become more data-driven. Data analysts help businesses to make sense of the vast amounts of data that they collect. They use their skills in mathematics and computer science to clean and analyze data, and then communicate their findings to those who will make the decisions.

Why Start a Career as a Data Analyst?

Growing Demand

With the increasing use of data in business decision-making, there is a growing demand for professionals with skills in data analysis. According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, the employment of data analysts is projected to grow much faster than the average for all occupations in the coming years.

High Earning Potential

Data analysts are often well-paid, with salaries varying depending on experience, industry, and location. Data analysts can often earn competitive salaries right out of college.

Variety of Opportunities

Data analysts can work in various industries, from healthcare and finance to marketing and retail. It means many different types of jobs and career paths are available for those with data analysis skills.

Challenging and Interesting Work

Data analysis can be difficult and rewarding, requiring problem-solving skills and attention to detail. Analysts are often tasked with finding insights in large and complex data sets, which can be exciting and intellectually stimulating.

Transferable Skills

The skills developed in data analysis, such as statistical analysis, data visualization, and data management, can be applied to various other fields and industries. It means that data analysts can build valuable transferable skills that can be useful throughout their careers.

Learn the Essential Data Analysis Skills

When embarking on a journey to become a Data Analyst, it's essential to start by solidifying the fundamental principles of data analysis. You must also become proficient in various data analysis tools, such as advanced Microsoft Excel, programming languages like SQL, Python, and R, and Spark and Hadoop for complex calculations. Additionally, tools like ggplot2, Tableau, or Matplotlib can help you create stunning visualizations that can help bring your data to life.

Practice Your Data Analyst Skills on a Variety of Topics

Some essential tools and skills required for data analysis include spreadsheets and querying languages like XML and SQL, programming languages and frameworks like Hadoop, Python, and R, and visualization tools like PowerBI, Tableau, Matplotlib, Plotly, and Bokeh.

Apply for Entry-Level Data Analyst Jobs

The world of data analytics offers diverse job opportunities for those with data skills. Some popular roles that require data analysis expertise include Data Analyst, Business Analyst, Data Scientist, Data Engineer, Data Architect, and Marketing Analyst.

However, the field of data analytics is constantly evolving, and new applications for data analysis are being developed all the time. As a result, job titles and responsibilities may also continue to change and expand.

Business/Data Analyst

A Business/Data Analyst is responsible for collecting, analyzing, and interpreting complex data sets to help companies make informed decisions.

Marketing Analyst

A Marketing Analyst uses data to help companies understand their customers and develop marketing strategies.

Financial Analyst

A Financial Analyst uses data to help companies make financial decisions. They may analyze financial data such as revenue, expenses, and profitability to help companies identify areas for improvement or growth.

Data Analyst Salary

How to become a data analyst is the real question, however, there's one motivation that will surely push you forward to becoming one - and that salaries potential!

According to Glassdoor, a data analyst in the United States can earn a minimum salary of $43K to a maximum of $95K per year.

In India, a data analyst can earn an average salary of 500K per annum.

The average salary of a data analyst in Australia is around A$83K per annum.

In the United Kingdom, a data analyst earns an average salary of £30K per annum.