

Using Power Automate to Set the Value of a Lookup Column

When using Power Automate to set the value of a Lookup column in an unmanaged solution, you must wrap the value in a lookup table plural value (classic name for this is Entity Set Name). To get this value, open the table in the [Metadata Browser extension](#).

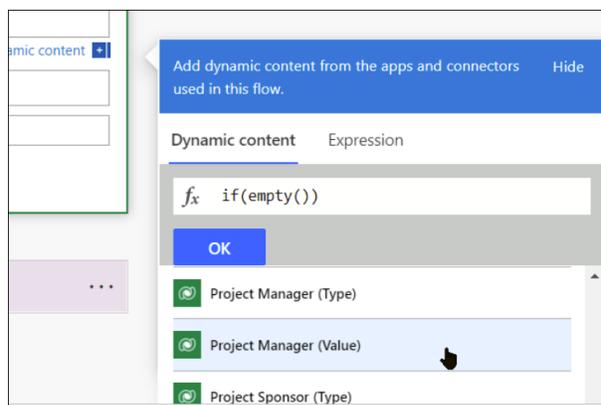
32	ExternalCollectionName	
33	CollectionSchemaName	SystemUsers
34	EntitySetName	systemusers
35	IsEnabledForExternalChannels	false

If the relevant column is a user lookup, the syntax to use would be as follows:

Program (Programs)	
Project Manager (Users)	systemusers( Project Manag... x)
Project Sponsor (Users)	systemusers( Project Sponso... x)
Template (Templates)	

If there is a chance that the source lookup you are copying from is blank, you will have to use an expression to allow for this; otherwise the flow will fail when it tries to set a blank lookup. The syntax in this scenario would be entered as follows (do not type the double quotation marks unless noted otherwise):

1. Click into the lookup field and select the Expression tab.
2. Type "if(" - this will automatically add the closing bracket.
3. Type "empty(" - this will automatically add the closing bracket.
4. Select the column you want to copy from the **Dynamic content** tab.



5. Click one space to the right and add ",".
6. Enter a single quotation mark. This will automatically add the closing ' - this means that " is the value if the source lookup is empty.
7. Click one to the right again and add ",".
8. Type "Concat(" and click one space to the right.
9. Enter a single quotation mark and "systemusers(" or whatever the table set name is.

10. Click to the right after the closing ' and add ",".
11. Select the source column value from the **Dynamic content** tab.
12. Add a ",".
13. Enter a single quotation mark and ")".

The Expression should look something like the below:

```
if(empty(outputs('Get_Source_Project')['body/_bw_projectmanager_value'],",",concat('systemusers(',outputs('Get_Source_Project')['body/_bw_projectmanager_value'],')'))
```

If the flow does not present any error messages, you must still test the flow as Power Automate will allow you to enter a faulty expression. You can run a test from inside the flow.

