

Show a Number of Randomly Selected Rows from a Grid

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As part of our core randomization options you have the ability to randomize columns and randomize row order in a grid question. Unfortunately, there is not a built-in way to only randomly show a subset of the rows in your grid question. Never fear! We'll cover the steps to use a pretty simple script to accomplish just this. These steps assume a basic familiarity with SurveyGizmo and programming.

Test it out in the survey here:

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2594372/x-random-rows>

OR

[Add this survey to your account!](#)

Features used in this confession:

- Our Custom Scripting action
- Our Custom Scripting function **sgapiExplode**
- Our Custom Scripting function **sgapiShuffle**
- Our Custom Scripting function **sgapiHideQuestion**
- [PHP foreach loops](#)

Survey Setup

Set up your grid question. Our example grid question looks like the below.

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Row 1	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Row 2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Row 3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Row 4	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Row 5	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Row 6	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Row 7	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Row 8	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Row 9	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Row 10	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

In the interest of reducing survey fatigue and survey abandonment and ultimately getting better data, we only want to burden each respondent with responding to three of the ten rows in this grid question.

To set this up we added a [Custom Script Action](#) to the top of the page with the grid question and pasted the below script. The highlighted portions of the script can be modified with the question IDs for the rows that you would like to randomly select from and the number of random rows you would like to show.

```
//Row IDs to be randomly hidden go here. Make sure they are comma separated, no spaces, and inside quotes.
%%questionsHideRan = "8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18" ;

//Number of rows you want shown from the list above. No quotes or commas are needed
.
%%shown = 3;

//Do not change after this line.
%%arr = sgapiExplode(',', '%questionsHideRan');
sgapiShuffle(%%arr);
foreach(%%arr as %%question)
{
sgapiHideQuestion(%%question, true);
}
for (%%i=0; %%i<%%shown; %%i++)
{
sgapiHideQuestion(%%arr[''.%%i], false);
}
}
```

You're all set! Be sure to test it out to ensure that the rows are being randomly displayed.

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Row 2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Row 4	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Row 5	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Scripting and Other Out-of-the-Box Customizations

We're always happy to help you debug any documented script. That said, we do not have the resources to write scripts on demand.

If you have customization ideas that you haven't figured out how to tackle, we're happy to be a sounding board for SurveyGizmo features and functionality ideas that might meet your customization. Beyond this, you might want to consult with someone on our [Programming Services Team](#); these folks might have the scripting chops to help you to achieve what you are looking for!

@plans @pro @ent
