Loop and Merge allows you to loop through a block of questions, showing them multiple times with slight variations to the respondent. For example, if you are asking participants which books from a list they have read, and you would like to ask the same follow-up questions for each book selected, you could set up the Loop and Merge and it will show the block of follow-up questions repeatedly for each book selected.

Before setting up the Loop and Merge, you'll need at least two question blocks in your survey. The first block should contain a Multiple Choice-multiple answer type question that will determine which loops to show to the participant. The second block will be the looped block.

Set up the Loop and Merge

1. Select **Block Options** on the block that is to be looped through.

2. Choose **Loop and Merge** from the Block Options menu.
3. Click **Turn on Loop and Merge** to enable looping.

4. Select to **Automatically bring in Field 1** from a question.

5. Select the **Question** which will determine the loop.
6. Choose whether to loop through **All Choices**, **Selected Choices**, or **Unselected Choices**.

![Loop & Merge Diagram](image1)

7. Click **Save**.

![Save Button](image2)

**Include the name of the currently looped item within a question**

1. Click the text of any question in the looped block that you would like to insert the name into.

![Question Block](image3)
2. Click the blue Piped Text tab, and select to pipe Field 1 from a Loop and Merge Field. A code will be generated that will pull in the name of the item currently being looped through.

More Information

Qtips

- If you need everyone to see the same set of items when they loop, rather than a customized set of items based on what they have answered, then you will set up a Static Loop and Merge. When in the Loop and Merge menu, deselect the box for Automatically bring in Field 1 from a question, and type your own values into the Field 1 table. When respondents reach the loop and merge block they will look through the blocks one time for each item in your list. You can also customize with a second and third field as needed, so that multiple unique items can be used in each loop.
To randomize your loops, in the Loop and Merge menu, check the box for Randomize Loop Order. You can also choose to only show a limited amount of the total available loops.

When viewing your results, note how each loop is treated as a separate set of questions. If you have 5 possible loops, you will see the looped questions repeated 5 times in the results.

Using Loop and Merge can increase the size of your data export greatly because the questions are being repeated. If you are having trouble downloading a large data file because of an older version of Excel, try downloading groups of questions at a time rather than the entire survey at once. Another option is to use Excel 2007, or a comparable program, with a higher column limit.