

KitForma.

PRACTICAL FIELD GUIDE

A Product Catalog You Can Import

An evidence-led workbook for mapping supplier rows, protecting variants and testing a Shopify draft batch

01

02

03

SAMPLE EDITION

ENGLISH / 1.0 / 2026

How to use this guide

Small merchants and catalog coordinators moving their own product records into Shopify, with authority to inspect the source and destination.

Prepare a six-product, 24-variant draft reference from fictional supplier rows. Includes CSV inputs, approved corrections, expected output, a local validator and a store-pilot worksheet.

- Preserve product, variant and exact identifier relationships.
- Apply six documented corrections without losing source rows.
- Map a dated Shopify CSV schema and reconcile the saved candidate.
- Plan a small authorized pilot; distinguish local checks from provider acceptance.

Scope and limitations

- Fictional practice catalog: do not publish its products or identifiers.
- No Shopify connection, image upload, inventory or tax setup, or import acceptance is supplied.
- Images, stock, tax and market-specific prices are excluded and require separate real-data decisions.
- Guidance checked 2026-10-01: compare a fresh export and current documentation. No income, ranking, tax or legal advice.

Published by KitForma. Edition 1.0. Sources checked 1 October 2026. People and businesses in worked examples are fictional. This is an independent publication, not endorsed by the platforms mentioned.

Copyright 2026 KitForma. Usage, support and refund terms are included in LICENSE.txt in the purchased package.

Contents

How to use this guide	2
Contents	3
Choose a migration boundary before editing	4
Sources and tools	6

01

Choose a migration boundary before editing

A supplier spreadsheet is evidence about a catalog, not permission to change a store. Start by writing what the transfer will create, what it will leave alone and who can decide unresolved facts. The fictional North Quay project creates six new draft products from twenty-four supplied variant rows. It does not update existing products, synchronize stock or publish listings. Those boundaries make an apparently simple file conversion a task with an observable finish.

Our source contains desk mats, zip pouches, cable wraps, notebook sleeves, pen rolls and document wallets. Each product has two size values and two colors, producing four intended variants. The arithmetic is six times two times two, or twenty-four. That count is an expectation derived from the approved assortment, not a reason to invent missing rows. If only twenty-three legitimate combinations existed, a complete transfer could correctly contain twenty-three rather than twenty-four.

Keep three locations conceptually separate: the untouched received file, your working decisions and the candidate import. A correction belongs in a decision record before it appears in the candidate. The distinction lets another person reconstruct why a value changed. It also prevents the final import from becoming a mixture of source facts, temporary notes and guesses that happen to look plausible in a spreadsheet.

Read the supplier notes included with the fixtures before opening any editing tool. They establish the fictional product identifiers, the approved assortment and the special price correction. They do not establish commercial ownership of a real barcode or authorize a real store action. Practice data gives you a safe place to learn a process, but importing it

into a public catalog would create misleading merchandise rather than a useful test.

Write your own boundary in three short sentences. Name the source snapshot, the intended destination state and the acceptance evidence. For this exercise the evidence is a reproducible local reference plus an uncompleted provider-pilot worksheet. A clean checker result advances the file to review; it does not transform the worksheet into proof that Shopify accepted it. Keep that distinction visible in the release note and in conversations with colleagues.

Boundary check

Write one action that belongs in this exercise and two that require a separate decision. Explain why publishing the sample catalog is outside the exercise.

Sources and tools

[S1] **Shopify: Using CSV files to import and export products**

<https://help.shopify.com/en/manual/products/import-export/using-csv>

Checked: 2026-10-01

[S2] **Shopify: Importing products with a CSV file**

<https://help.shopify.com/en/manual/products/import-export/import-products>

Checked: 2026-10-01

[S3] **RFC 4180: Common Format and MIME Type for CSV Files**

<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc4180/>

Checked: 2026-10-01

Shopify CSV checker & fixer

Optional local structural and commerce checks; it does not connect to a store or prove successful import.

<https://kitforma.com/en/shopify-csv-fixer/>

CSV & Excel column mapper

Optional mapping and text-preserving review; business facts and accepted corrections remain your decisions.

<https://kitforma.com/en/csv-xlsx-mapper/>

Compare two lists

Compare expected and actual identifier lists after choosing exact comparison rules.

<https://kitforma.com/en/text-list-compare/>

Inside the complete guide

Identify products and variants separately

Inspect the file without changing its evidence

Choose the target schema deliberately

Correct facts through a narrow ledger

Protect grouping, media plans and destination state

Reconcile the saved candidate, not the editor

Design a small store pilot and a recovery decision

Capstone: prepare the North Quay release decision

Answer key and a reusable migration routine