

Solver and the RUN EXCEL'S SOLVER button in Excel OM/QM

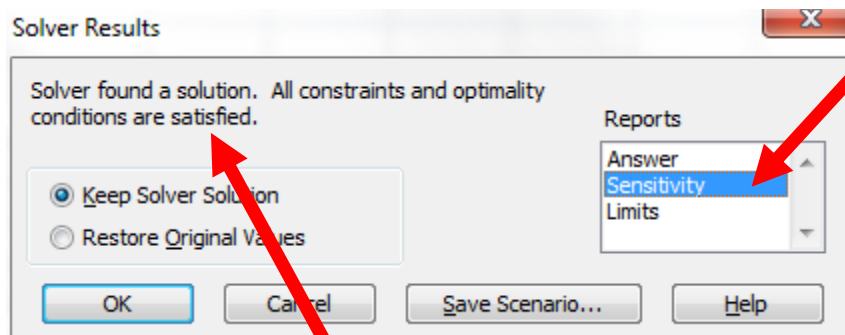
Solver is an add-in that comes with Excel and can be used to solve a variety of problems including Linear Programming, Transportation, Assignment, Project Management, Network and other models. Solver is included with your version of Excel. (If you have Excel 2011 for Macs be sure that you have the latest update. Use Help, Check for Updates on the Excel Menu). On a PC with Excel 2007 or later or a Mac with Excel 2016, Solver will appear on the Data tab. On Excel 2003 or Excel 2011 (Mac) Solver will appear on the Tools menu.

If Solver is not present then, using the RUN EXCEL'S SOLVER button on this spreadsheet should load it. If there is a problem with this a message will be displayed asking you to search the web for Solver and your version of Excel. Alternatively, to load Solver please see [Load the Solver Add-in](#)

The RUN EXCEL'S SOLVER button has been placed on the sheet to make solving these models slightly more efficient when you need only the optimal solution and the optimal profit or cost and do not need a sensitivity analysis. The RUN EXCEL'S SOLVER BUTTON is equivalent to

- a. Data Tab (or Tools on Excel 2003, 2011)
- b. Solver
- c. Solve
- d. OK (PC only)

If you would like to see the sensitivity analysis on a PC then instead of using the RUN EXCEL'S SOLVER button you should use the commands in a through c above and select the Sensitivity Analysis before pressing OK.



When you use SOLVER by means of the data tab rather than by using the RUN EXCEL'S SOLVER button it is important to read the message on the Solver Results screen in order to be certain that a solution was found rather than having an unbounded solution ("Set Cell values do not converge") or no feasible solution ("Solver could not find a feasible solution").

If you have Excel 2011 and receive the following error message after Solver solves the problem when you use the RUN EXCEL'S SOLVER button, simply ignore it by pressing End.

