

# Excel Function to Say if Sheet has Any Custom Highlighting

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# Problem

- The custom **highlighting routine** I use as a presentation aid (highlight entire row and column of active cell) also **eliminates** all custom **highlighting** on the Active Sheet
- Currently, my use model is to make a copy of the Active Sheet (shortcut assigned CTRL+SHIFT+C) and then use the highlighting macro in it (enable it with CTRL+SHIFT+J )
- If I forget to make the copy, then I have to close the file without saving so I don't lose the custom highlighting on the sheet
- So, I'm looking for a Function that will detect and confirm... (detail..)

# Deliverable

- Excel VBA Function returns True or False
- If there is no custom highlighting on the active sheet (note that a Table created using the Format-as-Table tool does not qualify as custom highlighting despite the banded rows)
  - return True
- If there is any custom highlighting at all on the active sheet, then, present the User with a dialog “Custom highlighting detected. Proceed?” with a Yes and a No button
  - If user presses Yes, then return True
  - If user presses No, return False

# Intended Use Model

```
Sub startCrossHair()  
  If function_you_provide Then  
    Set Monitor = New worksheetMonitor  
    With ActiveCell  
      ' Highlight the entire row and column of active cell  
      .EntireRow.Interior.ColorIndex = 4  
      .EntireColumn.Interior.ColorIndex = 4  
    End With  
  End If  
End Sub
```

# Test Cases

- True sheet has a table with banded rows, but no custom highlighting
  - Run in this sheet should not throw up a dialog and should return True
- False sheet has a table with banded rows PLUS custom highlighting
  - Run in this sheet should present a dialog

# Answer

- Hinges on Cell.Interior.Patter, which is != xlNone when there is some custom highlighting
- So just check within a loop of ActiveSheet.UsedRange
  - c.Interior.Pattern <> xlNone ' to say that you need user confirmation
- Thanks Mykhailo Bondarenko and, as usual, [Paul Kelly](#) 😊

# Code

```
Function checkH() As Boolean
    Dim result As Boolean
    Dim c As Variant
    result = True
    For Each c In ActiveSheet.UsedRange
        If c.Interior.Pattern <> xlNone Then
            result = False
            Exit For
        End If
    Next c
    checkH = result
    If result = False Then
        If MsgBox("Custom Highlighting detected. Proceed?", vbYesNo) = vbYes Then
            checkH = True
        End If
    End If
End Function

Sub runCheck()
    Dim result As Boolean
    result = checkH()
    If result Then
        MsgBox ("True")
    Else
        MsgBox ("False")
    End If
End Sub
```