Common Excel Errors and Their Meanings

#DIV/0!

Occurs when a number is divided by zero or by an empty cell.

#N/A

Indicates a value is not available. Usually occurs in lookup functions like VLOOKUP or MATCH when a value isn't found.

#NAME?

Happens when Excel doesn't recognize text in a formula - commonly due to misspelled function names or undefined named ranges.

#NULL!

Occurs when you specify an intersection of two ranges that don't intersect (e.g., =SUM(A1:A3 B1:B3)).

#NUM!

Results when a formula generates a number that is too large or too small to be represented in Excel.

#REF!

Occurs when a formula refers to a cell that is no longer valid, typically because the referenced cell was deleted.

#VALUE!

Happens when the wrong type of argument or operand is used in a formula, like trying to add text to a number.

Circular Reference

This happens when a formula refers back to its own cell either directly or indirectly, causing an endless loop.

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Indicates the column is not wide enough to display the cell content. Try widening the column.