



PDF GUIDE

TABLE of Contents

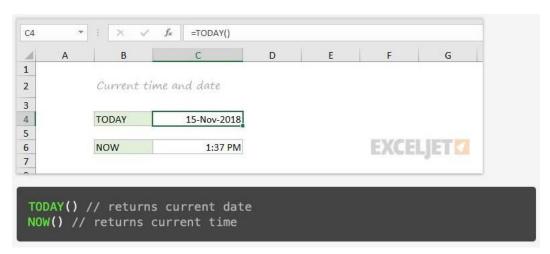
Date and Time Functions
Engineering
Information Functions
Logical Functions
Lookup and Reference Functions
STATISTICAL Functions
MATH Functions
TEXT Functions

Date and Time Functions

Excel provides many functions to work with dates and times.

NOW and TODAY

You can get the current date with the <u>TODAY function</u> and the current date and time with the <u>NOW Function</u>. Technically, the NOW function returns the current date and time, but you can format as time only, as seen below:



Note: these are <u>volatile functions</u> and will recalculate with every worksheet change. If you want a static value, use <u>date</u> and <u>time</u> shortcuts.

DATE SHORTCUT: This shortcut will insert the current date as a fixed value; it will not change.





TIME SHORCUT: This shortcut will insert the current time as a fixed value; it will not change. [Note: In Mac 2016, Control Shift: stopped working to insert a time. Command; now seems to work.]



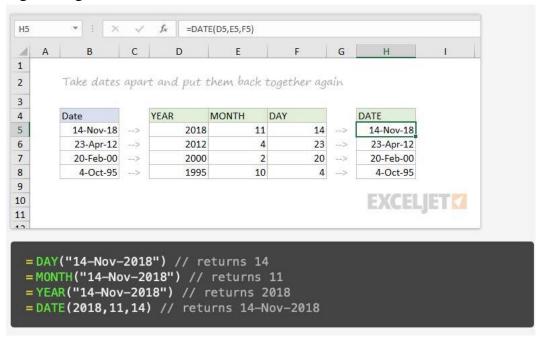


Easily add Date and Time to your Excel files using these functions

More excel shortcuts.

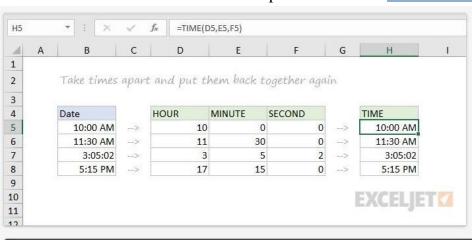
DAY, MONTH, YEAR, and DATE

You can use the <u>DAY</u>, <u>MONTH</u>, and <u>YEAR</u> functions to disassemble any date into its raw components, and the <u>DATE function</u> to put things back together again.



HOUR, MINUTE, SECOND, and TIME

Excel provides a set of parallel functions for times. You can use the <u>HOUR</u>, <u>MINUTE</u>, and <u>SECOND</u> functions to extract pieces of a time, and you can assemble a TIME from individual components with the <u>TIME</u> function.



```
= HOUR("10:30") // returns 10

= MINUTE("10:30") // returns 30

= SECOND("10:30") // returns 0

= TIME(10,30,0) // returns 10:30
```

Did you know?

Excel dates are serial numbers that start in the year 1900.

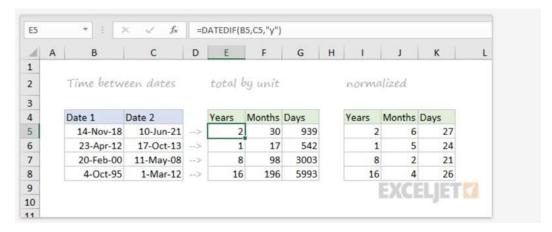
Excel times are fractions of the number 1.

Both <u>dates</u> and <u>times</u> are numbers that can be used in math operations.



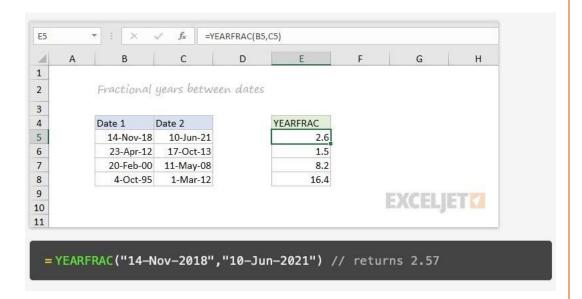
DATEDIF and YEARFRAC

You can use the <u>DATEDIF function</u> to get time between dates in years, months, or days. DATEDIF can also be configured to get total time in "normalized" denominations, i.e. "2 years and 5 months and 27 days".



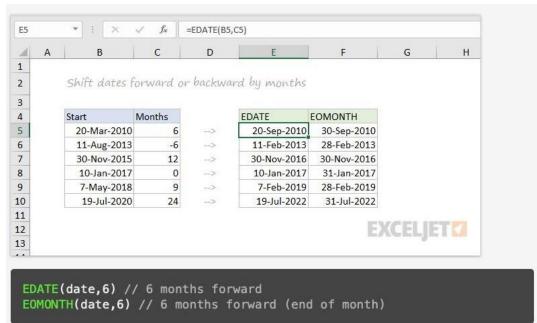
The DATEDIF function is a good way to calculate age from a birthday. See this example formula.

Use <u>YEARFRAC</u> to get fractional years:



EDATE and EOMONTH

A common task with dates is to shift a date forward (or backward) by a given number of months. You can use the <u>EDATE</u> and <u>EOMONTH</u> functions for this. EDATE moves by month and retains the day. EOMONTH works the same way, but always returns the last day of the month.

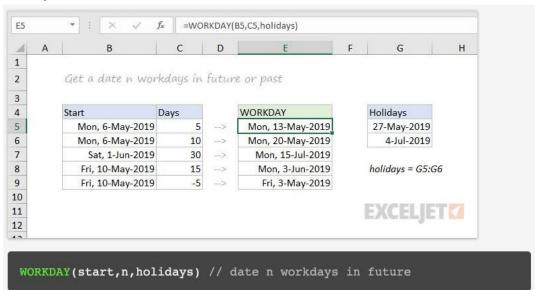


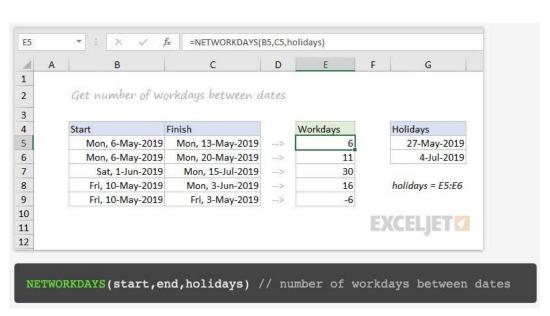


Shift dates Forward (or Backward) using EDATE

WORKDAY and NETWORKDAYS

To figure out a date *n* working days in the future, you can use the WORKDAY function. To calculate the number of <u>workdays</u> between two dates, you can use <u>NETWORKDAYS</u>.

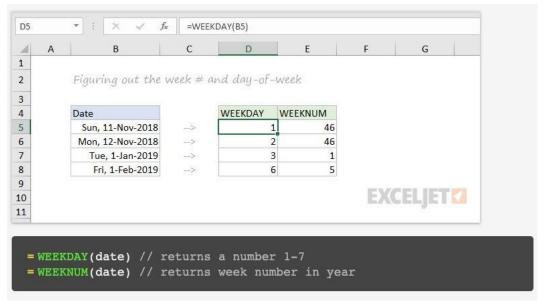




Note: Both functions automatically skip weekends (Saturday and Sunday) and will also skip holidays, if provided. If you need more flexibility on what days are considered weekends, see the <u>WORKDAY.INTL</u> function and <u>NETWORKDAYS.INTL</u> function.

WEEKDAY and WEEKNUM

To figure out the day of week from a date, Excel provides the <u>WEEKDAY</u> <u>function</u>. WEEKDAY returns a number between 1-7 that indicates Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, etc. Use the <u>WEEKNUM function</u> to get the week number in a given year.



See this formula to calculate sales per weekday.



MONDAY



TUESDAY



WEDNESDAY



THURSDAY



FRIDAY

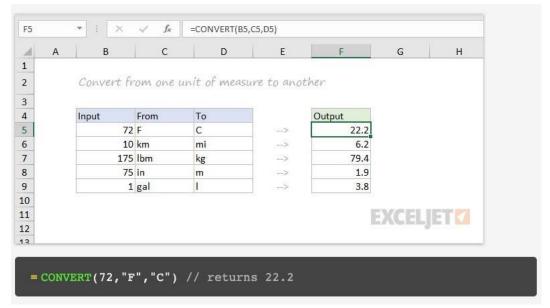


SATURDAY

Engineering

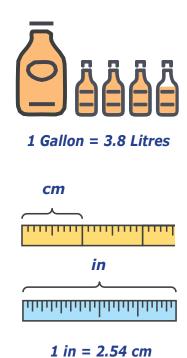
CONVERT

Most Engineering functions are pretty technical... you'll find a lot of functions for complex numbers in this section. However, the <u>CONVERT</u> function is quite useful for everyday unit conversions. You can use CONVERT to change units for distance, weight, temperature, and much more.



See <u>this formula</u> to calculate the BMI of an individual where the CONVERT function is used to convert between the metric and imperial unit systems.

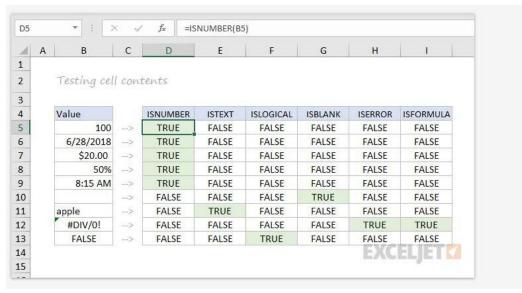
Using the Versatile Convert Function



Information Functions

ISBLANK, ISERROR, ISNUMBER, and ISFORMULA

Excel provides many functions for checking the value in a cell, including <u>ISNUMBER</u>, <u>ISTEXT</u>, <u>ISLOGICAL</u>, <u>ISBLANK</u>, <u>ISERROR</u>, and <u>ISFORMULA</u>. These functions are sometimes called the "IS" functions, and they all return TRUE or FALSE based on a cell's contents.



Excel also has <u>ISODD</u> and <u>ISEVEN</u> functions will test a number to see if it's even or odd.

By the way, the green fill in the screenshot above is applied automatically with a conditional formatting formula.



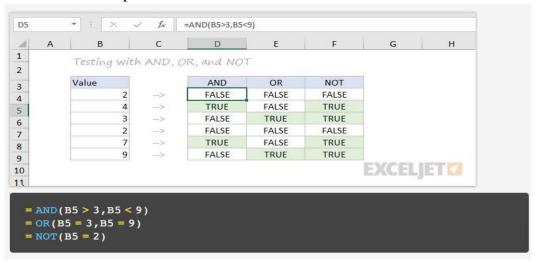
True or False results using Information Functions

Logical Functions

Excel's logical functions are a key building block of many advanced formulas. Logical functions return the boolean values TRUE or FALSE. If you need a primer on logical formulas, this video goes through many examples.

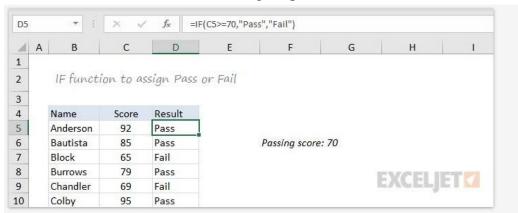
AND, OR and NOT

The core of Excel's logical functions are the <u>AND function</u>, the <u>OR function</u>, and the <u>NOT function</u>. In the screen below, each of these function is used to run a simple test on the values in column B:



IF and IFS functions

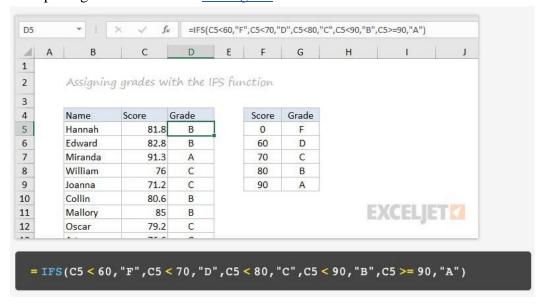
The <u>IF function</u> is one of the most used functions in Excel. In the screen below, IF checks test scores and assigns "pass" or "fail":



The logical functions above can be combined with the IF function to create more complex logical tests. Alternatively, multiple IF functions <u>can be</u> <u>nested together</u> to return more than two values as a result.

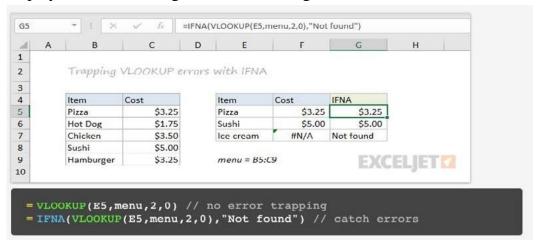
Is it Green? TRUE FALSE X X X

New in Excel 2019 and Office 365, the <u>IFS function</u> can run multiple logical tests without nesting IFs.



IFERROR and **IFNA**

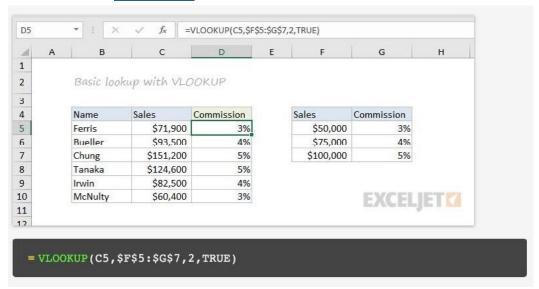
The <u>IFERROR function</u> and <u>IFNA</u> function can be used as a simple way to trap and handle errors. In the screen below, <u>VLOOKUP</u> is used to retrieve cost from a menu item. Column F contains just a <u>VLOOKUP function</u>, with no error handling. Column G shows how to use IFNA with VLOOKUP to display a custom message when an unrecognized item is entered.



Whereas IFNA only catches an #N/A error, the <u>IFERROR function</u> will catch any formula error.

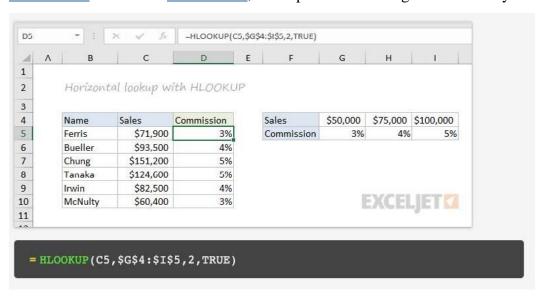
Lookup and Reference Functions VLOOKUP and HLOOKUP

Excel offers a number of functions to lookup and retrieve data. Most famous of all is VLOOKUP:



More: 23 things to know about VLOOKUP.

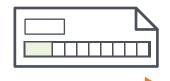
HLOOKUP works like **VLOOKUP**, but expects data arranged horizontally:

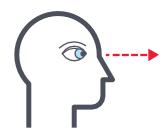


VLOOKUP is for vertical data



HLOOKUP is for horizontal data



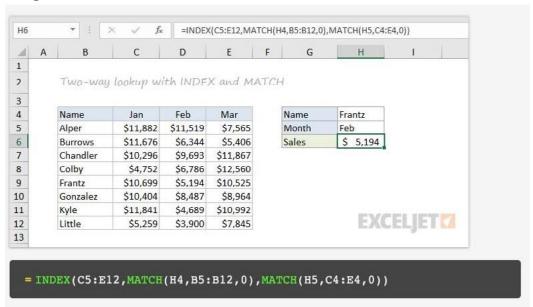


VLOOKUP only looks to the Right



INDEX and MATCH

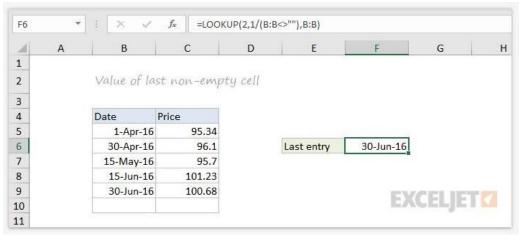
For more complicated lookups, <u>INDEX</u> and <u>MATCH</u> offers more flexibility and power:



Both the <u>INDEX function</u> and the <u>MATCH function</u> are powerhouse functions that turn up in all kinds of formulas.

LOOKUP

The <u>LOOKUP function</u> has default behaviors that make it useful when solving certain problems. LOOKUP assumes values are sorted in ascending order and always performs an approximate match. When LOOKUP can't find a match, it will match the next smallest value. In the example below we are using LOOKUP to find the last entry in a column:



This page explains this LOOKUP example in more depth.



The MATCH function is designed to find the position of an item in a range.

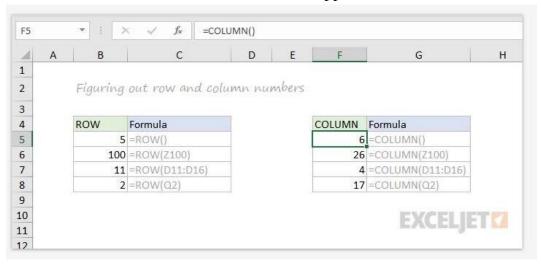


ARTICLE

How to use
INDEX and MATCH

ROW and COLUMN

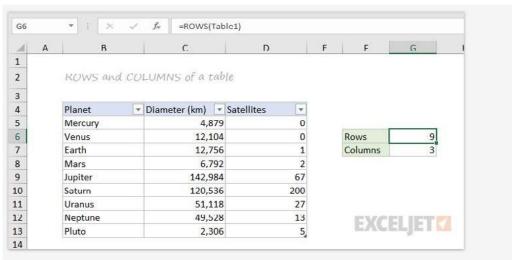
You can use the <u>ROW function</u> and <u>COLUMN function</u> to find row and column numbers on a worksheet. Notice both ROW and COLUMN return values for the current cell if no reference is supplied:



The row function also shows up often in advanced formulas that process data with <u>relative row numbers</u>.

ROWS and COLUMNS

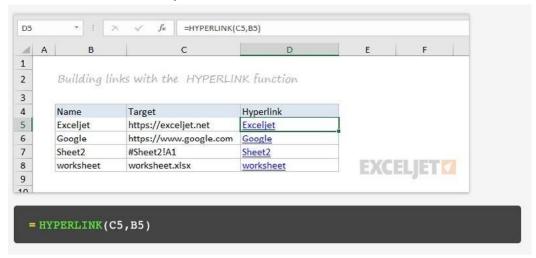
The <u>ROWS function</u> and <u>COLUMNS function</u> provide a count of rows in a reference. In the screen below, we are counting rows and columns in an <u>Excel Table</u> named "Table1".



Note ROWS returns a count of data rows in a table, excluding the header row. By the way, here are 23 things to know about Excel Tables.

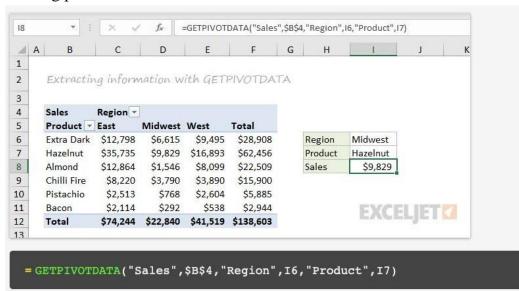
HYPERLINK

You can use the <u>HYPERLINK function</u> to construct a link with a formula. Note HYPERLINK lets you build both external links and internal links:



GETPIVOTDATA

The <u>GETPIVOTDATA function</u> is useful for retrieving information from existing pivot tables.

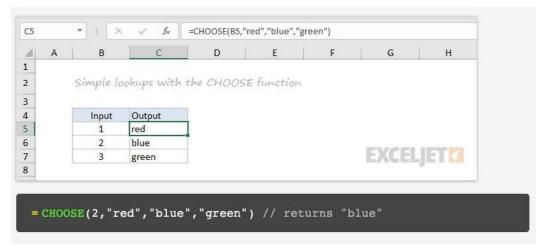


Build External and Internal Hyperlinks



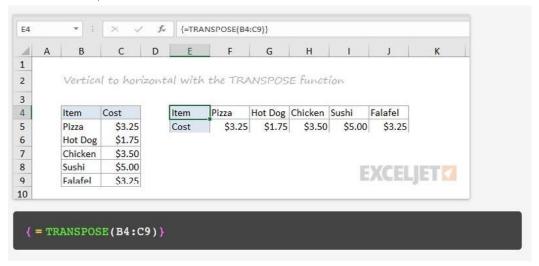
CHOOSE

The <u>CHOOSE function</u> is handy any time you need to make a choice based on a number:

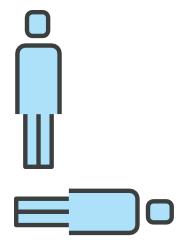


TRANSPOSE

The <u>TRANSPOSE</u> function gives you an easy way to transpose vertical data to horizontal, and vice versa.



Note: TRANSPOSE is a formula and is therefore dynamic. If you just need to do a one-time transpose operation, use <u>Paste Special</u> instead.

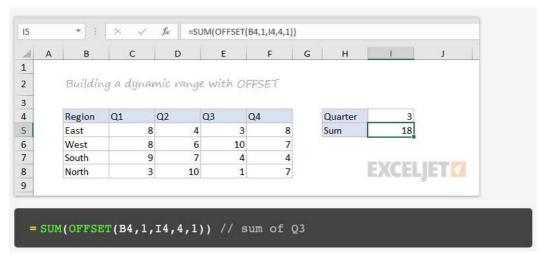


Transpose Vertical

Data to Horizontal

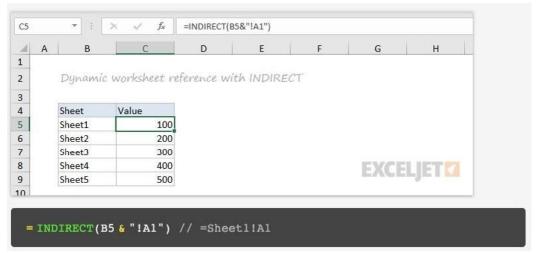
OFFSET

The OFFSET function is useful for all kinds of dynamic ranges. From a starting location, it lets you specify row and column offsets, and also the final row and column size. The result is a range that can be respond dynamically to changing conditions and inputs. You can feed this range to other functions, as in the screen below, where OFFSET builds a range that is fed to the SUM function:

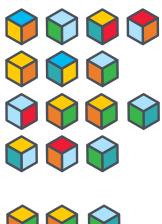


INDIRECT

The <u>INDIRECT function</u> allows you to build references as text. This concept is a bit tricky to understand at first, but it can be useful in many situations. Below, we are using INDIRECT to get values from cell A1 in 5 different worksheets. Each reference is dynamic. If a sheet name changes, the reference will update.



The INDIRECT function is also used to "lock" references so they won't change, when rows or columns are added or deleted. For more details, see linked examples at the bottom of the INDIRECT function page.





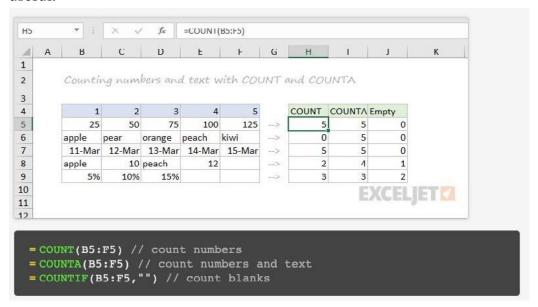
The main purpose of OFFSET is to allow formulas to dynamically adjust to available data or to user input.

Caution: Both
OFFSET and
INDIRECT are
volatile functions
and can slow
down large or
complicated
spreadsheets.

STATISTICAL Functions

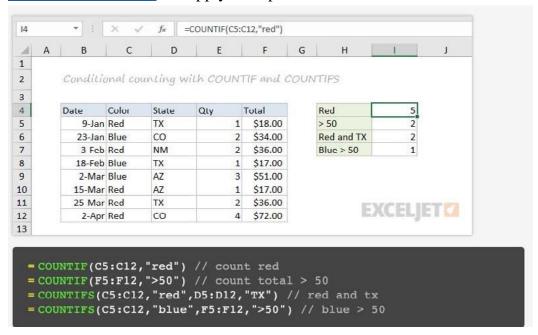
COUNT and COUNTA

You can count numbers with the <u>COUNT function</u> and non-empty cells with <u>COUNTA</u>. You can count blank cells with <u>COUNTBLANK</u>, but in the screen below we are counting blank cells with <u>COUNTIF</u>, which is more generally useful.



COUNTIF and COUNTIFS

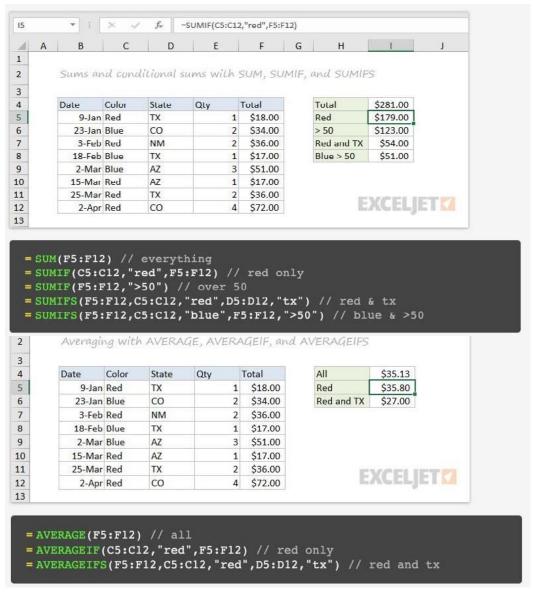
For conditional counts, <u>the COUNTIF function</u> can apply one criteria. The <u>COUNTIFS</u> function can apply multiple criteria at the same time:

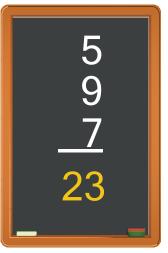




SUM, SUMIF, SUMIFS

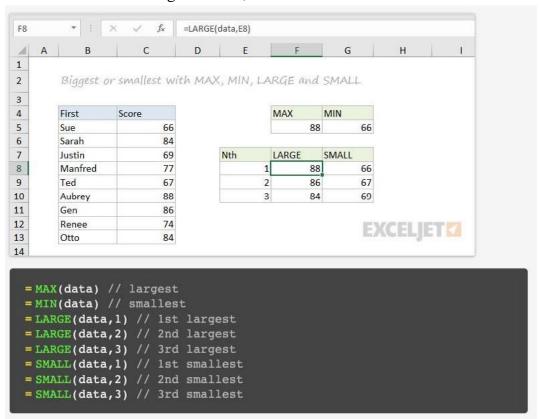
To sum everything, use the <u>SUM function</u>. To sum conditionally, use SUMIF or SUMIFS. Following the same pattern as the counting functions, the <u>SUMIF function</u> can apply only one criteria while the <u>SUMIFS function</u> can apply multiple criteria.





MIN, MAX, LARGE, SMALL

You can find largest and smallest values with <u>MAX</u> and <u>MIN</u>, and nth largest and smallest values with <u>LARGE</u> and <u>SMALL</u>. In the screen below, "data" is the named range C5:C13, used in all formulas.

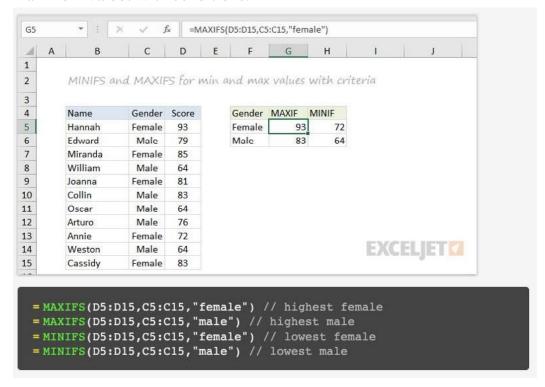




Find LARGEST and SMALLEST values

MINIFS, MAXIFS

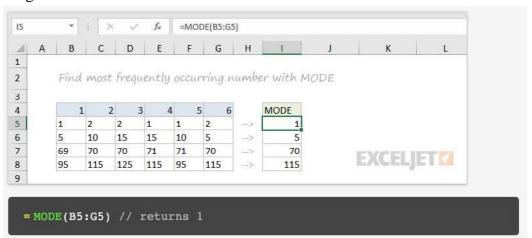
The <u>MINIFS</u> and <u>MAXIFS</u>. These functions let you find minimum and maximum values with conditions:



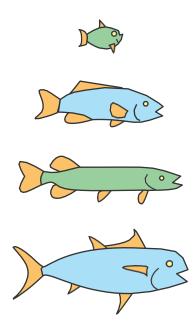
Note: MINIFS and MAXIFS are new in Excel via Office 365 and Excel 2019.

MODE

The MODE function returns the most commonly occurring number in a range:



Find the smallest blue fish



Most commonly occuring dog color



RANK

To rank values largest to smallest, or smallest to largest, use the <u>RANK</u> function:

E5 * X \sqrt{f_x}			=RANK(D5,\$D\$5:\$D\$12)						
⊿ A	В	С	D	Е	F	G	н		
1	7/01		10:	10			10		
2	Assigning	rank with	the RANK fu	nction					
3									
4	City	State	Population	Rank					
5	Houston	TX	2,100,263	4					
6	Phoenix	AZ	1,445,632	6					
7	New York	NY	8,175,133	1					
8	Philadelphia	PE	1,526,006	5					
9	Los Angeles	CA	3,792,621	2					
10	San Antonio	TX	1,327,407	7					
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	San Diego	CA	1,307,402	8		EVEL IEEE			
12	Chicago	IL	2,695,598	3		EXCELJET			
13									

See this formula which demonstrates how to use the RANK function to calculate race results.

Rank Largest to Smallest







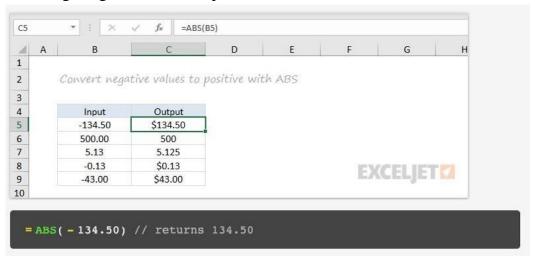




MATH Functions

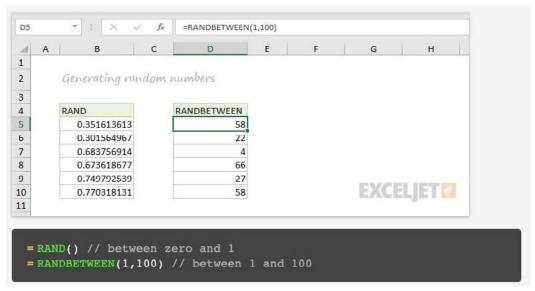
ABS

To change negative values to positive use the <u>ABS function</u>.



RAND and RANDBETWEEN

Both the <u>RAND function</u> and <u>RANDBETWEEN function</u> can generate random numbers on the fly. RAND creates long decimal numbers between zero and 1. RANDBETWEEN generates random integers between two given numbers.



ABS — Negative to Positive



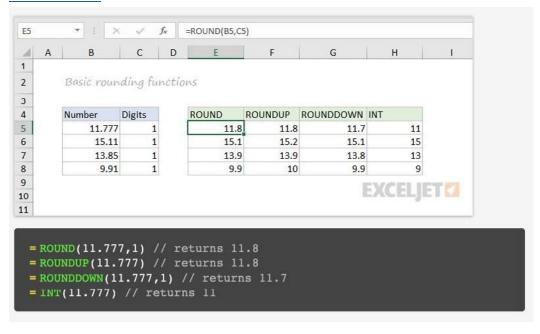


To generate a random dice roll

RANDBETWEEN(1,6)

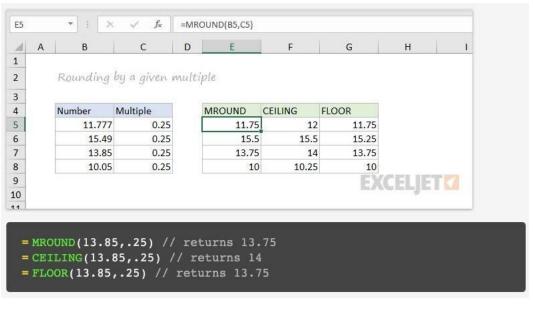
ROUND, ROUNDUP, ROUNDDOWN, INT

To round values up or down, use the <u>ROUND function</u>. To force rounding up to a given number of digits, use <u>ROUNDUP</u>. To force rounding down, use <u>ROUNDDOWN</u>. To discard the decimal part of a number altogether, use the <u>INT function</u>.



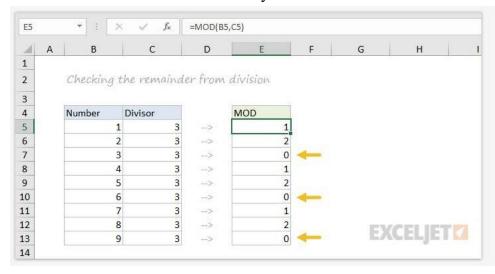
MROUND, CEILING, FLOOR

To round values to a the nearest multiple use the <u>MROUND function</u>. The <u>FLOOR function</u> and <u>CEILING function</u> also round to a given multiple. FLOOR forces rounding down, and CEILING forces rounding up.



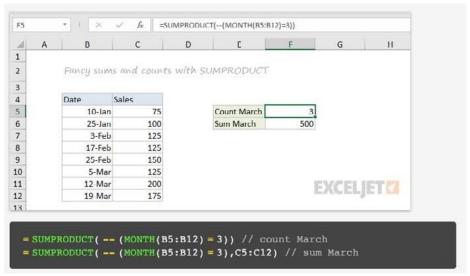
MOD

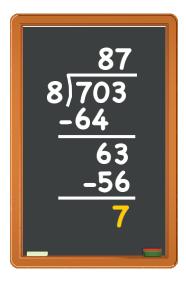
The <u>MOD function</u> returns the remainder after division. This sounds boring and geeky, but MOD turns up in all kinds of formulas, especially formulas that need to do something "every nth time". In the screen below, you can see how MOD returns zero every third number when the divisor is 3:



SUMPRODUCT

The <u>SUMPRODUCT</u> function is powerful and versatile tool when dealing with all kinds data. You can use SUMPRODUCT to easily count and sum based on criteria, and you can use it in elegant ways that just don't work with COUNTIFS and SUMIFS. In the screen below, we are using SUMPRODUCT to count and sum orders in March. See the <u>SUMPRODUCT page</u> for details and links to many examples.





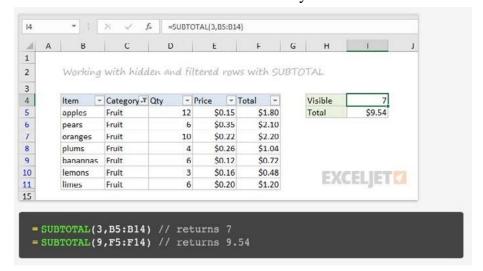
The MOD function returns the remainder



Sumproduct is a powerful and versatile tool that is easy to use.

SUBTOTAL

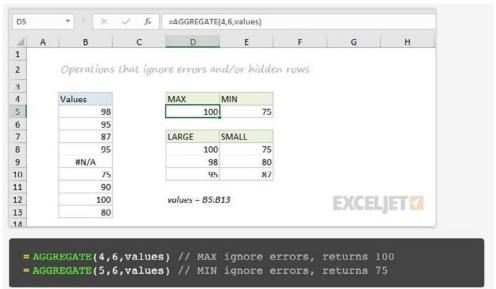
The <u>SUBTOTAL function</u> is an "aggregate function" that can perform a number of operations on a set of data. The key feature of SUBTOTAL is that it will ignore rows that have been "filtered out" of an <u>Excel Table</u>, and, optionally, rows that have been manually hidden. In the screen below, SUBTOTAL is used to count and sum only the 7 visible rows in the table:



SUBTOTAL can
perform 11
operations,
including SUM,
AVERAGE, COUNT,
MAX, MIN, etc.
(see <u>This Page</u> for
the full list)

AGGREGATE

Like SUBTOTAL, the <u>AGGREGATE function</u> can run a number of aggregate operations on a set of data and can optionally ignore hidden rows. The key differences are that AGGREGATE can run more operations and can also ignore errors.



Above, AGGREGATE is used to perform MIN, MAX, LARGE and SMALL operations while ignoring errors. Normally, the error in cell B9 would prevent these functions from returning a result.

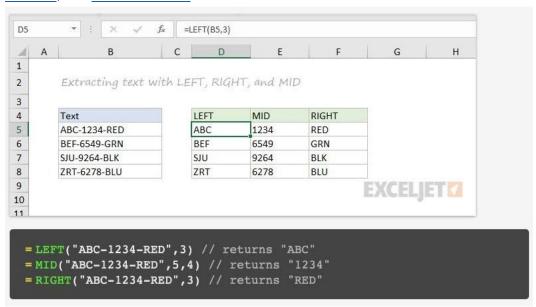
AGGREGATE can perform 19 operations and can also ignore errors. See this page for a full list of operations.



TEXT Functions

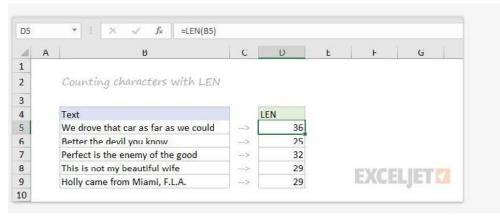
LEFT, RIGHT, MID

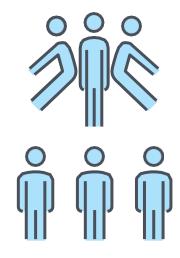
To extract characters from the left, right, or middle of text, use <u>LEFT</u>, RIGHT, and MID functions:



LEN

The <u>LEN function</u> will return the length of a text string. LEN shows up in a lot of formulas that count words or <u>characters</u>.





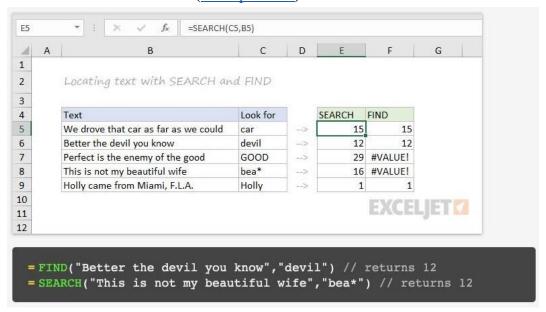
Separate text into columns

FORMULA

Get first name from full name

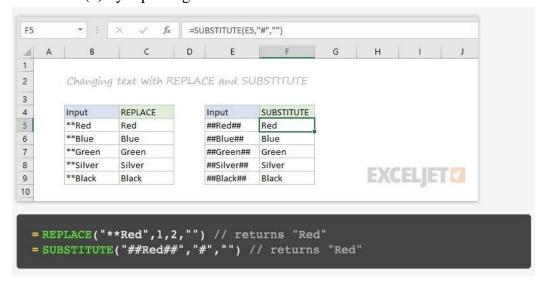
FIND, SEARCH

To look for specific text in a cell, use the <u>FIND function</u> or <u>SEARCH function</u>. These functions return the numeric position of matching text, but SEARCH allows wildcards and FIND is case-sensitive. Both functions will throw an error when text is not found, so wrap in the <u>ISNUMBER function</u> to return TRUE or FALSE (<u>example here</u>).





To replace text by position, use the <u>REPLACE function</u>. To replace text by matching, use the <u>SUBSTITUTE function</u>. In the first example, REPLACE removes the two asterisks (**) by replacing the first two characters with an empty string (""). In the second example, SUBSTITUTE removes all hash characters (#) by replacing "#" with "".





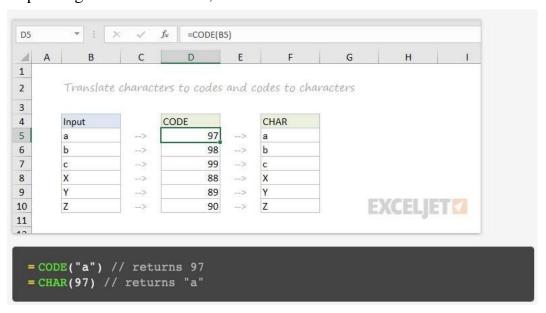
Text Functions — Find, Replace and Sustitute

FORMULA

Cell contains one
of many things

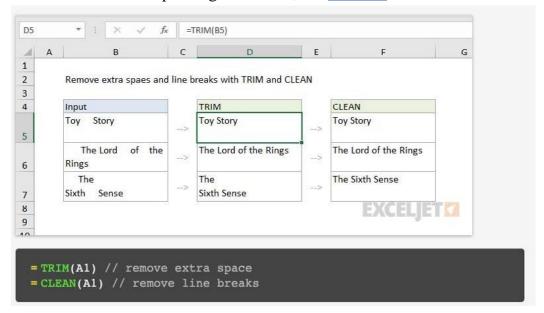
CODE, CHAR

To figure out the numeric code for a character, use the <u>CODE function</u>. To translate the numeric code back to a character, use the <u>CHAR function</u>. In the example below, CODE translates each character in column B to its corresponding code. In column F, CHAR translates the code back to a character.



TRIM, CLEAN

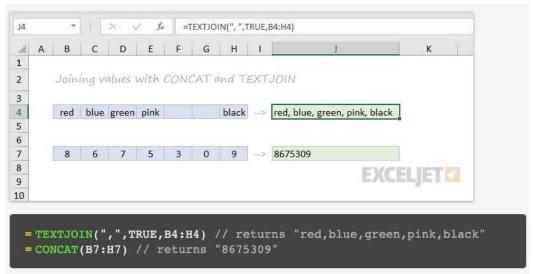
To get rid of extra space in text, use the <u>TRIM function</u>. To remove line breaks and other non-printing characters, use <u>CLEAN</u>.





CONCAT, TEXTJOIN, CONCATENATE

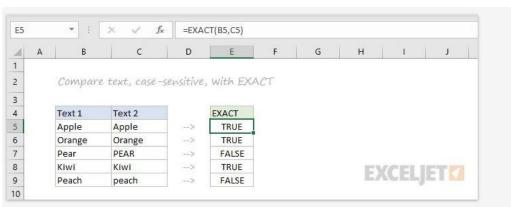
New in Excel via Office 365 are CONCAT and TEXTJOIN. The <u>CONCAT</u> <u>function</u> lets you concatenate (join) multiple values, including a range of values without a delimiter. The <u>TEXTJOIN function</u> does the same thing, but allows you to specify a delimiter and can also ignore empty values.



Excel also provides the <u>CONCATENATE function</u>, but it doesn't offer special features. I would't bother with it and would instead <u>concatenate</u> directly with the ampersand (&) character in a formula.

EXACT

The <u>EXACT</u> function allows you to compare two text strings in a case-sensitive manner.

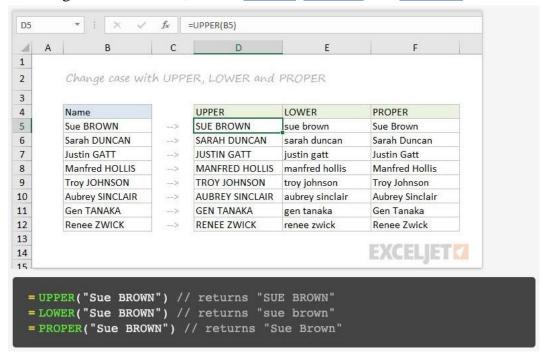


Join cells together



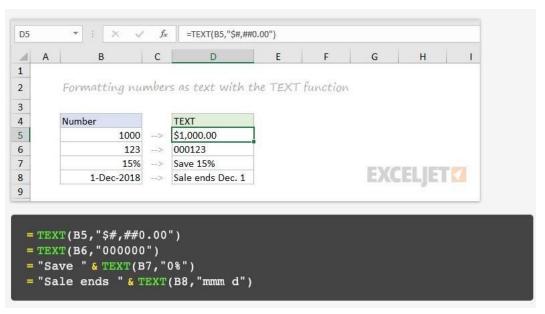
UPPER, LOWER, PROPER

To change the case of text, use the <u>UPPER</u>, <u>LOWER</u>, and <u>PROPER</u> function



TEXT

Last but definitely not least is the <u>TEXT function</u>. The text function lets you apply number formatting to numbers (including dates, times, etc.) as text. This is especially useful when you need to embed a formatted number in a message, like "Sale ends on [date]".



Standardize a List of Names

