



VBA ERROR LIST AND TRANSLATOR

How to identify and resolve errors in VBA

ABSTRACT

A list of errors that commonly occur in VBA and how to resolve them.

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[How to Write VBA like a Professional](#)

This text file contains a table of VBA errors along with their causes and some examples. Most of these errors are syntax errors although some are compile or runtime errors. The following is a description of the three types:

1. **Syntax Error** – this is an error in the syntax on a line of code. To get VBA to check the syntax ensure that **Auto Syntax Check** is checked on in the **Tools->Options** dialog. When you enter a line VBA will automatically check the syntax
2. **Compiler Error** – this is an error relating to all of your code. You can check for compiler errors by selecting **Debug->Compile VBAProject** from the menu. VBA will also check compiler errors when you run but only for the subs and functions it uses.
3. **Runtime Error** – your code may be fine but it may cause an error if certain situations occur when running. For example your code may run fine and then someone may delete or rename the workbook you read from. This would more than likely lead to an error.

Error Message	Possible Cause	Example	Example Corrected
<i>Ambiguous name detected</i>	Two Subs have the same name. Each Sub must have a unique name	Public Sub DoStuff() Public Sub DoStuff()	Public Sub DoStuff1() Public Sub DoStuff2()
<i>Duplicate declaration in current scope</i>	Variable was declared twice in the same Sub/Function	Dim x As Long Dim x As Long	Dim x As Long Dim y As Long
<i>Expected: =</i>	Equal sign missing from For statement	For i 1 to 5	For i = 1 to 5
<i>Expected:)</i>	Parenthesis missing	x = Len("John"	x = Len("John")
<i>Expected:)</i>	End of quote missing	x = Len("John)	x = Len("John")
<i>Expected: end of statement</i>	Equal sign missing from While Statement	Do While i 5	Do While i = 5
	Spaces in the name of a Sub/Function	Sub Show Message()	Sub ShowMessage()
	Spaces in the name of a reserved word	Msg Box Di m	MsgBox Dim
<i>Expected: expression</i>	Nothing to the right of equals	Range ("A1") =	Range ("A1") = 6
	Do While statement missing condition	Do While	Do While x<10
	Elseif has space between words	Else If	Elseif
	If or Elseif missing condition	If Then	If x>6 Then
<i>Expected: Identifier</i>	Character other than a number of letter at the start of a Sub/Variable name		
	Forgot to include Sub/Function name	Public Sub ()	Public Sub ShowMsg()
<i>Expected: line number or label or statement or end of statement</i>	Nothing to the left of equals	= .Range("A1")	x = .Range("A1")
<i>Expected: list Separator or)</i>	Quote missing	Range ("A1) = 5	Range("A1") = 5
	Missing Comma	Cells(1 3) = 5	Cells(1,3) = 5
<i>Expected: then or goto</i>	Missing <u>Then</u> in If or Elseif statement	If x>6	If x>6 Then
<i>Select method of Range class failed</i>	You used the <i>Select</i> command on a sheet but that sheet is not active. Use <i>Activate</i> first	Worksheets(1).Select	Worksheets(1).Activate Worksheets(1).Select
<i>Subscript out of Range</i>	The Worksheet with the given name does not exist.	Worksheets("Sales")	Make sure a sheet called "Sales" exists
<i>Subscript out of Range</i>	The Workbook with the given name is not open.	Workbook("Pay.xlsm")	Make sure a workbook called "Pay.xlsm" is open.
<i>Type mismatch</i>	You try to place a string in a number variable	Dim x As Long x="example text"	Make sure your data is valid.