

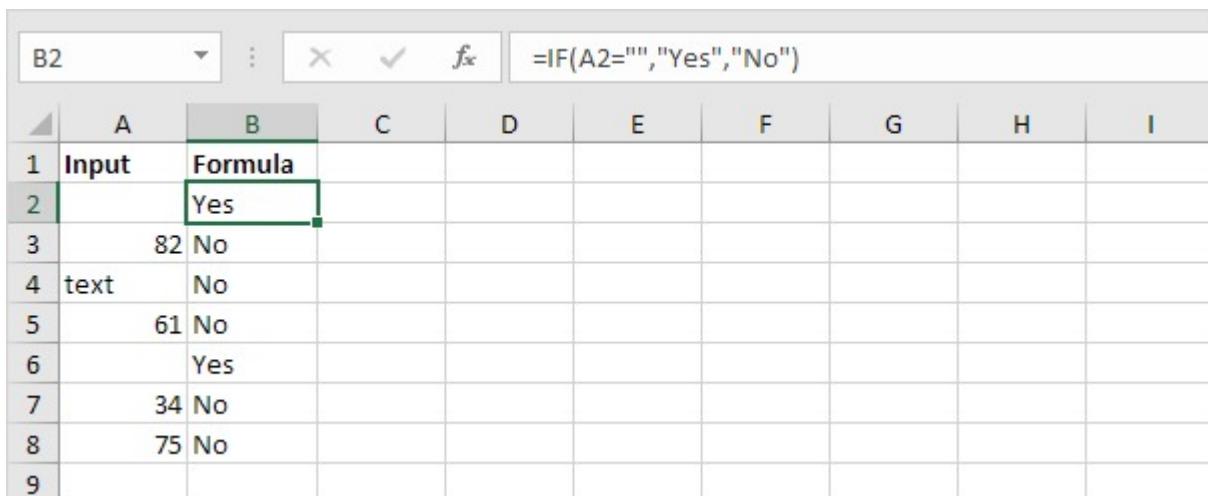
# If Cell is Blank in Excel

Use the IF function and an empty string in Excel to check if a cell is blank. Use IF and ISBLANK to produce the exact same result.

## ◆ If Blank

Remember, the [IF function](#) in Excel checks whether a condition is met, and returns one value if true and another value if false.

1. The IF function below returns Yes if the input value is equal to an empty string (two double quotes with nothing in between), else it returns No.



The screenshot shows a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. The formula bar at the top displays the formula `=IF(A2="""", "Yes", "No")`. The spreadsheet has two columns, A and B, with rows numbered 1 to 9. Column A contains the values 'Input', '82', 'text', '61', 'Yes', '34', '75'. Column B contains the results of the IF function: 'Yes' (for row 1), 'No' (for row 2), 'No' (for row 3), 'No' (for row 4), 'Yes' (for row 5), 'No' (for row 6), 'No' (for row 7), and 'No' (for row 8). Row 9 is empty.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	Input	Formula							
2		Yes							
3	82	No							
4	text	No							
5	61	No							
6		Yes							
7	34	No							
8	75	No							
9									

Note: if the input cell contains a space, it looks blank. However, if this is the case, the input value is not equal to an empty string and the IF function above will return No.

Discover more [Microsoft Excel](#)

[Excel](#) [Excel skill assessment](#)

[Financial modeling software](#)

[Interactive Excel tutorial](#)

[Microsoft productivity tools](#)

[Online learning community](#)

[Computer monitors](#)

[Excel training workshops](#)

2. Use IF and ISBLANK to produce the exact same result.

B2		X	✓	f <sub>x</sub>	=IF(ISBLANK(A2),"Yes","No")
1	Input	B	C	D	E
2		Formula			F
		Yes			G
3	82	No			H
4	text	No			I
5	61	No			
6		Yes			
7	34	No			
8	75	No			
9					

Note: the ISBLANK function returns TRUE if a cell is empty and FALSE if not. If the input cell contains a space or a formula that returns an empty string, it looks blank. However, if this is the case, the input cell is not empty and the formula above will return No.

## ◆ If Not Blank

In Excel, <> means not equal to.

1. The IF function below multiplies the input value by 2 if the input value is not equal to an empty string (two double quotes with nothing in between), else it returns an empty string.

B2		X	✓	f <sub>x</sub>	=IF(A2<>"",A2*2,"")
1	Input	B	C	D	E
2		Formula			F
		100			G
3					H
4	100	200			I
5	25	50			
6	200	400			
7					
8	75	150			
9					

2. Use IF, NOT and ISBLANK to produce the exact same result.

B2		X	✓	f <sub>x</sub>	=IF(NOT(ISBLANK(A2)),A2*2,"")
1	Input	B	C	D	E
2		Formula			F
		100			G
3					H
4	100	200			I
5	25	50			
6	200	400			
7					
8	75	150			
9					

Discover more

[Microsoft Excel](#)

[Excel](#)

[Excel learning platform](#)

[Microsoft productivity tools](#)

[Excel VBA books](#)

[Excel courses online](#)

[VBA programming course](#)

[Corporate Excel training](#)

[Function reference sheet](#)

## ◆ Highlight Blank Cells

You can use conditional formatting in Excel to highlight cells that are blank.

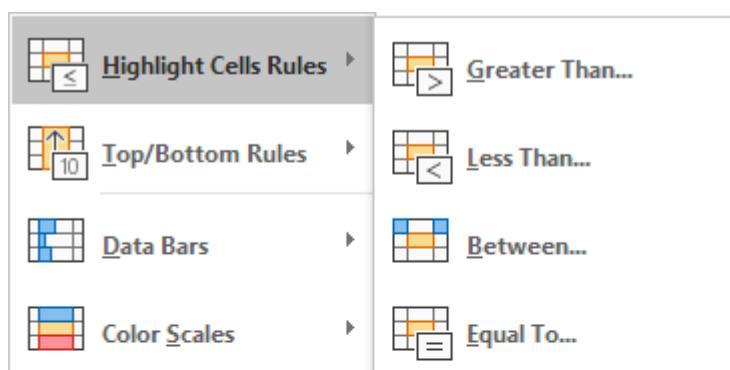
1. For example, select the range A1:H8.

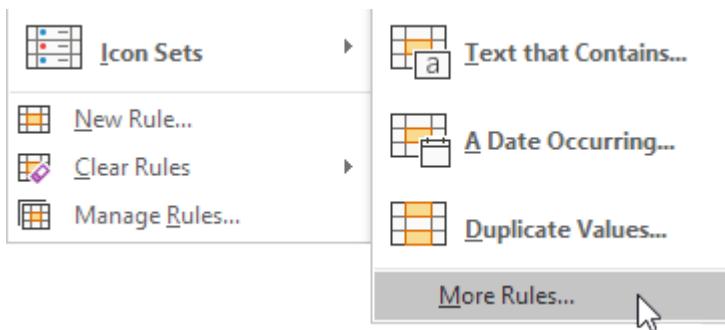
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	57	62	91	15	90	3	58	68
2	77	66	33	24	98	18		59
3	89		80	66	59	31	6	2
4	52	67	68		60	63	80	85
5	39	68	70	15	83	63		81
6	43	90	80	9	78	56	90	7
7	75		35	50	73	95	69	3
8	42	6	43	95	58		96	+34
9								

2. On the Home tab, in the Styles group, click Conditional Formatting.

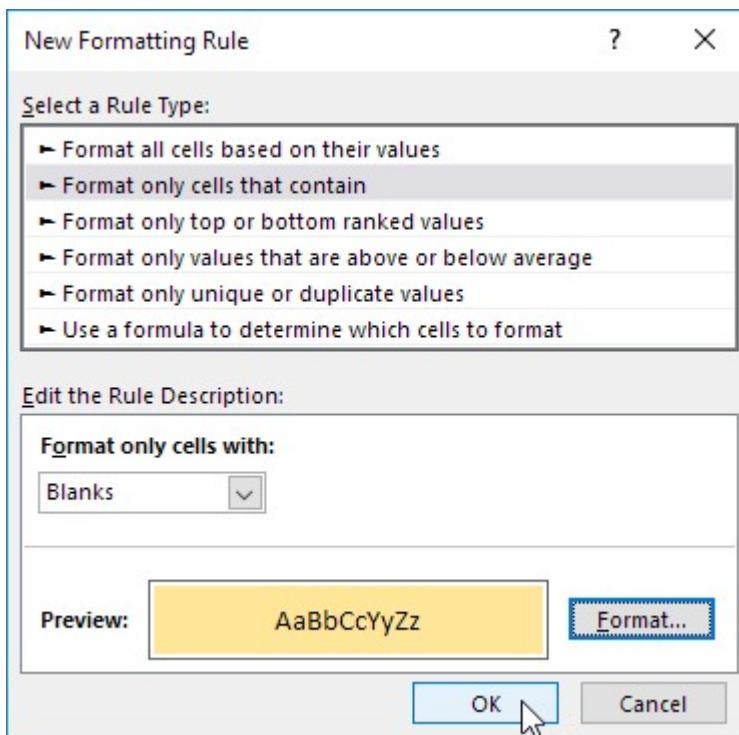


3. Click Highlight Cells Rules, More Rules.





4. Select Blanks from the drop-down list, select a formatting style and click OK.



Result:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	57	62	91	15	90	3	58	68	
2	77	66	33	24	98	18		59	
3	89		80	66	59	31	6	2	
4	52	67	68		60	63	80	85	
5	39	68	70	15	83	63		81	
6	43	90	80	9	78	56	90	7	
7	75		35	50	73	95	69	3	
8	42	6	43	95	58		96	34	
9									

Note: visit our page about [conditional formatting](#) to learn much more about this cool Excel feature.

Discover more



 [Formula troubleshooting service](#)

 [Statistical analysis services](#)

 [Excel training workshops](#)

 [Laptop computer](#)

 [Excel consulting services](#)

 [Excel add-ins](#)

Search Entire Site

Go

## Chapter

- [Logical Functions](#)

### Learn more, it's easy

- [If](#)
- [Comparison Operators](#)
- [Or](#)
- [Roll the Dice](#)
- [Ifs](#)
- [Contains Specific Text](#)
- [Switch](#)
- [If Cell is Blank](#)
- [Absolute Value](#)
- [And](#)

### ⤵ Download Excel File

- [if-cell-is-blank.xlsx](#)

### Next Chapter

- Cell References
- 

## Follow Excel Easy



## Become an Excel Pro

- 1. Introduction
- 

- 2. Basics
- 

- 3. Functions
- 

- 4. Data Analysis
- 

- 5. VBA
- 

If Cell is Blank • © 2010-2026

Start with Excel in 2026: Range • Formulas and Functions • Ribbon • Cell References • Sort • Filter