



Dynamic Named Range in Excel

A dynamic named range expands automatically when you add a value to the range.

1. For example, select the range A1:A4 and [name](#) it Prices.
2. Calculate the sum.

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. The formula bar at the top displays the formula =SUM(Prices). The cell C1 contains the value 33. The range A1:A4 is highlighted with a green border, indicating it is selected. The data in the range is as follows:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	5		33						
2	4								
3	15								
4	9								
5									

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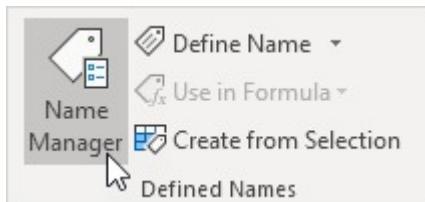
3. When you add a value to the range, Excel does not update the sum.

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. The formula bar at the top displays the formula =SUM(Prices). The cell C1 contains the value 33. The range A1:A6 is highlighted with a green border, indicating it is selected. The data in the range is as follows:

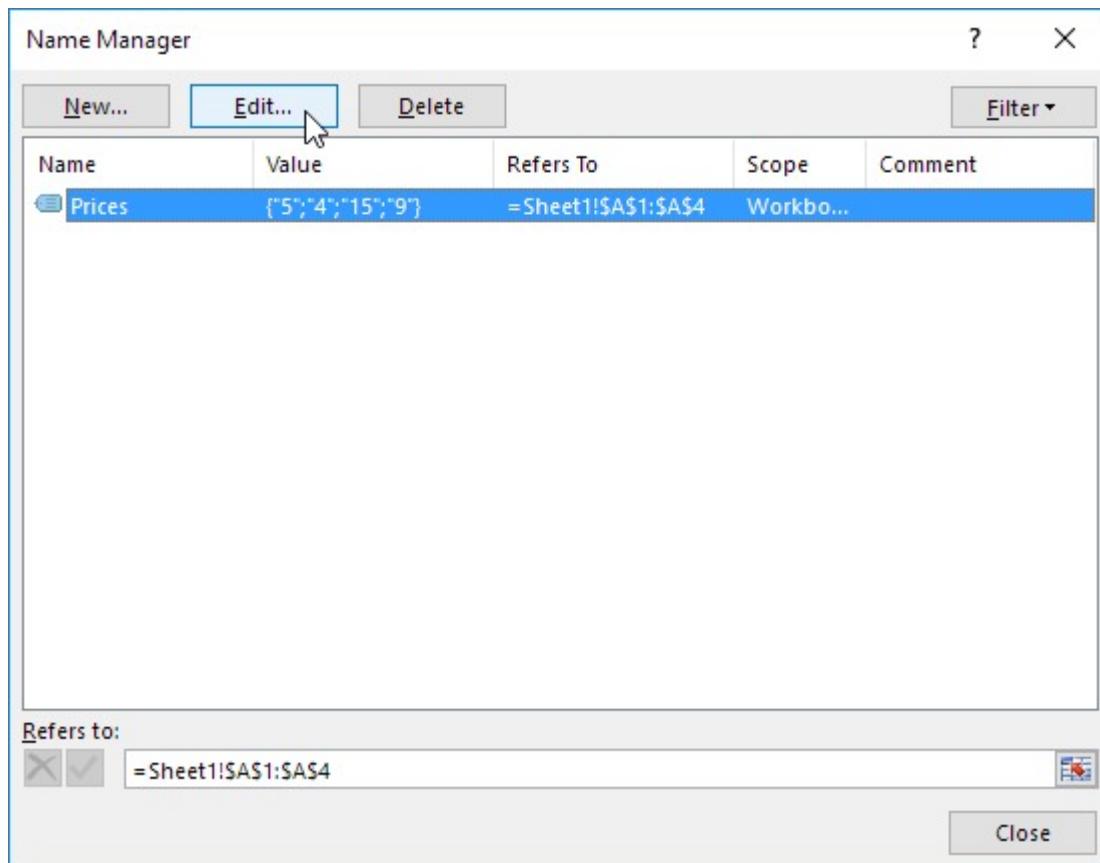
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	5		33						
2	4								
3	15								
4	9								
5									
6	10								

To expand the named range automatically when you add a value to the range, execute the following steps.

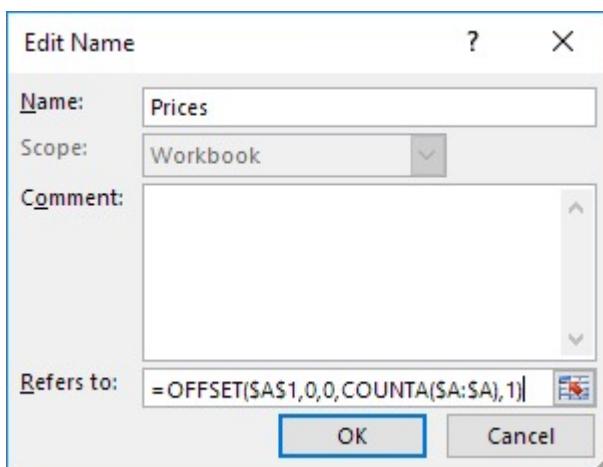
4. On the Formulas tab, in the Defined Names group, click Name Manager.



5. Click Edit.



6. Click in the "Refers to" box and enter the formula =OFFSET(\$A\$1,0,0,COUNTA(\$A:\$A),1)



Explanation: the [OFFSET function](#) takes 5 arguments. Reference: \$A\$1, rows to offset: 0, columns to offset: 0, height: COUNTA(\$A:\$A) and width: 1. COUNTA(\$A:\$A) counts the number of values in column A that are not empty. When you add a value to the range, COUNTA(\$A:\$A) increases. As a result, the range returned by the OFFSET function expands.

7. Click OK and Close.

8. Now, when you add a value to the range, Excel updates the sum automatically.

The image contains two screenshots of Microsoft Excel demonstrating formula recalculation. Both screenshots show a spreadsheet with columns A through I and rows 1 through 6. In the first screenshot, cell C1 contains the formula '=SUM(Prices)' and cell C3 contains the value '43'. In the second screenshot, the value in cell C3 has been changed to '5', and the formula in C1 now displays '48', showing that the formula has automatically recalculated the sum.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	5		43						
2	4								
3	15								
4	9								
5	10								
6									

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	5		48						
2	4								
3	15								
4	9								
5	10								
6	5								
7									

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