



SUM formulas in Excel

Use the SUM function in Excel to sum a range of cells, an entire column or non-contiguous cells. To create awesome SUM formulas, combine the SUM function with other Excel functions.

❖ Sum a Range

Most of the time, you'll use the SUM function in Excel to sum a range of cells.

Note: simply type =SUM(A1:A8) to enter this formula. When you arrive at: =SUM(instead of typing A1:A8, simply select the range A1:A8.

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◆ Sum an Entire Column

You can also use the SUM function in Excel to sum an entire column.

D2 ... =SUM(A:A)

Note: you can also use the SUM function in Excel to sum an entire row. For example, =SUM(5:5) sums all values in the 5th row.

❖ Sum Non-contiguous Cells

You can also use the SUM function in Excel to sum non-contiguous cells. Non-contiguous means not next to each other.

Note: =A3+A5+A8 produces the exact same result!

◆ AutoSum

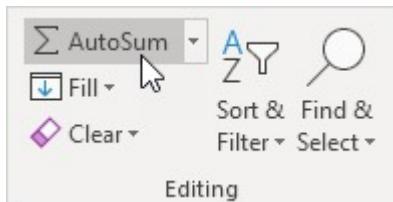
Use AutoSum or press ALT + = to quickly sum a column or row of numbers.

1. First, select the cell below the column of numbers (or next to the row of numbers) you want to sum.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	11							
2	24							
3	9							
4	13							

5	1
6	8
7	26
8	15
9	
10	

2. On the Home tab, in the Editing group, click AutoSum (or press ALT + =).



3. Press Enter.

A9	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	11							
2	24							
3	9							
4	13							
5	1							
6	8							
7	26							
8	15							
9	107							
10								

You can also use AutoSum to quickly add a total row and a total column.

4. For example, select the range B2:F5 below.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total			
2	Coffee	21	34	59	94			
3	Tea	49	21	39	59			
4	Milk	14	42	53	15			
5	Total							
6								

5. Press ALT + =

Excel inserts 8 SUM functions! An easy but impressive trick.

F5	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total			
2	Coffee	21	34	59	94	208		
3	Tea	49	21	39	59	168		

4	Milk	14	42	53	15	124
5	Total	84	97	151	168	500
6						

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◆ Conditional Sum

The [SUMIF function](#) in Excel returns a conditional sum.

1. The SUMIF function below sums values in the range B1:B5 if the corresponding cells in the range A1:A5 contain exactly green.

2. The SUMIF function below sums today's sales.

Note: today is August 3rd, 2024. Visit our page about the [SUMIF function](#) for more information and examples.

◆ Sum Every Nth Row

The SUM formula below uses SUM, MOD and ROW to [sum every nth row](#). Change the 3 to 4 to sum every 4th row, to 5 to sum every 5th row, etc.

Note: the formula bar indicates that this is an array formula by enclosing it in curly braces {}. Do not type these yourself. To enter an array formula, finish by pressing CTRL + SHIFT + ENTER. In Excel 365 or Excel 2021, finish by simply pressing Enter. You won't see curly braces.

◆ Sum Largest Numbers

The SUM formula below uses SUM and LARGE to [sum the largest numbers](#) in a range. Change {1,2,3,4} to {1,2,3,4,5} to sum the 5 largest numbers.

Note: =LARGE(A1:A11,2) simply returns the second largest number.

◆ Sum a Range with Errors

The SUM formula below uses SUM and IFERROR to [sum a range with errors](#). You can also use the [AGGREGATE function](#) in Excel to sum a range with errors.

Note: the SUM function in Excel automatically ignores text values.

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