## Fill handle

## TOTAL POINTS 8

1.	What is one of the main purposes of the fill handle that we have demonstrated?	1 / 1 point
	To automatically create a series based on existing data.	
	O To automatically enter data into an empty spreadsheet.	
	O To easily fill the background color of a large range of cells.	
	Correct  Yes, that's exactly right. The fill handle is a very powerful tool in Excel that allows you to create series based on the data you entered. Switch over to Excel and have a play with it. Can you come up with simple patterns that you can test the fill handle's capabilities with?	
2.	What does your mouse cursor need to look like in order to activate the fill handle?	1/1 point
	O Four black, crossed arrows	
	A thick, white plus sign	
	A bold, black plus sign	
	✓ Correct	

3. Take a look at the screenshot below. Sean needed to separate the first names from Column C. This would normally take quite a long time but he managed to fill Column D within seconds. How did he do that?

2/2 points

1	Α	В	С	D	Е
1	Order No	Order Date	<b>Customer Name</b>	First Name	Last Name
2	5071-1	2013-05-05	Christopher Schild	Christopher	
3	5145-1	2013-06-29	Cyma Kinney	Cyma	
4	5160-1	2013-07-05	Berenike Kampe	Berenike	
5	5168-1	2013-07-15	Christy Brittain	Christy	
6	5195-1	2013-07-31	Alex Grayson	Alex	
7	5268-1	2013-10-11	Stephanie Ulpright	Stephanie	

If you are not sure, download the workbook below and have a go yourself. You can figure it out!

First names.xlsx

**NOTE**: This question refers to a feature in Excel that is not available in the Mac version of Excel. However, you can still answer the question by watching the Practice Video on the Fill Handle in this week.

- Sean typed "Christopher" into cell D2, then he dragged the fill handle to D7. He changed the tool option to Flash Fill.
- He selected cell C2, then he dragged the fill handle to D7. All the first names appeared automatically.
- Sean selected cell **D2**, then he dragged the fill handle to **D7**. All the first names appeared.

✓ Correct

Everyone say WOW. Excellent work - you are putting in the effort and face challenges like a champ.

 $4. \quad \text{How do you activate the fill functionality? Remember, if you are not sure, head over to Excel and explore!} \\$ 

2/2 points

(One or more answers are possible. Partial credit will be awarded.)

- $\hfill \square$  You right-click on your active cell and choose Fill handle from the context menu.
- You select a range of cells and click on this icon in the **Home** tab.

4

✓ Correct

 $Fantastic\ detective\ work\ -\ we\ didn't\ introduce\ this\ icon\ in\ the\ video\ but\ you\ have\ figured\ it\ out.\ Great\ stuff.$ 

You hover over the small square in the bottom right-hand corner of your active cell until you see the thick black cross, then click and drag. Yes, 100%. You have been paying close attention this week.

5. Take a look at the screenshot below. What do you expect to see in the cells A3, B3, C3 and D3 when you drag the fill handle all the way down to **D6**?

1	Α	В	С	D
1	Order No	Order Date	<b>Customer Name</b>	Order Quantity
2	5071-1	2013-05-05	Christopher Schild	6
3				
4				
5				
6				

If you are not sure, download the workbook below and give it a go in Excel.

Fill handle.xlsx

- **A3**: 5071-1
  - **B3**: 2013-05-06
  - C3: Christopher Schild
  - **D3**: 7
- **A3**: 5071-2
  - **B3**: 2013-05-06
  - C3: Christopher Schild
- **A3**: 5071-2
  - **B3**: 2013-05-06
  - C3: ######
  - **D3**: 6

## ✓ Correct

Yes, really excellent work. Did you give this a try in Excel first or did you just figure it out?

- A2 was a number but it had a special character in it. So, the fill handle recognized this and create a series. A4 would have been 5071-3 and so on.
- **B3**: Excel recognized the date format and automatically inserted the next day's date.
- C3: Excel interpreted this a standard text and as such, simply copied it.
- D3: Straight numbers are normally simply copied. In this case, however, Excel made an assumption that it is a series as with the other columns. Go back to Excel and observe what happens when you use the fill handle on cell D2 only.