

# Can I search for a value in a list and return a “Yes” or “No”?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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This function allows users to search for a particular value within a given list and return a "Yes" or "No" response based on whether the value is present in the list or not. This can be useful for quickly checking if a certain item is included in a list without having to manually search through the entire list.

## **Excel: Search for Value in List and Return Yes or No**

**You can use the following basic syntax to check if a value in a cell exists in a list in Excel and return either "Yes" or "No" as a result:**

```
=IF(COUNTIF($A$2:$A$14, D2)>0,"Yes","No")
```

**This particular formula checks if the value in cell D2 exists in the range A2:A14.**

**If the value does exist in the range, then the formula returns "Yes" as a result.**

**Otherwise, the formula returns "No" as a result.**

**The following example shows how to use this formula in practice.**

**Example: Search for Value in List and Return Yes or No in Excel**

**Suppose we have the following two lists of basketball players in Excel:**

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	<b>List A</b>			<b>List B</b>		
2	Andy			Harry		
3	Bert			Mark		
4	Chad			Chad		
5	Derrick			John		
6	Erny			Liam		
7	Frank			Donald		
8	George			Reginald		
9	Harry			George		
10	Isaiah			Mack		
11	John			Frank		
12	Ken					
13	Liam					
14	Matt					
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**Suppose we would like to determine whether or not each player in List B exists in List A.**

**To do so, we can type the following formula into cell E2:**

**=IF(COUNTIF(\$A\$2:\$A\$14, D2)>0,"Yes","No")**

**We can then click and drag this formula down to each remaining cell in column E:**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	<b>List A</b>			<b>List B</b>	<b>In List A?</b>			
2	Andy			Harry	Yes			
3	Bert			Mark	No			
4	Chad			Chad	Yes			
5	Derrick			John	Yes			
6	Erny			Liam	Yes			
7	Frank			Donald	No			
8	George			Reginald	No			
9	Harry			George	Yes			
10	Isaiah			Mack	No			
11	John			Frank	Yes			
12	Ken							
13	Liam							
14	Matt							
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The formula returns either "Yes" or "No" for each player in List B.

For example, we can see:

Harry does exist in List A. Mark does not exist in List A. Chad does exist in List A. John does exist in List A.

**Note:** If you'd like to return values other than "Yes" and "No", simply replace these values in the formula with

**whatever values you'd like.**

**The following tutorials explain how to perform other common tasks in Excel:**

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