

Excel: How to Convert YYYYMMDD to Date Format?

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Excel is a spreadsheet application that allows you to easily convert a YYYYMMDD format to a date format. To do this, select the cell containing the YYYYMMDD data and then click the "Number" format in the Home tab. From the list of available formats, select "Date" and the YYYYMMDD format will be automatically converted to a readable date format. This same process can be used to convert dates into YYYYMMDD format.

You can use the following formula to convert a date in **YYYYMMDD** format to a **DD/MM/YYYY** format in Excel:

```
=DATE(LEFT(A2,4),MID(A2,5,2),RIGHT(A2,2))
```

This particular formula converts the date value in cell **A2** from a **YYYYMMDD** format to a **DD/MM/YYYY** format.

For example, this would convert a value of **20191030** to **10/30/2019**, which is an easier date format to read.

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

Example: Convert YYYYMMDD to Date Format in Excel

Suppose we have the following list of dates in Excel that are currently formatted as YYYYMMDD:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Date					
2	20191030					
3	20191101					
4	20191212					
5	20200417					
6	20200901					
7	20210301					
8	20211014					
9	20220109					
10	20220529					
11	20220617					
12	20221015					
13	20221103					
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						
21						
22						

We can type the following formula into cell **B2** to convert the date value in cell **A2** to a more recognizable date format:

=DATE(LEFT(A2,4),MID(A2,5,2),RIGHT(A2,2))

We can then drag and fill this formula down to each remaining cell in column B:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Date	MM/DD/YYYY Format				
2	20191030	10/30/2019				
3	20191101	11/1/2019				
4	20191212	12/12/2019				
5	20200417	4/17/2020				
6	20200901	9/1/2020				
7	20210301	3/1/2021				
8	20211014	10/14/2021				
9	20220109	1/9/2022				
10	20220529	5/29/2022				
11	20220617	6/17/2022				
12	20221015	10/15/2022				
13	20221103	11/3/2022				
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
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21						
22						
23						

Notice that each date value in column A has been converted to a date value with a **MM/DD/YYYY** format in column B.

Bonus: How This Formula Works

The **DATE** function in Excel uses the following basic syntax:

=DATE(year, month, day)

It then returns a date with a **MM/DD/YYYY** format.

Now consider when we use the following formula:

=DATE(LEFT(A2,4),MID(A2,5,2),RIGHT(A2,2))

This formula tells Excel to provide the following arguments to the **DATE** function:

The first 4 characters on the left of some string.

The middle 2 characters (starting from position 5) of some string.

The last 2 characters on the right of some string.

Thus, a date formatted as **YYYYMMDD** gets converted to:

=DATE(YYYY, MM, DD)

This produces a date value with a **MM/DD/YYYY** format.

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