Excel: How to Count Unique Values Based on Multiple Criteria

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Excel has a function called COUNTIFS() which allows you to count unique values based on multiple criteria. This function takes in two or more range/criteria pairs and returns the number of cells that meet all of the criteria. For example, you can use COUNTIFS() to count the number of unique values in a range of cells based on multiple criteria, such as color, size, and shape. You can also use this function to count the number of unique values in a range of cells based on the same criteria. This function is an incredibly powerful tool for quickly getting an accurate count of unique values in a range of cells.

You can use the following basic formula in Excel to count unique values based on multiple criteria:

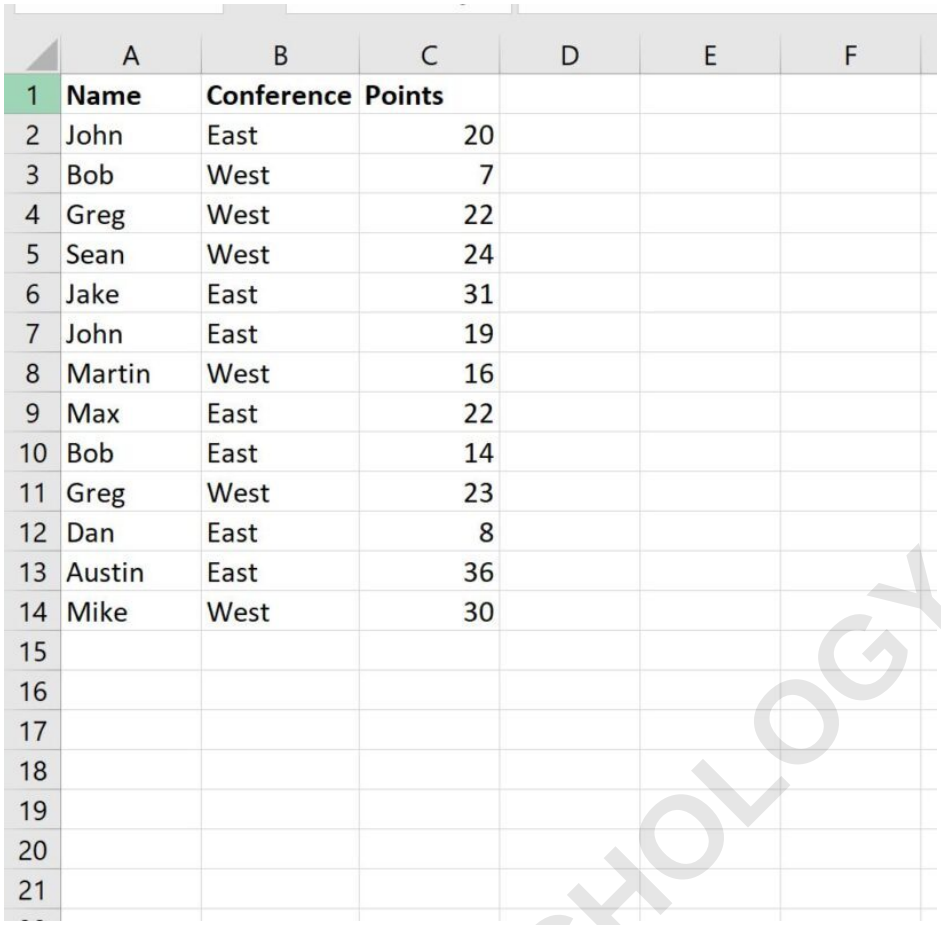
=SUM(--(LEN(UNIQUE(FILTER(A:A,(Criteria1)*(Criteria2)*(Criteria3),"")))>0))

This particular formula counts the number of unique values in column A based on three criteria being met.

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

Example: Count Unique Values Based on Multiple Criteria in Excel

Suppose we have the following dataset in Excel that shows the conference and points scored for various basketball players:



	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	**Name**	**Conference**	**Points**			
2	John	East	20			
3	Bob	West	7			
4	Greg	West	22			
5	Sean	West	24			
6	Jake	East	31			
7	John	East	19			
8	Martin	West	16			
9	Max	East	22			
10	Bob	East	14			
11	Greg	West	23			
12	Dan	East	8			
13	Austin	East	36			
14	Mike	West	30			
15						
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Now suppose we'd like to count the number of unique player names who meet the following criteria:

The player is in the **West** conference.
The player has **greater than 20** points.

We can use the following formula to count the number of unique player names who meet this criteria:

=SUM(--(LEN(UNIQUE(FILTER(A2:A14,(B2:B14="West")*(C2:C14>20),"")))>0))

We can type this formula into cell E2 of our spreadsheet:

E2 =SUM(--(LEN(UNIQUE(FILTER(A2:A14,(B2:B14="West")*(C2:C14>20),"")))>0))

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	**Name**	**Conference**	**Points**							
2	John	East	20		3					
3	Bob	West	7							
4	Greg	West	22							
5	Sean	West	24							
6	Jake	East	31							
7	John	East	19							
8	Martin	West	16							
9	Max	East	22							
10	Bob	East	14							
11	Greg	West	23							
12	Dan	East	8							
13	Austin	East	36							
14	Mike	West	30							
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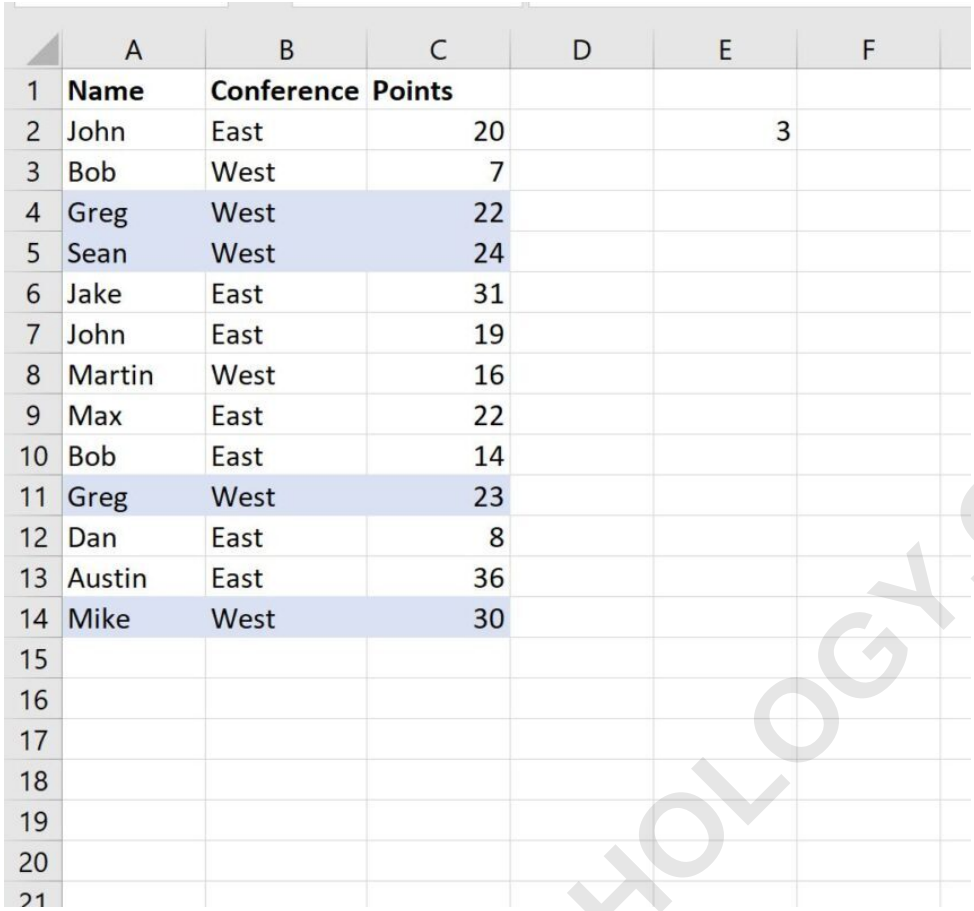
From the output we can see there are **3** unique player names that are in the West conference and have more than 20 points.

We can verify this is correct by manually identifying each player who meets both criteria:



	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	**Name**	**Conference**	**Points**			
2	John	East	20		3	
3	Bob	West	7			
4	Greg	West	22			
5	Sean	West	24			
6	Jake	East	31			
7	John	East	19			
8	Martin	West	16			
9	Max	East	22			
10	Bob	East	14			
11	Greg	West	23			
12	Dan	East	8			
13	Austin	East	36			
14	Mike	West	30			
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Out of the four players who meet both criteria, there are three unique player names:

Greg
Sean
Mike

Note that in this example we performed a count unique using two criteria, but we can use similar syntax to use as many criteria as we'd like.