

How can Google Sheets be used to return all matches using VLOOKUP?

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Google Sheets is a powerful spreadsheet software that can be used to efficiently manage and analyze data. One of its useful features is the VLOOKUP function, which allows users to search for a specific value in a table and return the corresponding value from a different column. This function can be particularly helpful in finding and organizing data, as it eliminates the need for manual searching and sorting. By using VLOOKUP in Google Sheets, users can easily return all matches for a specific search term, making data retrieval and analysis faster and more accurate. This feature is especially useful for large datasets and complex data analysis tasks, making Google Sheets a valuable tool for businesses, organizations, and individuals alike.

Google Sheets: Use VLOOKUP to Return All Matches

By default, the VLOOKUP function in Google Sheets looks up some value in a range and returns a corresponding value *only for the first match*.

However, you can use the following syntax with to look up some value in a range and return corresponding values for *all matches*:

```
=FILTER(C2:C11, E2=A2:A11)
```

This particular formula looks in the range C2:C11 and returns the corresponding values in the range A2:A11 for *all rows* where the value in C2:C11 is equal to E2.

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

Example: Use VLOOKUP to Return All Matches

Suppose we have the following dataset in Google Sheets that shows information about various basketball teams:

	A	B	C	D
1	Team	Rebounds	Points	
2	Mavericks	12	22	
3	Pacers	14	25	
4	Pacers	8	24	
5	Hornets	7	24	
6	Rockets	11	25	
7	Pacers	19	19	
8	Rockets	15	15	
9	Nets	14	24	
10	Rockets	10	30	
11	Hornets	12	34	
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				

Suppose we use the following formula with VLOOKUP to look up the team "Rockets" in column A and return the corresponding points value in column C:

=VLOOKUP(E2, A2:C11, 3, FALSE)

The following screenshot shows how to use this formula in practice:

F2 fx =VLOOKUP(E2, A2:C11, 3, FALSE)

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Team	Rebounds	Points		Team	Points
2	Mavericks	12	22		Rockets	25
3	Pacers	14	25			
4	Pacers	8	24			
5	Hornets	7	24			
6	Rockets	11	25			
7	Pacers	19	19			
8	Rockets	15	15			
9	Nets	14	24			
10	Rockets	10	30			
11	Hornets	12	34			
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						

The **VLOOKUP** function returns the value in the "Points" column for the first occurrence of Rockets in the "Team" column, but it fails to return the points values for the other two rows that also contain Rockets in the "Team" column.

To return the points values for all rows that contain Rockets in the "Team" column, we can use the **FILTER**

function instead.

Here's the exact formula we can use:

=FILTER(C2:C11, E2=A2:A11)

The following screenshot shows how to use this formula in practice:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Team	Rebounds	Points		Team	Points
2	Mavericks	12	22		Rockets	25
3	Pacers	14	25			15
4	Pacers	8	24			30
5	Hornets	7	24			
6	Rockets	11	25			
7	Pacers	19	19			
8	Rockets	15	15			
9	Nets	14	24			
10	Rockets	10	30			
11	Hornets	12	34			
12						
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Notice that the **FILTER** function returns all three points values for the three rows where the "Team" column contains Rockets.

The following tutorials explain how to perform other common tasks in Google Sheets:

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