

How to Easily Add Parentheses Around Text in Excel

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Adding parentheses around text in Excel is a simple and effective way to visually group and organize data. To do so, simply select the cell or cells containing the text you want to enclose in parentheses. Then, click on the Home" tab in the menu bar and locate the "Number" section. Click on the "Number Format" drop-down menu and select the "Custom" option. In the "Type" field, enter the desired format using parentheses, such as "(text)" or "(#)". Click "OK" to apply the formatting and the text will now be enclosed in parentheses. This method is useful for presenting data in a more structured and visually appealing manner.

Add Parentheses Around Text in Excel (With Examples)

You can use the following formula to add parentheses around the text in a specific cell in Excel:

=(" & A2 & ")

This particular formula adds parentheses around the text in cell A2.

For example if cell A2 contains the name Andy then this formula would return (Andy) as a result.

Note: This formula simply uses the & symbol to concatenate parentheses around the existing text in cell A2.

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

Example: How to Add Parentheses Around Text in Excel

Suppose we have the following list of athlete names in Excel:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Athlete				
2	Andy				
3	Bob				
4	Chad				
5	Doug				
6	Eric				
7	Frank				
8	Greg				
9	Henry				
10	Isaac				
11	John				
12	Kendall				
13	Luke				
14					
15					
16					
17					

Suppose we would like to add parentheses around each athlete name.

We can type the following formula into cell B2 to do so:

=(" & A2 & ")

We can then click and drag this formula down to each

remaining cell in column B:

	A	B	C	D
1	Athlete	Athlete with Parentheses		
2	Andy	(Andy)		
3	Bob	(Bob)		
4	Chad	(Chad)		
5	Doug	(Doug)		
6	Eric	(Eric)		
7	Frank	(Frank)		
8	Greg	(Greg)		
9	Henry	(Henry)		
10	Isaac	(Isaac)		
11	John	(John)		
12	Kendall	(Kendall)		
13	Luke	(Luke)		
14				
15				

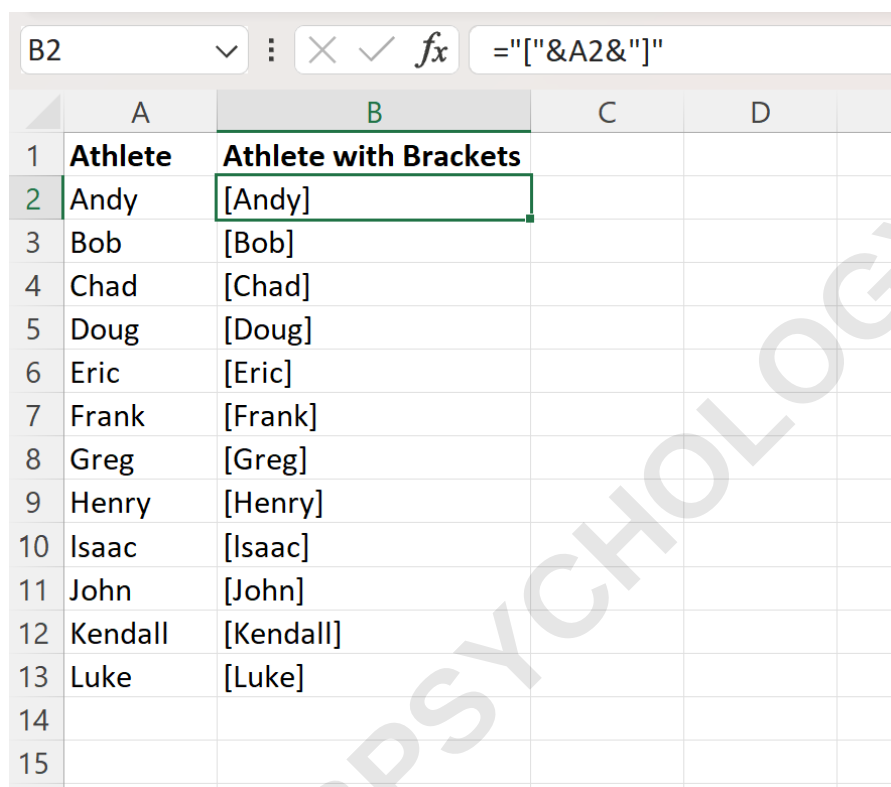
Notice that column B now displays the text in each corresponding cell in column A with parentheses wrapped around it.

Also note that you could use a similar formula to wrap any symbols you'd like around the text.

For example, you could instead type the following formula into cell B2 to wrap brackets around the text in cell A2:

=""

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



The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet with the following data:

	A	B	C	D
1	Athlete	Athlete with Brackets		
2	Andy	[Andy]		
3	Bob	[Bob]		
4	Chad	[Chad]		
5	Doug	[Doug]		
6	Eric	[Eric]		
7	Frank	[Frank]		
8	Greg	[Greg]		
9	Henry	[Henry]		
10	Isaac	[Isaac]		
11	John	[John]		
12	Kendall	[Kendall]		
13	Luke	[Luke]		
14				
15				

The formula bar at the top shows the formula `= "["&A2&"]"` being entered into cell B2. The formula bar also includes the cell reference B2, a dropdown arrow, a reset button (X), a checkmark, and the *fx* icon.

Notice that column B now displays the text in each corresponding cell in column A with brackets wrapped around it.

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