

How can I apply conditional formatting in Google Sheets from another sheet?

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Conditional formatting in Google Sheets allows users to highlight certain cells or rows based on specified conditions. This feature can also be applied from one sheet to another, making it convenient for organizing and analyzing data across multiple sheets. To apply conditional formatting from another sheet, users can use the "Custom Formula" option in the conditional formatting menu and reference the desired cells or ranges from the other sheet using the sheet name and cell coordinates. This allows for seamless and efficient formatting of data in Google Sheets.

Google Sheets: Conditional Formatting from Another Sheet

You can use the custom formula function in Google Sheets to apply conditional formatting based on a cell value from another sheet.

The following example shows how to use the custom formula function in practice.

Example: Conditional Formatting Based on Another Sheet

Suppose we have the following dataset in Sheet1 that shows the total points scored by various basketball teams:

	A	B	C	D
1	Team	Points Scored		
2	Mavs	99		
3	Nets	90		
4	Heat	87		
5	Warriors	86		
6	Spurs	90		
7	Hawks	98		
8	Celtics	99		
9	Bucks	104		
10	Suns	100		
11	Lakers	97		
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				

Sheet1 Sheet2

And suppose we have the following dataset in Sheet2 that shows the total points allowed by the same list of teams:

	A	B	C	D
1	Team	Points Allowed		
2	Mavs	97		
3	Nets	104		
4	Heat	108		
5	Warriors	100		
6	Spurs	85		
7	Hawks	86		
8	Celtics	98		
9	Bucks	92		
10	Suns	90		
11	Lakers	100		
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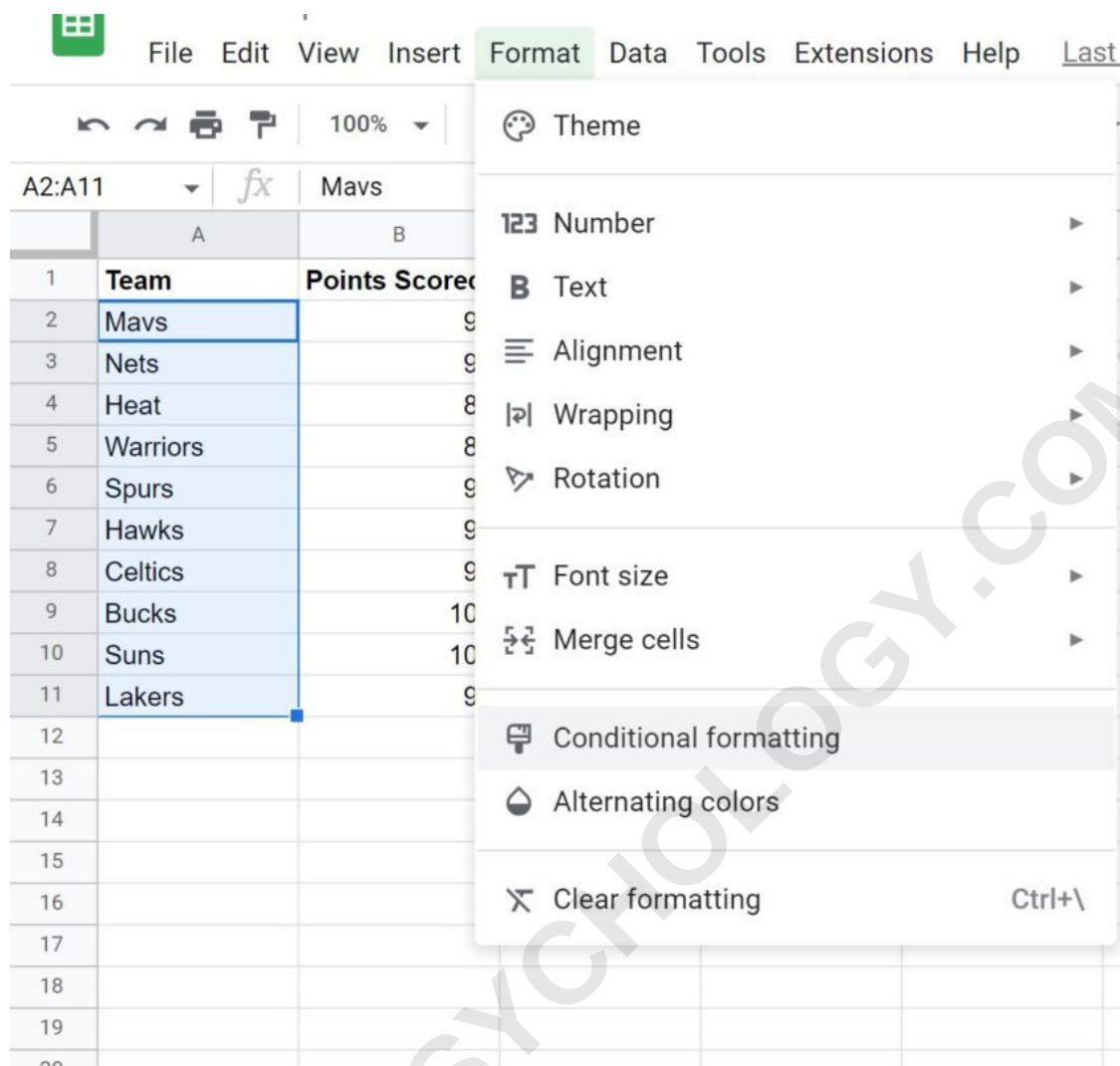
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Sheet1 ▾

Sheet2 ▾

Suppose we'd like to highlight each of the cells in the Team column of Sheet1 if the value in the Points Scored column is greater than the value in the Points Allowed column in Sheet2.

To do so, we can highlight the cells in the range A2:A11, then click the Format tab, then click Conditional formatting:



In the Conditional format rules panel that appears on the right side of the screen, click the Format cells if dropdown, then choose Custom formula is, then type in the following formula:

=B2>INDIRECT("Sheet2!B2")

Conditional format rules

Single color Color scale

Apply to range

A2:A11

Format rules

Format cells if...

Custom formula is

=B2>INDIRECT("Sheet2!B2")

Formatting style

Default

B I U A .

Cancel Done

+ Add another rule

Note: It's important that you include the equal sign (=) at the beginning of the formula, otherwise the conditional formatting won't work.

Once you click Done, each of the cells in the Team column where the value in the Points Scored column is

greater than the value in the Points Allowed column in Sheet2 will be highlighted with a green background:

	A	B	C	D
1	Team	Points Scored		
2	Mavs	99		
3	Nets	90		
4	Heat	87		
5	Warriors	86		
6	Spurs	90		
7	Hawks	98		
8	Celtics	99		
9	Bucks	104		
10	Suns	100		
11	Lakers	97		
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The only Team values that have a green background are the ones where the value in the Points Scored column in Sheet1 is greater than the Points Allowed column in Sheet2.

For example, if your sheet is called Sheet 2 then you

should use the following syntax when defining the formatting rule:

=B2>INDIRECT("'"Sheet 2"!B2")

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

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