

How to Calculate in Excel Only if a Cell is Not Blank

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In Microsoft Excel, users can calculate values only if the cell is not blank by utilizing the IF function. This function allows for conditional calculations based on whether a cell contains data or is empty. By specifying the condition as "not blank" using the ISBLANK function, users can ensure that calculations are only performed on cells that have data entered in them. This feature is particularly useful when working with large data sets, as it allows for efficient and accurate calculations without the need for manual checking of each cell's contents.

Excel: Calculate Only If Not Blank

You can use the following formula in Excel to perform some calculation only if specific cells are not blank:

```
=IF(COUNTBLANK(B2:D2),"",AVERAGE(B2:D2))
```

This particular formula calculates the average value of cells in the range B2:D2 only if none of the cells in the range are blank.

If even one cell is blank, then the formula will not calculate the average and will instead return a blank.

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

Example: How to Calculate Only if Cells are Not Blank in Excel

Suppose we have the following dataset in Excel that shows the number of points scored by various

basketball players during three different games:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Player	Game 1	Game 2	Game 3		
2	Andy	22	44	30		
3	Bob	14	28	12		
4	Chad		19	22		
5	Doug	25	12	30		
6	Eric	30	15			
7	Frank	35	22	10		
8	Greg	19	25	14		
9	Henry	12	30	19		
10	Isaac	17				
11	John	23	17	12		
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						

We can type the following formula into cell E2 to calculate the average points scored per game for the first player, only if all cells in the range B2:D2 are not blank:

=IF(COUNTBLANK(B2:D2),"",AVERAGE(B2:D2))

We'll then click and drag this formula down to every remaining cell in column E:

Note: In this particular example we calculated the average, but you can replace **AVERAGE** with whatever metric you'd like to calculate.

How This Formula Works

Recall the formula that we used to calculate the average value in the range B2:D2:

```
=IF(COUNTBLANK(B2:D2),"",AVERAGE(B2:D2))
```

Here is how this formula works:

First, we use the **COUNTBLANK** function to count the number of blank cells in the range B2:D2.

Then we use an **IF** function to return the following values:

If the number of blank cells is greater than zero, return blank. Otherwise, return the average of cells in the range B2:D2.

This formula allows us to calculate the average points per game in each row only if there are no blank cells in a given row.

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

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