

# How can I concatenate dates in Google Sheets?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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Concatenating dates in Google Sheets refers to the process of combining multiple date values into a single cell. This can be useful when organizing and analyzing data that includes both date and time information. To concatenate dates in Google Sheets, you can use the CONCATENATE function or the "&" symbol to join two or more cells containing date values. This allows for a more organized and visually appealing presentation of data in spreadsheets. By following a few simple steps, users can easily concatenate dates in Google Sheets and enhance their data analysis capabilities.

## Concatenate Dates in Google Sheets

**When using the CONCATENATE function, Google Sheets will automatically convert dates to numeric values.**

**However, you use the TEXT function to specify that the date should remain formatted as a date:**

**=CONCATENATE(A2,TEXT(B2,"M/DD/YYYY"))**

**This particular formula will concatenate the strings in cells A2 and B2 and keep the date in cell B2 formatted as a date with a M/DD/YYYY format.**

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

**Example: Concatenate Dates in Google Sheets**

**Suppose we have the following dataset in Google**

**Sheets that contains information about the start date for various employees at some company:**

	A	B	C	D
1	<b>Employee</b>	<b>Start Date</b>		
2	Andy	1/1/2023		
3	Ben	1/14/2023		
4	Chad	5/10/2023		
5	Derrick	6/1/2023		
6	Ethan	7/10/2023		
7	Frank	8/3/2023		
8	George	9/15/2023		
9	Henry	10/31/2023		
10	Isaac	12/22/2023		
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**If we use the following CONCATENATE function to create a string that describes when each employee started working, each of the dates in column B will be converted to numeric values by default:**

**=CONCATENATE(A2, " started working on ",B2)**

C2  $\text{fx}$  =CONCATENATE(A2, " started working on ", B2)

	A	B	C
1	<b>Employee</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	
2	Andy	1/1/2023	Andy started working on 44927
3	Ben	1/14/2023	Ben started working on 44940
4	Chad	5/10/2023	Chad started working on 45056
5	Derrick	6/1/2023	Derrick started working on 45078
6	Ethan	7/10/2023	Ethan started working on 45117
7	Frank	8/3/2023	Frank started working on 45141
8	George	9/15/2023	George started working on 45184
9	Henry	10/31/2023	Henry started working on 45230
10	Isaac	12/22/2023	Isaac started working on 45282
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**Notice that each of the dates have been converted to numeric values by default.**

**To concatenate the cells and keep the dates in column B formatted as dates, we can instead use the following formula:**

**=CONCATENATE(A2, " started working on ", TEXT(B2, "M/DD/YYYY"))**

C2 `=CONCATENATE(A2, " started working on ", TEXT(B2, "M/DD/YYYY"))`

	A	B	C	D
1	<b>Employee</b>	<b>Start Date</b>		
2	Andy	1/1/2023	Andy started working on 1/01/2023	
3	Ben	1/14/2023	Ben started working on 1/14/2023	
4	Chad	5/10/2023	Chad started working on 5/10/2023	
5	Derrick	6/1/2023	Derrick started working on 6/01/2023	
6	Ethan	7/10/2023	Ethan started working on 7/10/2023	
7	Frank	8/3/2023	Frank started working on 8/03/2023	
8	George	9/15/2023	George started working on 9/15/2023	
9	Henry	10/31/2023	Henry started working on 10/31/2023	
10	Isaac	12/22/2023	Isaac started working on 12/22/2023	
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By using the TEXT function within the CONCATENATE function, we are able to concatenate the employee names and the dates while keeping the dates in the correct format.

Also note that M/DD/YYYY is only one date format option we could have used.

`=CONCATENATE(A2, " started working on ", TEXT(B2, "MMM YYYY"))`

C2 `=CONCATENATE(A2, " started working on ", TEXT(B2, "MMM YYYY"))`

	A	B	C	D
1	<b>Employee</b>	<b>Start Date</b>		
2	Andy	1/1/2023	Andy started working on Jan 2023	
3	Ben	1/14/2023	Ben started working on Jan 2023	
4	Chad	5/10/2023	Chad started working on May 2023	
5	Derrick	6/1/2023	Derrick started working on Jun 2023	
6	Ethan	7/10/2023	Ethan started working on Jul 2023	
7	Frank	8/3/2023	Frank started working on Aug 2023	
8	George	9/15/2023	George started working on Sep 2023	
9	Henry	10/31/2023	Henry started working on Oct 2023	
10	Isaac	12/22/2023	Isaac started working on Dec 2023	
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**Refer to the for a complete list of available date formats you can use.**

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