

# How can I convert text to columns in VBA?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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Converting text to columns in VBA refers to the process of separating a single column of text into multiple columns, with each column containing a specific segment of the original text. This can be achieved by using the "Text to Columns" function in VBA, which allows for the customization of the delimiter used to separate the text, as well as the number and format of the resulting columns. This feature is particularly useful for organizing and manipulating large amounts of data in a spreadsheet. By utilizing VBA, users can automate the process of converting text to columns, saving time and effort in data analysis and organization.

## **VBA: Convert Text to Columns**

**You can use the `Range.TextToColumns` method in VBA to convert a cell of text into columns.**

**The following examples show how to use this method in practice in different scenarios.**

### **Example 1: Convert Text to Columns (Space as Delimiter)**

**Suppose we have the following list of names in the range A1:A9 in Excel:**

	A	B	C	D	E
1	John Michael Smith				
2	Mark Doug Andrews				
3	Austin Ike Richardson				
4	Dave Lou Matthews				
5	Carl Bob Stevens				
6	Mike Dan Williams				
7	Don Trent Smith				
8	Tyler King Johnson				
9	Arnold Ken Marshall				
10					
11					
12					
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**We can create the following macro to convert the text in each cell into separate columns, using spaces as delimiters:**

**Sub TextToCols()**

**Range("A1:A9").TextToColumns \_**

**ConsecutiveDelimiter:=True, \_**

**Space:=True**

**End Sub**

**When we run this macro, we receive the following output:**

	A	B	C	D	E
1	John	Michael	Smith		
2	Mark	Doug	Andrews		
3	Austin	Ike	Richardson		
4	Dave	Lou	Matthews		
5	Carl	Bob	Stevens		
6	Mike	Dan	Williams		
7	Don	Trent	Smith		
8	Tyler	King	Johnson		
9	Arnold	Ken	Marshall		
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16					
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18					

**Notice that the text in each cell has been converted into separate columns.**

**Note:** The argument `ConsecutiveDelimiter:=True` tells VBA to consider consecutive delimiters together as one single delimiter.

**Example 2: Convert Text to Columns (Comma as Delimiter)**

**Suppose we have the following list of names in the**

**range A1:A9 that are separated by commas:**

	A	B	C	D	E
1	John,Michael,Smith				
2	Mark,Doug,Andrews				
3	Austin,Ike,Richardson				
4	Dave,Lou,Matthews				
5	Carl,Bob,Stevens				
6	Mike,Dan,Williams				
7	Don,Trent,Smith				
8	Tyler,King,Johnson				
9	Arnold,Ken,Marshall				
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19					

**We can create the following macro to convert the text in each cell into separate columns, using commas as delimiters:**

**Sub TextToCols()**

**Range("A1:A9").TextToColumns \_**

**ConsecutiveDelimiter:=True, \_**

**Comma:=True**

**End Sub**

**When we run this macro, we receive the following output:**

	A	B	C	D	E
1	John	Michael	Smith		
2	Mark	Doug	Andrews		
3	Austin	Ike	Richardson		
4	Dave	Lou	Matthews		
5	Carl	Bob	Stevens		
6	Mike	Dan	Williams		
7	Don	Trent	Smith		
8	Tyler	King	Johnson		
9	Arnold	Ken	Marshall		
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**Notice that the text in each cell has been converted into separate columns.**

**Example 3: Convert Text to Columns (With Text in Double Quotes)**

**Suppose we have the following list of names in the range A1:A9 that are separated by spaces and have double quotes:**

	A	B	C	D	E
1	"John" "Michael" "Smith"				
2	"Mark" "Doug" "Andrews"				
3	"Austin" "Ike" "Richardson"				
4	"Dave" "Lou" "Matthews"				
5	"Carl" "Bob" "Stevens"				
6	"Mike" "Dan" "Williams"				
7	"Don" "Trent" "Smith"				
8	"Tyler" "King" "Johnson"				
9	"Arnold" "Ken" "Marshall"				
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					

**We can create the following macro to convert the text in each cell into separate columns:**

```
Sub TextToCols()  
Range("A1:A9").TextToColumns _  
TextQualifier:=xlDoubleQuote, _  
ConsecutiveDelimiter:=True, _  
Space:=True  
End Sub
```

**When we run this macro, we receive the following output:**

	A	B	C	D	E
1	John	Michael	Smith		
2	Mark	Doug	Andrews		
3	Austin	Ike	Richardson		
4	Dave	Lou	Matthews		
5	Carl	Bob	Stevens		
6	Mike	Dan	Williams		
7	Don	Trent	Smith		
8	Tyler	King	Johnson		
9	Arnold	Ken	Marshall		
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**Notice that the text in each cell has been converted into separate columns.**

**Note that we used the argument `TextQualifier:=xlDoubleQuote` to tell VBA that the text was surrounded by double quotes.**

**Note: You can find the complete documentation for the `TextToColumns` method in VBA .**

**The following tutorials explain how to perform other common tasks using VBA:**