

How can I count duplicates in Google Sheets?

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Counting duplicates in Google Sheets is a simple and efficient way to identify and track repeated data entries in a spreadsheet. This process involves using the built-in COUNTIF function, which allows users to specify the range of cells to be searched and the criteria for identifying duplicates. By following this method, users can quickly and accurately determine the number of duplicate entries in their Google Sheets, enabling them to organize and manage their data effectively. Additionally, this feature can be used to detect errors or inconsistencies in the data and ensure the accuracy and reliability of the spreadsheet. Overall, counting duplicates in Google Sheets is a valuable tool for organizing and analyzing large sets of data.

Count Duplicates in Google Sheets (With Example)

Often you may want to count duplicate values in Google Sheets.

Fortunately this is easy to do using the COUNTIF() function.

The following example shows how to count duplicate values for the following dataset in Google Sheets:

	A	B	C	D
1	Team	Unique Teams	Duplicates	Total Duplicates
2	Mavs	Mavs	3	6
3	Mavs	Warriors	2	
4	Warriors	Hawks	1	
5	Mavs	Kings	0	
6	Hawks	Jazz	0	
7	Hawks	Knicks	0	
8	Warriors	Magic	0	
9	Kings			
10	Jazz			
11	Mavs			
12	Warriors			
13	Knicks			
14	Magic			
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Let's jump in!

Example: Count Duplicates in Google Sheets

Suppose we have the following dataset that contains the names of various basketball teams:

	A	B	C	D
1	Team			
2	Mavs			
3	Mavs			
4	Warriors			
5	Mavs			
6	Hawks			
7	Hawks			
8	Warriors			
9	Kings			
10	Jazz			
11	Mavs			
12	Warriors			
13	Knicks			
14	Magic			
15				
16				
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We can type the following formula into cell B2 to generate a list of unique team names from column A:

=UNIQUE(A2:A14)

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

	A	B	C	D
1	Team	Unique Teams		
2	Mavs	Mavs		
3	Mavs	Warriors		
4	Warriors	Hawks		
5	Mavs	Kings		
6	Hawks	Jazz		
7	Hawks	Knicks		
8	Warriors	Magic		
9	Kings			
10	Jazz			
11	Mavs			
12	Warriors			
13	Knicks			
14	Magic			
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We can then type the following formula into cell C2 to count the number of duplicate values for the Mavs team:

=COUNTIF(\$A\$2:\$A\$14,B2)-1

We can then click and drag this formula down to each remaining cell in column C to count the number of duplicate values for each team:

C2 fx =COUNTIF(\$A\$2:\$A\$14, B2) - 1

	A	B	C	D
1	Team	Unique Teams	Duplicates	
2	Mavs	Mavs	3	
3	Mavs	Warriors	2	
4	Warriors	Hawks	1	
5	Mavs	Kings	0	
6	Hawks	Jazz	0	
7	Hawks	Knicks	0	
8	Warriors	Magic	0	
9	Kings			
10	Jazz			
11	Mavs			
12	Warriors			
13	Knicks			
14	Magic			
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From the output we can see:

Mavs have 3 duplicate values. Warriors have 2 duplicate values. Hawks have 1 duplicate value. Kings have duplicate values.

And so on.

Note that his formula counts how many times each unique value occurs and then subtracts one.

Thus, if a team name only occurs once, then the formula returns 0 to indicate that the team has 0 duplicate values.

If you'd like to calculate the total number of duplicate values in the entire dataset, you can type the following formula into cell D2:

=SUM(C2:C8)

	A	B	C	D
D2			=SUM(C2:C8)	
1	Team	Unique Teams	Duplicates	Total Duplicates
2	Mavs	Mavs	3	6
3	Mavs	Warriors	2	
4	Warriors	Hawks	1	
5	Mavs	Kings	0	
6	Hawks	Jazz	0	
7	Hawks	Knicks	0	
8	Warriors	Magic	0	
9	Kings			
10	Jazz			
11	Mavs			
12	Warriors			
13	Knicks			
14	Magic			
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From the output we can see that there are 6 total duplicate team names in the dataset.

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

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