

How can I count the number of occurrences in Google Sheets?

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Counting the number of occurrences in Google Sheets can be done by using the COUNTIF function. This function allows you to specify a specific criteria to count the number of cells that meet that criteria. For example, if you want to count the number of times the word "apple" appears in a column, you can use the formula =COUNTIF(A:A,"apple"). This will return the total number of cells in column A that contain the word "apple". This method is useful for keeping track of data and analyzing patterns in your spreadsheet. With the COUNTIF function, you can easily count the number of occurrences for any specific item or value in your Google Sheets.

Count Number of Occurrences in Google Sheets

You can use the =UNIQUE() and =COUNTIF() functions to count the number of occurrences of different values in a column in Google Sheets.

The following step-by-step example shows how to do so.

Step 1: Enter the Data

First, let's enter the names for some professional basketball teams in column A:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Team Name				
2	Hornets				
3	Hawks				
4	Spurs				
5	Spurs				
6	Mavericks				
7	Spurs				
8	Rockets				
9	Nets				
10	Hawks				
11	Mavericks				
12	Rockets				
13	Spurs				
14	Nets				
15	Hawks				
16	Spurs				
17					
18					
19					
20					

Step 2: Find the Unique Values in the Column

Next, let's use the **=UNIQUE()** function to create a list of every unique team name in column A:

D2		fx	=UNIQUE(A2:A16)		
	A	B	C	D	E
1	Team Name			Unique Teams	
2	Hornets			Hornets	
3	Hawks			Hawks	
4	Spurs			Spurs	
5	Spurs			Mavericks	
6	Mavericks			Rockets	
7	Spurs			Nets	
8	Rockets				
9	Nets				
10	Hawks				
11	Mavericks				
12	Rockets				
13	Spurs				
14	Nets				
15	Hawks				
16	Spurs				
17					
18					
19					

Note that this function creates an array of unique values by default.

Step 3: Count the Occurrence of Each Unique Value

Next, let's use the =COUNTIF() function to count the number of occurrences of each unique team name:

E2		<i>fx</i>	=COUNTIF(\$A\$2:\$A\$16, D2)		
	A	B	C	D	E
1	Team Name			Unique Teams	Occurrences
2	Hornets			Hornets	1
3	Hawks			Hawks	3
4	Spurs			Spurs	5
5	Spurs			Mavericks	2
6	Mavericks			Rockets	2
7	Spurs			Nets	2
8	Rockets				
9	Nets				
10	Hawks				
11	Mavericks				
12	Rockets				
13	Spurs				
14	Nets				
15	Hawks				
16	Spurs				
17					
18					
19					
20					

Note that we simply copy and pasted the formula in cell E2 to each of the remaining cells in column E.

From the output we can see:

The team name 'Hornets' occurs 1 time in column A. The team name 'Hawks' occurs 3 times in column A. The team name 'Spurs' occurs 5 times in column A.

And so on.