

How can I count the occurrences of a specific character in a string using VBA?

Authored by
stats writer

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This process involves utilizing Visual Basic for Applications (VBA) to count the number of times a particular character appears in a given string. By using VBA's built-in functions and methods, one can efficiently iterate through the string and tally the occurrences of the specified character. This method can be useful in various scenarios, such as data analysis and text manipulation, where the frequency of a specific character needs to be determined.

VBA: Count Occurrences of Character in String

You can use the following basic syntax to count the number of occurrences of a character in a string using VBA:

```
Sub CountOccurrences()
```

```
Dim i As Integer
```

```
'Specify character to look for
```

```
my_char = "/"
```

```
'Count occurrences in each string in B2:B12 and  
display results in C2:C12  
For i = 2 To 12
```

```
Count = (Len(Range("B" & i)) - Len(Replace(Range("B"  
& i), my_char, ""))) / Len(my_char)
```

```
Range("C" & i) = Count
```

```
Next i
```

```
End Sub
```

This particular example counts the number of

occurrences of a slash (/) in each cell in the range B2:B12 and displays the results in the range C2:C12.

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

Example: Count Occurrences of Character in String Using VBA

Suppose we have the following dataset in Excel that shows the names of various basketball players and the positions they may play in a game:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Player	Position			
2	A	Guard / Forward			
3	B	Guard			
4	C	Guard			
5	D	Forward / Center			
6	E	Guard / Forward			
7	F	Forward			
8	G	Forward / Center			
9	H	Guard / Forward / Center			
10	I	Guard / Forward			
11	J	Forward			
12	K	Guard / Forward / Center			
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					

Suppose we would like to count the number of slashes (/) in each string in the Position column.

We can create the following macro to do so:

```
Sub CountOccurrences()
```

```
Dim i As Integer
```

```
'Specify character to look for
```

```
my_char = "/"
```

```
'Count occurrences in each string in B2:B12 and  
display results in C2:C12  
For i = 2 To 12
```

```
Count = (Len(Range("B" & i)) - Len(Replace(Range("B"  
& i), my_char, ""))) / Len(my_char)
```

```
Range("C" & i) = Count
```

```
Next i
```

```
End Sub
```

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

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Player	Position			
2	A	Guard / Forward	1		
3	B	Guard	0		
4	C	Guard	0		
5	D	Forward / Center	1		
6	E	Guard / Forward	1		
7	F	Forward	0		
8	G	Forward / Center	1		
9	H	Guard / Forward / Center	2		
10	I	Guard / Forward	1		
11	J	Forward	0		
12	K	Guard / Forward / Center	2		
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					
21					

The values in column C display the number of occurrences of slashes in the corresponding strings in column B.

For example:

The string Guard /Forward contains 1 slash.The string Guard contains 0 slashes.The string Guard contains slashes.The string Forward / Center contains 1 slash.

And so on.

To count the occurrences of a different character, simply change the character of the my_char variable in the macro.

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