

How can I determine if a cell is empty in Excel?

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Determining if a cell is empty in Excel can be achieved by using the ISBLANK function. This function checks if a cell contains any data or formula, and returns a TRUE or FALSE value accordingly. If the cell is empty, the function will return a TRUE value, indicating that the cell is indeed empty. This can be useful for data analysis and conditional formatting in Excel, as it allows users to easily identify and manipulate empty cells within a spreadsheet. Additionally, the function can be combined with other functions to create more complex formulas for advanced data analysis. Overall, the ISBLANK function is a valuable tool for determining the presence of data in cells and enhancing the accuracy and efficiency of Excel spreadsheets.

Check if Cell is Empty in Excel

You can use the following formulas to check if cells are empty in Excel:

Method 1: Check if One Cell is Empty

=IF(ISBLANK(A1),"Empty","Not Empty")

If cell A1 is empty, this formula returns "Empty" and if it's not then the formula returns "Not Empty."

Method 2: Check if Multiple Cells are Empty

=IF(AND(ISBLANK(A1), ISBLANK(B1)),"Empty","Not Empty")

If cells A1 and B1 are both empty, this formula returns "Empty." Otherwise, it returns "Not Empty."

The following examples show how to use each method in Excel.

Example 1: Check if One Cell is Empty

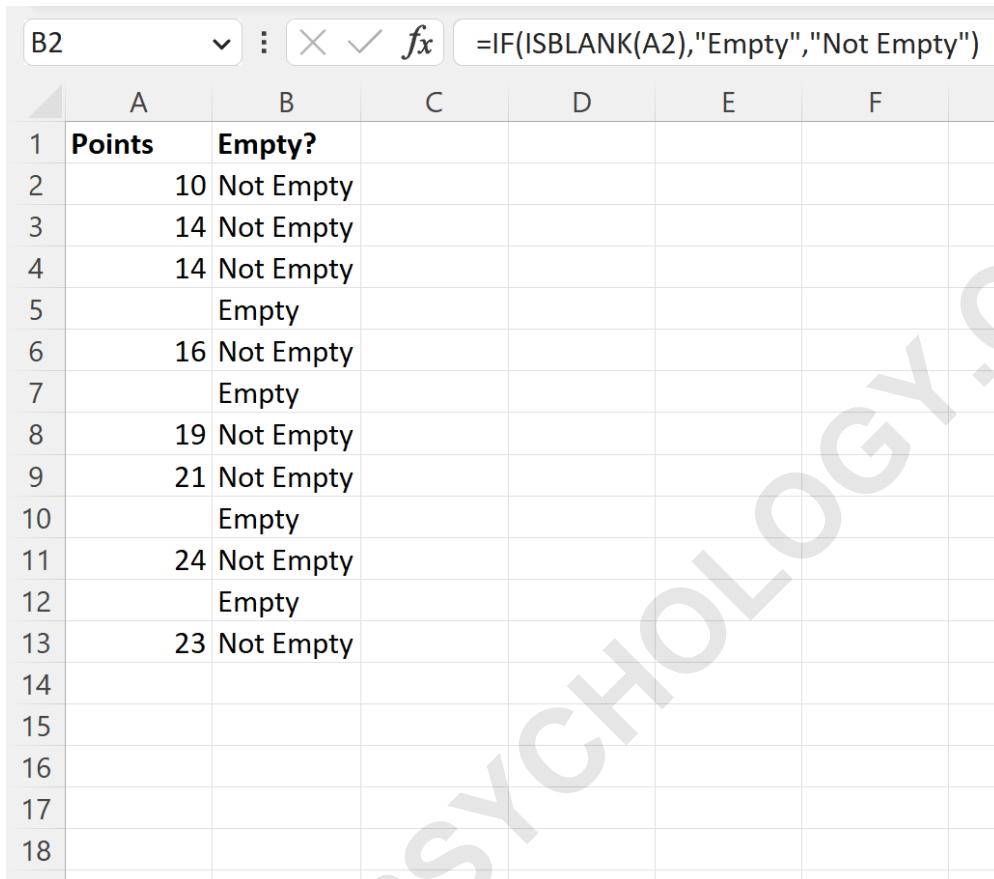
Suppose we have the following dataset in Excel that shows the number of points scored by various basketball players:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Points					
2	10					
3	14					
4	14					
5						
6	16					
7						
8	19					
9	21					
10						
11	24					
12						
13	23					
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						

We'll use the following formula to check if each cell in column A is empty:

=IF(ISBLANK(A2),"Empty","Not Empty")

We'll type this formula into cell B2 and then copy and paste it down to every remaining cell in column B:



The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet with the following data:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Points	Empty?				
2	10	Not Empty				
3	14	Not Empty				
4	14	Not Empty				
5		Empty				
6	16	Not Empty				
7		Empty				
8	19	Not Empty				
9	21	Not Empty				
10		Empty				
11	24	Not Empty				
12		Empty				
13	23	Not Empty				
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						

The formula bar at the top shows the formula: `=IF(ISBLANK(A2),"Empty","Not Empty")`

The values in column B tell us whether each corresponding value in column A is empty or not.

Example 2: Check if Multiple Cells are Empty

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Player	Points				
2	A	10				
3	B	14				
4	C	14				
5						
6	E	16				
7	F					
8	G	19				
9		21				
10	I					
11	J	24				
12						
13	L	23				
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						

We'll use the following formula to check if the cell in both column A and column B are empty:

=IF(AND(ISBLANK(A2), ISBLANK(B2)),"Empty","Not Empty")

We'll type this formula into cell C2 and then copy and paste it down to every remaining cell in column C:

C2 X ✓ *fx* =IF(AND(ISBLANK(A2), ISBLANK(B2)),"Empty","Not Empty")

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Player	Points	Both Empty?					
2	A	10	Not Empty					
3	B	14	Not Empty					
4	C	14	Not Empty					
5			Empty					
6	E	16	Not Empty					
7	F		Not Empty					
8	G	19	Not Empty					
9		21	Not Empty					
10	I		Not Empty					
11	J	24	Not Empty					
12			Empty					
13	L	23	Not Empty					
14								
15								
16								
17								
18								
19								
20								

The values in column C tell us whether or not both corresponding values in column A and column B are empty.

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