

# How can I find the difference between two times using Excel?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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Excel is a powerful tool that can be used to easily find the difference between two times. By utilizing the built-in functions and features, users can quickly calculate the time interval between two given times. This process involves using the subtraction formula, custom formatting, and converting the result into the desired time format. With a few simple steps, Excel allows for accurate and efficient time difference calculations, making it an ideal tool for tracking and managing time-related data.

## How to Find the Difference Between Two Times Using Excel

Learn how to find the difference between two times using Excel.

Time can be converted into seconds using Excel.

The number 86400 can be used to convert time to seconds.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Time	Seconds	Note		Conversion number	86400
2	0:01	60	One minute			
3	0:10	600	Ten minutes			
4	1:00	3600	One hour			
5	5:00	18000	Five hours			
6	10:00	36000	Ten hours			
7	15:00	54000	Fifteen hours			
8	20:00	72000	Eighteen hours			
9	22:00	79200	Twenty hours			
10	0:00	86400	Twenty four hours			
11						

Read more about 86400 in the How to Convert Time to Seconds Chapter

## How to find the difference between two times?

### Step 1) Create a sheet and set up values:

In this example, we will find the seconds between 14:00 (A2) Time A and 16:00 (A3) Time B.

Copy the values to follow the example.

Paste the values directly into your sheet.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1		Time	Seconds			Conversion number	86400
2	Time A	14:00				Minutes	60
3	Time B	16:00				Hours	60
4							
5							
6							
7							
8						Time between	
9					Seconds		
10					Minutes		
11					Hours		

**Info:**

Excel can change the format when you use the 86400 number.

Make sure to change the format back to number if it changes to time format.

**Step 2) Convert time to seconds:**

Let us multiply the time by 86400.

Select cell c2

Convert time to seconds for **Time A**:

**Calculation**

B 2 ( 1 4 : 0 0 ) \* G 1 ( 8 6 4 0 0 ) = 5 0 4 0 0

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1		Time	Seconds			Conversion number	86400
2	Time A	14:00	=G1*B2			Minutes	60
3	Time B	16:00				Hours	60
4							
5							
6							
7							
8						Time between	
9					Seconds		
10					Minutes		
11					Hours		

Repeat the same for **Time B**: (B3 (16:00) \* G1 (86400))

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**Step 3) Find the difference in seconds:**

Select cell F9

Deduct **Time B** from **Time A** to find the difference.

Use the converted seconds to calculate (the numbers in Column C).

**Calculation**

$$C3 ( 57600 ) - C2 ( 50400 ) = 7200 \text{ Seconds}$$

F9							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1		Time	Seconds			Conversion number	86400
2	Time A	14:00	50400			Minutes	60
3	Time B	16:00	57600			Hours	60
4							
5							
6							
7							
8						Time between	
9					Seconds	=C3-C2	
10					Minutes		
11					Hours		

**Step 4) Convert Seconds to Minutes:**

Divide the seconds on 60 to find the minutes.

Select cell F10

**Calculation**

$$F9 ( 7200 ) / G2 ( 60 ) = 120 \text{ Minutes}$$

F10							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1		Time	Seconds			Conversion number	86400
2	Time A	14:00	50400			Minutes	60
3	Time B	16:00	57600			Hours	60
4							
5							
6							
7							
8						Time between	
9					Seconds	7200	
10					Minutes	=F9/G2	
11					Hours		

**Step 5) Convert Minutes to Hours:**

Divide the minutes on 60 to find the hours.

Select cell F11

**Calculation**

F 9 ( 1 2 0 ) / G 3 ( 6 0 ) = 2 Hours

F11		✖ ✓ fx		=F10/G3			
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1		Time	Seconds			Conversion number	86400
2	Time A	14:00	50400			Minutes	60
3	Time B	16:00	57600			Hours	60
4							
5							
6							
7							
8						Time between	
9					Seconds	7200	
10					Minutes	120	
11					Hours	=F10/G3	

**Good job!**

You have successfully found the time between two times, 14:00 and 16:00.

In this case, the right answer was 7200 Seconds or 120 Minutes or 2 hours.

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