

How can I find the top 5 values and corresponding names in an Excel spreadsheet?

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Finding the top 5 values and corresponding names in an Excel spreadsheet can be achieved by using the "Sort" function. First, select the column containing the values and names that you want to sort. Then, go to the "Data" tab and click on "Sort". In the pop-up window, select the column you want to sort by and choose "Descending" as the order. This will arrange the values in descending order, with the highest value at the top. Next, select the top 5 rows and copy them to a new location. This will give you the top 5 values and corresponding names. You can also use the "Filter" function to narrow down your selection and find the top 5 values and names within a specific range. This method can help you quickly identify the top performers or highest values in your data set.

Excel: Find Top 5 Values and Names

Suppose you have the following dataset in Excel that shows the exam scores for various students and you'd like to find the top 5 scores along with the names of the students with the top 5 scores:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Student	Score				
2	Andy	81				
3	Bob	99				
4	Chad	94				
5	Doug	76				
6	Eric	78				
7	Frank	80				
8	Greg	86				
9	Henry	90				
10	Isaac	91				
11	John	82				
12	Kendall	73				
13	Luke	85				
14						
15						
16						
17						

The following example shows how to do so.

Example: Find Top 5 Values and Names in Excel

You can use the following formula to find the largest value in the range B2:B13:

=LARGE(\$B\$2:\$B\$13,ROWS(\$C\$2:\$C2))

We will type this formula into cell D2:

D2		✕ ✓ <i>fx</i>		=LARGE(\$B\$2:\$B\$13,ROWS(\$C\$2:\$C2))			
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Student	Score		Top 5 Scores			
2	Andy	81		99			
3	Bob	99					
4	Chad	94					
5	Doug	76					
6	Eric	78					
7	Frank	80					
8	Greg	86					
9	Henry	90					
10	Isaac	91					
11	John	82					
12	Kendall	73					
13	Luke	85					
14							
15							
16							

We can see that 99 is the largest value in the Score column.

Next, we can click and drag this formula down to four more cells in column D to find the next four largest values:

D6				=LARGE(\$B\$2:\$B\$13,ROWS(\$C\$2:\$C6))		
	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Student	Score		Top 5 Scores		
2	Andy	81		99		
3	Bob	99		94		
4	Chad	94		91		
5	Doug	76		90		
6	Eric	78		86		
7	Frank	80				
8	Greg	86				
9	Henry	90				
10	Isaac	91				
11	John	82				
12	Kendall	73				
13	Luke	85				
14						
15						

Column D now shows the top five scores from the original dataset.

Next, we can type the following formula into cell E2 to extract the name that corresponds to the top score:

=INDEX(\$A\$2:\$A\$13,MATCH(LARGE(\$B\$2:\$B\$13,ROWS(\$C\$2:\$C2)),\$B\$2:\$B\$13,0))

We can then click and drag this formula down to the remaining cells in column E:

E2					=INDEX(\$A\$2:\$A\$13,MATCH(LARGE(\$B\$2:\$B\$13,5),\$B\$2:\$B\$13,0))		
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Student	Score		Top 5 Scores	Student		
2	Andy	81		99	Bob		
3	Bob	99		94	Chad		
4	Chad	94		91	Isaac		
5	Doug	76		90	Henry		
6	Eric	78		86	Greg		
7	Frank	80					
8	Greg	86					
9	Henry	90					
10	Isaac	91					
11	John	82					
12	Kendall	73					
13	Luke	85					
14							
15							
16							

We have now extracted the top 5 scores along with the names that correspond to these scores from the original dataset.

You can choose a different cell range to use for ROWS as long as the starting cell is an absolute reference and the ending cell is a relative reference.

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