

How can I generate a random number in Excel?

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June 30, 2024

RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *How can I generate a random number in Excel?*. PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=162939>

To generate a random number in Excel, you can use the "RAND" function. This function generates a random decimal number between 0 and 1 each time it is recalculated. To generate a random number within a specific range, you can use the "RANDBETWEEN" function. This function allows you to specify a minimum and maximum value for the random number. You can also use the "RANDARRAY" function to generate a series of random numbers at once. These functions can be useful for tasks such as creating a random sample or assigning random values to data.

This article describes the formula syntax and usage of the **RAND** function in Microsoft Excel.

Description

RAND returns an evenly distributed random real number greater than or equal to 0 and less than 1. A new random real number is returned every time the worksheet is calculated.

Syntax

RAND()

The RAND function syntax has no arguments.

Remarks

To generate a random real number between a and b, use:

`=RAND()*(b-a)+a`

If you want to use RAND to generate a random number but don't want the numbers to change every time the cell is calculated, you can enter `=RAND()` in the formula bar, and then press **F9** to change the formula to a random number. The formula will calculate and leave you with just a value.

Need more help?

You can always ask an expert in the [Excel Tech Community](#) or get support in [Communities](#).

See Also

[Mersenne Twister algorithm](#)

[RANDBETWEEN function](#)