

How can I generate random 4 digit numbers in Excel?

Authored by
stats writer

June 23, 2024

RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *How can I generate random 4 digit numbers in Excel?*.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=147729>

Generating random 4 digit numbers in Excel can be achieved by using the "RAND" function combined with the appropriate formula and formatting. This function generates a random decimal number between 0 and 1, which can then be manipulated to generate a 4 digit number. By utilizing the "INT" function to round down the generated number and the "MOD" function to limit the number to 4 digits, a random 4 digit number can be generated. Additionally, by using the "RANDBETWEEN" function, a specific range of numbers can be specified for the random number to be generated within. With the proper use of these functions and formatting, Excel can easily generate random 4 digit numbers for various purposes.

Generate Random 4 Digit Numbers in Excel

You can use a two-step process to generate a random 4 digit number in Excel:

Step 1: Use RANDBETWEEN()

=RANDBETWEEN(0, 9999)

This will produce a random integer between 0 and 9,999 (.e.g perhaps the number 468).

Step 2: Use TEXT()

=TEXT(A1, "0000")

This will add leading zeros to the number if necessary to ensure that the number has 4 digits (e.g. this would turn 468 into 0468).

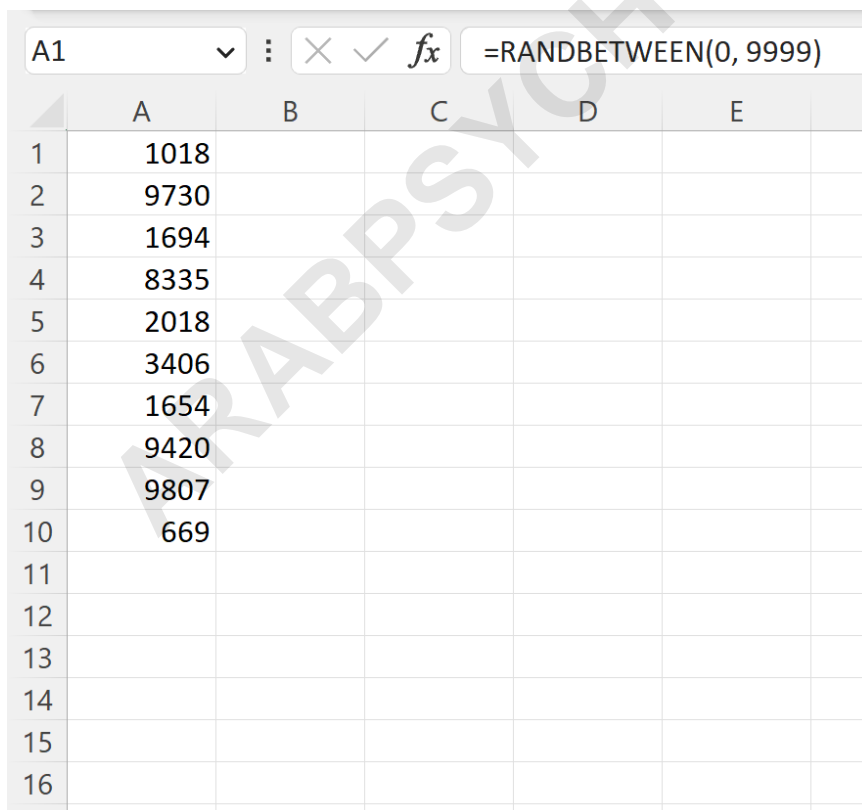
The following example shows how to generate a random 4 digit number in Excel in practice.

Example: How to Generate Random 4 Digit Number in Excel

First, let's type the following formula into cell A1 to generate a random integer between 0 and 9,999:

=RANDBETWEEN(0, 9999)

Next, we can drag this formula down to other cells in column A to generate several random 4 digit numbers:



The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet with the formula bar at the top displaying `=RANDBETWEEN(0, 9999)` in cell A1. The spreadsheet grid shows the following values in column A:

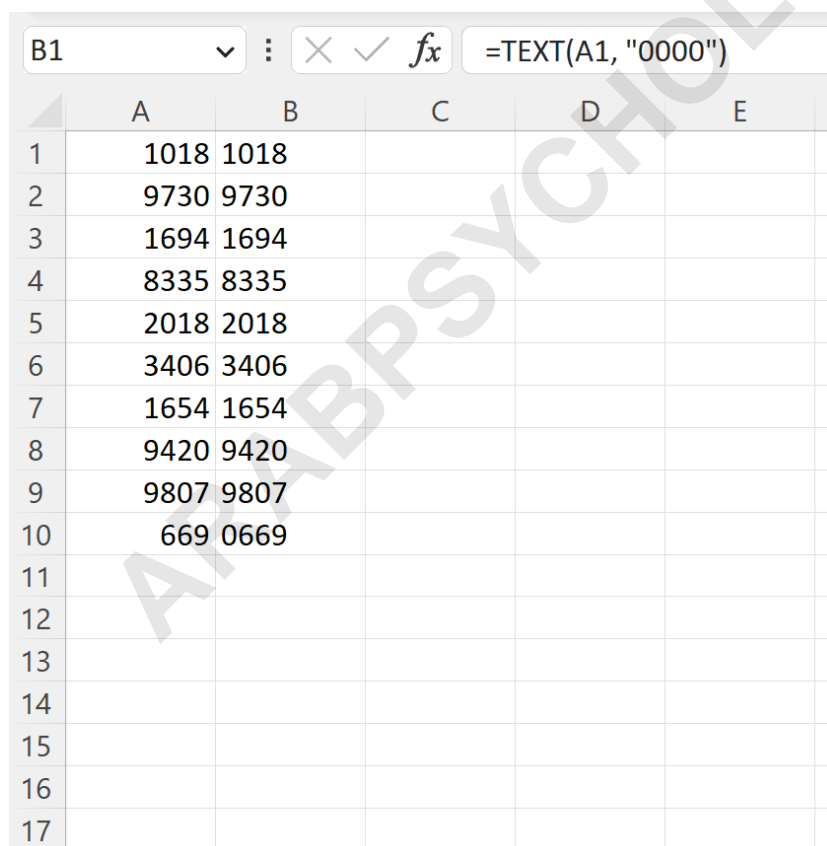
	A	B	C	D	E
1	1018				
2	9730				
3	1694				
4	8335				
5	2018				
6	3406				
7	1654				
8	9420				
9	9807				
10	669				
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					

Notice that each cell in column A contains a random integer between 0 and 9,999.

Also notice that the last cell in the column does not contain 4 digits.

To ensure that each cell in column A has 4 digits, we can type the following formula into cell B1:

=TEXT(A1, "0000")



	A	B	C	D	E
1	1018	1018			
2	9730	9730			
3	1694	1694			
4	8335	8335			
5	2018	2018			
6	3406	3406			
7	1654	1654			
8	9420	9420			
9	9807	9807			
10	669	0669			
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					

Each cell in column B now contains a random 4 digit

number.

Note that if you want to generate a random 4 digit number in a single step you can simply use the following formula:

=RANDBETWEEN(1000, 9999)

This will generate a random integer between 1,000 and 9,999.

The only drawback of this approach is that it won't be possible to have zero as the first digit.

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