

# How can I highlight the maximum value in each row in Excel?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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The process of highlighting the maximum value in each row in Excel involves identifying the largest value in each row and applying a visual indicator, such as a different font color or background fill, to draw attention to it. This can be done manually by visually scanning each row and selecting the maximum value, or by using Excel's built-in functions, such as MAX and Conditional Formatting, to automatically highlight the maximum value in each row. This allows for easier data analysis and identification of important information within a dataset.

## **Excel: Highlight Max Value in Each Row**

**Often you may want to highlight the cell with the max value in each row in Excel.**

**Fortunately this is easy to do using the New Rule feature within the Conditional Formatting options.**

**The following example shows how to do so.**

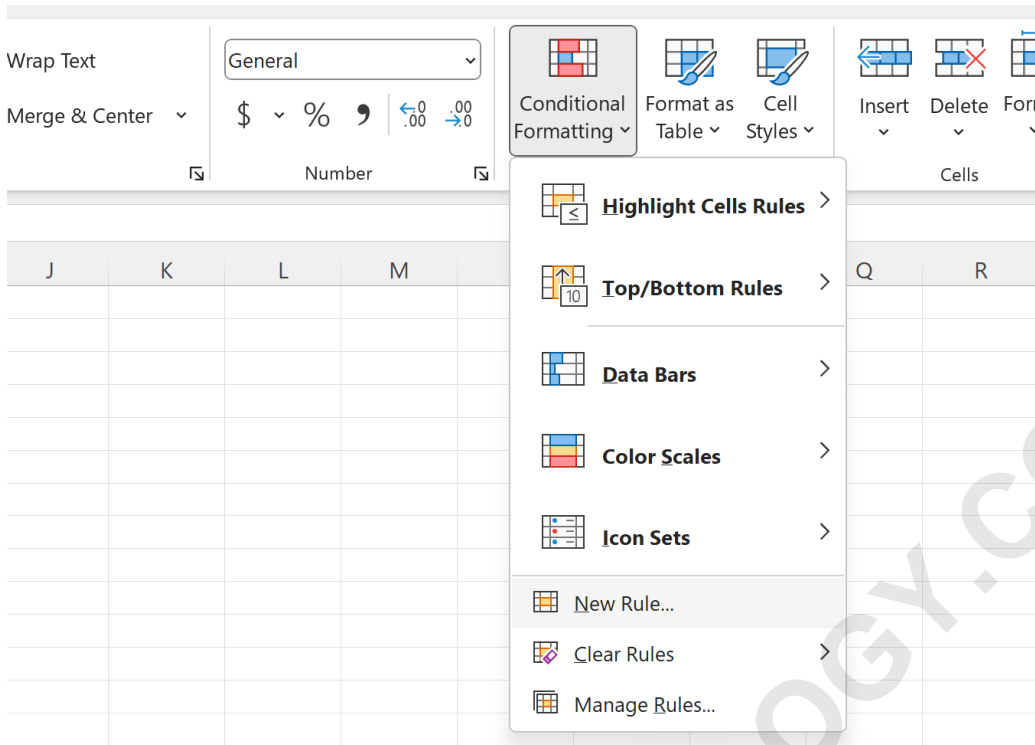
### **Example: Highlight Max Value in Each Row in Excel**

**Suppose we have the following dataset that shows the number of points scored during four different games by various basketball teams:**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	<b>Team</b>	<b>Game 1</b>	<b>Game 2</b>	<b>Game 3</b>	<b>Game 4</b>		
2	Mavs	99	104	84	119		
3	Spurs	104	104	113	117		
4	Rockets	110	109	95	118		
5	Kings	105	114	98	96		
6	Warriors	106	133	99	112		
7	Nets	112	123	103	110		
8	Lakers	115	119	140	109		
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
15							

**Suppose we would like to highlight the highest scoring game for each team.**

**To do so, we can highlight the cell range B2:E8 and then click the Conditional Formatting icon on the Home tab along the top ribbon, then click New Rule from the dropdown menu:**



**In the new window that appears, click Use a formula to determine which cells to format and then type the following formula in:**

**`=B2=MAX($B2:$E2)`**

**Then click the Format button and choose a color to use for the conditional formatting.**

**We'll choose light green:**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	<b>Team</b>	<b>Game 1</b>	<b>Game 2</b>	<b>Game 3</b>	<b>Game 4</b>				
2	Mavs	99	104	84	119				
3	Spurs	104	104	113	117				
4	Rockets	110	109	95	118				
5	Kings	105	114	98	96				
6	Warriors	106	122	90	112				
7	Nets								
8	Lakers								
9									
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New Formatting Rule

Select a Rule Type:

- ▶ Format all cells based on their values
- ▶ Format only cells that contain
- ▶ Format only top or bottom ranked values
- ▶ Format only values that are above or below average
- ▶ Format only unique or duplicate values
- ▶ Use a formula to determine which cells to format

Edit the Rule Description:

**Format values where this formula is true:**

=B2=MAX(\$B2:\$E2)

Preview: AaBbCcYyZz

Format...

OK Cancel

**Lastly, click OK.**

**The max value in each row will now be highlighted:**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	
1	Team	Game 1	Game 2	Game 3	Game 4		
2	Mavs	99	104	84	119		
3	Spurs	104	104	113	117		
4	Rockets	110	109	95	118		
5	Kings	105	114	98	96		
6	Warriors	106	133	99	112		
7	Nets	112	123	103	110		
8	Lakers	115	119	140	109		
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The following tutorials explain how to perform other common tasks in Excel: