

How can I ignore the #DIV/0! error when using division in Excel?

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June 30, 2024

RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *How can I ignore the #DIV/0! error when using division in Excel?*. PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=161795>

The #DIV/0! error in Excel occurs when attempting to divide a number by zero, which is mathematically impossible. This error can be avoided by using the IFERROR function in Excel, which allows the user to specify a value to be displayed instead of the error. By using this function, one can effectively ignore the #DIV/0! error and display a desired value or message instead. This feature can be useful when working with large datasets and performing calculations, as it prevents the interruption of the calculation process due to the #DIV/0! error. Using the IFERROR function can help improve efficiency and accuracy in Excel operations.

Ignore #DIV/0! When Using Division in Excel

In Excel, if you attempt to divide a value by zero you will receive #DIV/0! as a result.

You can use the following basic syntax to perform division while ignoring #DIV/0! values:

=IFERROR(A2/B2, "")

In this particular formula, we attempt to divide the value in cell A2 by the value in cell B2. If B2 happens to be a zero, we simply return a blank as a result.

The following examples show how to use this syntax in practice.

Example: Ignore #DIV/0 When Using Division in Excel

Suppose we attempt to divide the values in column A by the values in column B in this particular Excel

spreadsheet:

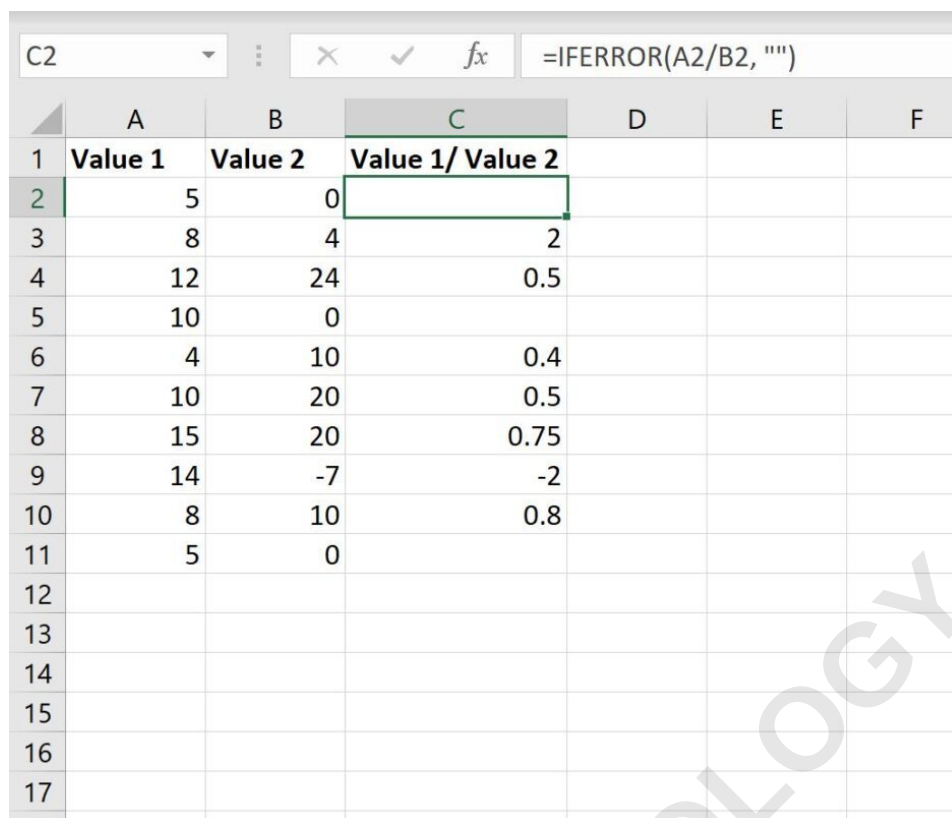
	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Value 1	Value 2	Value 1/ Value 2			
2	5	0	#DIV/0!			
3	8	4	2			
4	12	24	0.5			
5	10	0	#DIV/0!			
6	4	10	0.4			
7	10	20	0.5			
8	15	20	0.75			
9	14	-7	-2			
10	8	10	0.8			
11	5	0	#DIV/0!			
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						

Notice that for each cell in column C where we attempt to divide by zero, we receive #DIV/0! as a result.

To ignore this error, we can type the following formula into cell C2:

=IFERROR(A2/B2, "")

We can then copy and paste this formula down to every remaining cell in column C:



The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet with columns A through F. Column A is labeled 'Value 1' and column B is labeled 'Value 2'. Column C is labeled 'Value 1/ Value 2'. The formula bar at the top shows the formula `=IFERROR(A2/B2, "")` entered in cell C2. The spreadsheet data is as follows:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Value 1	Value 2	Value 1/ Value 2			
2	5	0				
3	8	4	2			
4	12	24	0.5			
5	10	0				
6	4	10	0.4			
7	10	20	0.5			
8	15	20	0.75			
9	14	-7	-2			
10	8	10	0.8			
11	5	0				
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						

Now for each cell in column C where we attempt to divide by zero, we simply receive a blank value as a result.

Note that we could also use the following formula to return a zero as a result instead:

`=IFERROR(A2/B2, 0)`

The following screenshot shows how to use this formula in practice:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Value 1	Value 2	Value 1/ Value 2			
2	5	0	0			
3	8	4	2			
4	12	24	0.5			
5	10	0	0			
6	4	10	0.4			
7	10	20	0.5			
8	15	20	0.75			
9	14	-7	-2			
10	8	10	0.8			
11	5	0	0			
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						

Now for each cell in column C where we attempt to divide by zero, we simply receive a zero as a result.

Or we could even return a custom message when attempting to divide by zero:

=IFERROR(A2/B2, "Tried to divide by zero")

The following screenshot shows how to use this formula in practice:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Value 1	Value 2	Value 1/ Value 2				
2	5	0	Tried to divide by zero				
3	8	4	2				
4	12	24	0.5				
5	10	0	Tried to divide by zero				
6	4	10	0.4				
7	10	20	0.5				
8	15	20	0.75				
9	14	-7	-2				
10	8	10	0.8				
11	5	0	Tried to divide by zero				
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							

Now for each cell in column C where we attempt to divide by zero, we simply receive "Tried to divide by zero" as a result.

Additional Resources

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