

# How can I import Excel files into SAS with an example?

Authored by  
**stats writer**

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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SAS (Statistical Analysis System) is a powerful software used for data analysis and statistical modeling. One way to input data into SAS is by importing Excel files. This process allows users to easily transfer data from an Excel spreadsheet into SAS for further analysis.

To import an Excel file into SAS, the first step is to open the SAS program and create a new data set. Then, go to the "File" menu and select "Import Data". From the options, choose "Excel" as the file type. Next, select the Excel file you want to import and click "Open". A window will appear, allowing you to customize the import settings such as the sheet and range of data to be imported.

For example, let's say we have an Excel file containing sales data for a company. We want to import this data into SAS to analyze the sales trends. Using the steps mentioned above, we import the Excel file into SAS. The data is now available in SAS and can be used for analysis, such as creating charts, tables, and performing statistical tests.

In summary, importing Excel files into SAS is a simple and efficient way to transfer data for analysis. It allows for a seamless integration between the two software and provides users with a variety of options to customize the import process.

## Import Excel Files into SAS (With Example)

**You can use proc import to quickly import data from an Excel file into SAS.**

**This procedure uses the following basic syntax:**

```
/*import data from Excel file called my_data.xlsx*/  
proc import out=my_data  
datafile="/home/u13181/my_data.xlsx"  
dbms=xlsx  
replace;  
getnames=YES;  
run;
```

## Here's what each line does:

**out:** Name to give dataset once imported into SAS  
**datafile:** Location of Excel file to import  
**dbms:** Format of file being imported  
**replace:** Replace the file if it already exists  
**getnames:** Use first row as variable names (Set to NO if first row does not contain variable names)

The following example shows how to use this function in practice.

Example: Import Data from Excel File into SAS

Suppose we have the following dataset in Excel:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	A	B	C			
2		1	4	76		
3		2	3	49		
4		2	3	85		
5		4	5	88		
6		2	2	90		
7		4	6	78		
8		5	9	80		
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						

**We can use the following code to import this dataset into SAS and call it new\_data:**

```
/*import data from Excel file called my_data.xlsx*/  
proc import out=new_data  
datafile="/home/u13181/my_data.xlsx"  
dbms=xlsx  
replace;  
getnames=YES;  
run;
```

```
/*view dataset*/proc printdata=new_data;
```

Obs	A	B	C
1	1	4	76
2	2	3	49
3	2	3	85
4	4	5	88
5	2	2	90
6	4	6	78
7	5	9	80

The data shown in the SAS output matches the data shown in the Excel file.

**Note:** We used `getnames=YES` when importing the file since the first row of the Excel file contained variable names.

#### Additional Resources

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