

# How can I remove duplicate rows in Excel based on one column?

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June 22, 2024

## RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *How can I remove duplicate rows in Excel based on one column?*. PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=146445>

Removing duplicate rows in Excel can be achieved by using the "Remove Duplicates" function. This function allows you to select a specific column and remove any duplicate rows based on the values in that column. This is useful when you have a large dataset and want to eliminate any redundant information. Simply select the column that you want to check for duplicates, go to the "Data" tab, and click on "Remove Duplicates". This will automatically remove any duplicate rows, leaving you with a clean and organized dataset. This function can save time and improve data accuracy, making it a valuable tool for data management in Excel.

## **Excel: Remove Duplicate Rows Based on One Column**

**Often you may want to remove duplicate rows based on one column in Excel.**

**Fortunately this is easy to do using the Remove Duplicates function within the Data tab.**

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

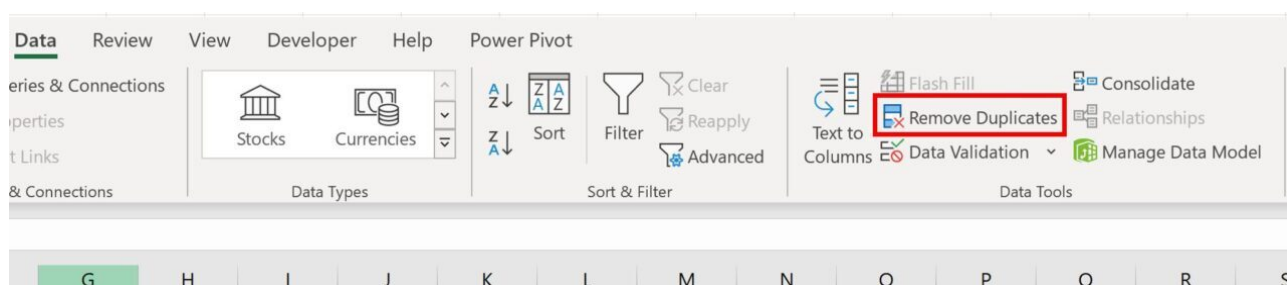
**Example: Remove Duplicates Based on One Column in Excel**

**Suppose we have the following dataset in Excel that contains information about various basketball players:**

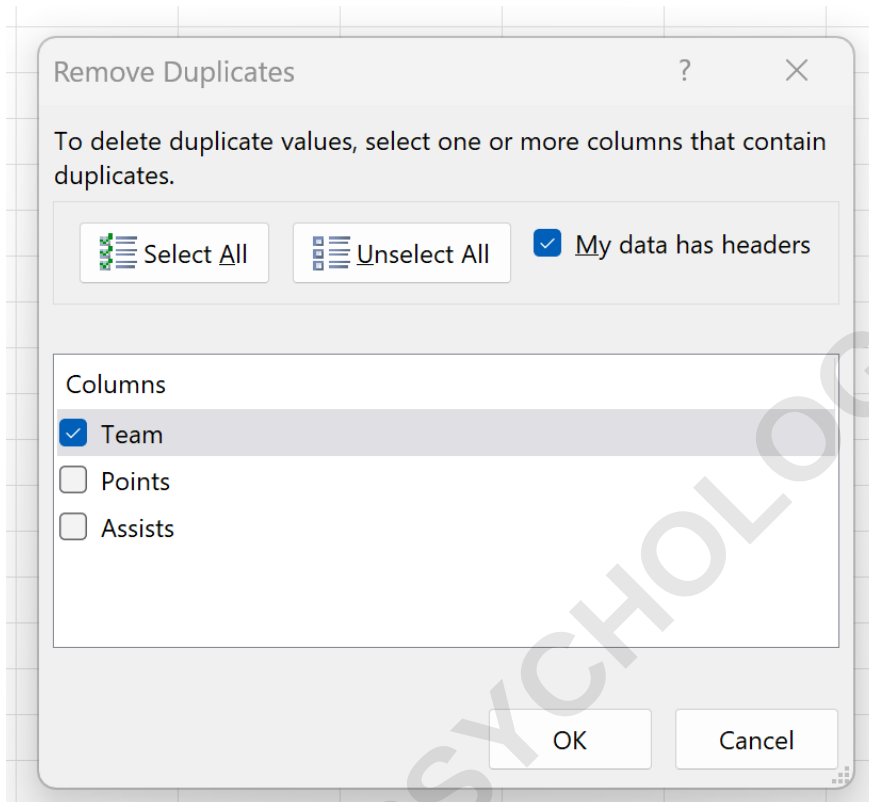
|    | A           | B             | C              | D | E |
|----|-------------|---------------|----------------|---|---|
| 1  | <b>Team</b> | <b>Points</b> | <b>Assists</b> |   |   |
| 2  | Mavs        | 22            | 7              |   |   |
| 3  | Mavs        | 19            | 6              |   |   |
| 4  | Mavs        | 14            | 6              |   |   |
| 5  | Spurs       | 18            | 4              |   |   |
| 6  | Rockets     | 30            | 8              |   |   |
| 7  | Spurs       | 35            | 9              |   |   |
| 8  | Mavs        | 28            | 12             |   |   |
| 9  | Spurs       | 24            | 5              |   |   |
| 10 | Spurs       | 22            | 4              |   |   |
| 11 | Rockets     | 14            | 10             |   |   |
| 12 |             |               |                |   |   |
| 13 |             |               |                |   |   |
| 14 |             |               |                |   |   |
| 15 |             |               |                |   |   |

Notice that there are several duplicate values in the Team column.

To remove rows that have duplicate values in the Team column, highlight the cell range A1:C11 and then click the Data tab along the top ribbon and then click Remove Duplicates:



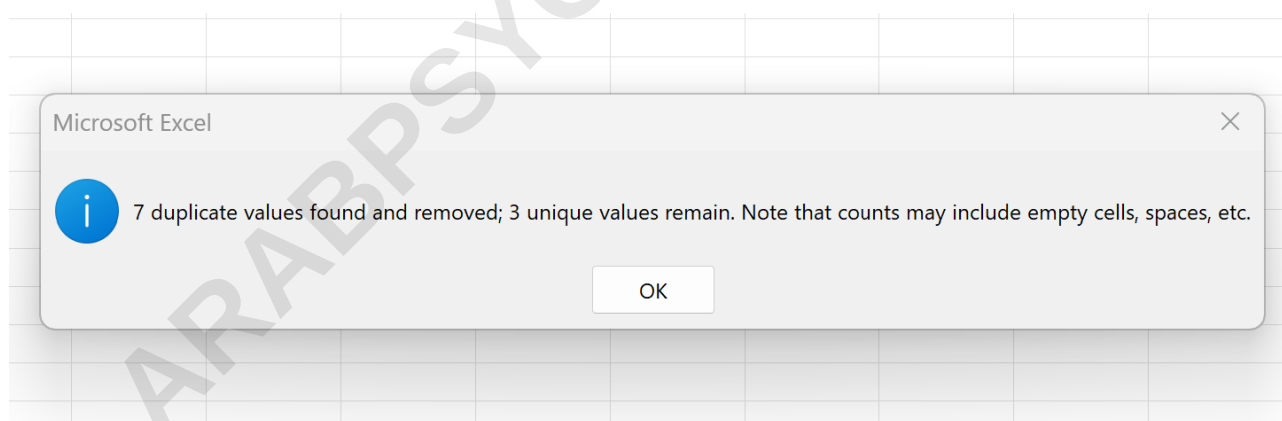
**In the new window that appears, make sure the box is checked next to My data has headers and make sure that only the box next to Team is checked:**



**Once you click OK, the rows with duplicate values in the Team column will automatically be removed:**

|    | A           | B             | C              | D | E |
|----|-------------|---------------|----------------|---|---|
| 1  | <b>Team</b> | <b>Points</b> | <b>Assists</b> |   |   |
| 2  | Mavs        | 22            | 7              |   |   |
| 3  | Spurs       | 18            | 4              |   |   |
| 4  | Rockets     | 30            | 8              |   |   |
| 5  |             |               |                |   |   |
| 6  |             |               |                |   |   |
| 7  |             |               |                |   |   |
| 8  |             |               |                |   |   |
| 9  |             |               |                |   |   |
| 10 |             |               |                |   |   |
| 11 |             |               |                |   |   |
| 12 |             |               |                |   |   |
| 13 |             |               |                |   |   |

Excel tells us that 7 duplicate rows were found and removed and that 3 unique rows remain.



Notice that none of the remaining rows have duplicate values in the Team column.

For example:

The row with Mavs, 22 points and 7 assists is the first row in the dataset with "Mavs" in the Team column. The row with Spurs, 18 points and 4 assists is the first row in the dataset with "Spurs" in the Team column.

And so on.

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

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