

How can I remove duplicates in Excel while keeping the row with the highest value?

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The process of removing duplicates in Excel while retaining the row with the highest value involves identifying and eliminating duplicate entries in a spreadsheet, while ensuring that the row with the highest value is preserved. This can be achieved by using the "Remove Duplicates" function and selecting the column with the highest value as the key column. This will automatically remove duplicate entries while keeping the row with the highest value intact. This method is useful for organizing and streamlining data in Excel sheets, ensuring accuracy and efficiency in data management.

Excel: Remove Duplicates but Keep Row with Max Value

Often you may want to remove duplicate rows in Excel but keep the row that contains the max value in a particular column.

For example, suppose you have the following dataset that contains information about various basketball players and you'd like to remove rows with duplicate values in the Team column but keep the row with the max value in the Points column:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Team	Points				
2	Mavs	20				
3	Mavs	24				
4	Mavs	28				
5	Spurs	30				
6	Spurs	14				
7	Spurs	19				
8	Rockets	29				
9	Rockets	40				
10	Rockets	22				
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						

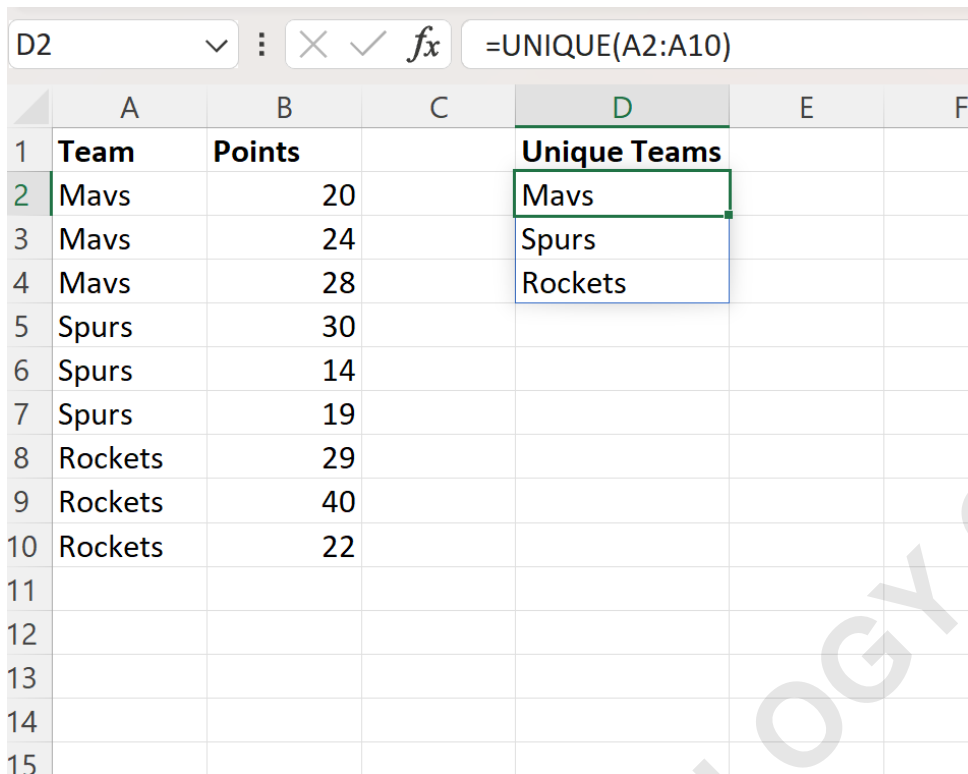
The following example shows exactly how to do so.

Example: Remove Duplicates but Keep Row with Max Value in Excel

First, type the following formula into cell D2:

=UNIQUE(A2:A10)

This produces a list of unique team names from the dataset:



The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet with the following data:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Team	Points		Unique Teams		
2	Mavs	20		Mavs		
3	Mavs	24		Spurs		
4	Mavs	28		Rockets		
5	Spurs	30				
6	Spurs	14				
7	Spurs	19				
8	Rockets	29				
9	Rockets	40				
10	Rockets	22				
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						

The formula bar at the top shows the formula `=UNIQUE(A2:A10)` entered in cell D2.

Next, type the following formula into cell E2 to find the max value in the points column associated with each unique team name:

`=MAX(IF(A2:A10=D2,B2:B10))`

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

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Team	Points		Unique Teams	Max Points	
2	Mavs	20		Mavs	28	
3	Mavs	24		Spurs	30	
4	Mavs	28		Rockets	40	
5	Spurs	30				
6	Spurs	14				
7	Spurs	19				
8	Rockets	29				
9	Rockets	40				
10	Rockets	22				
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						

This is the one row that is kept among the "Mavs" rows in the filtered dataset.

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