

# How can I remove the first character from a string in VBA?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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To remove the first character from a string in VBA, one can use the built-in function "Mid" and specify the starting position as 2 to exclude the first character. This will return a new string without the first character. Alternatively, the "Right" function can also be used by specifying the number of characters to extract as the length of the string minus 1. Both methods will effectively remove the first character from the original string in VBA.

## VBA: Remove First Character from String

You can use the following basic syntax to remove the first character from a string using VBA:

```
Sub RemoveFirstChar()
```

```
Dim i As Integer
```

```
Dim myString As String
```

```
For i = 2 To 11
```

```
myString = Range("A" & i)
```

```
Range("B" & i) = Right(myString, Len(myString) - 1)
```

```
Next i
```

```
End Sub
```

This particular example removes the first character from each string in the range A2:A11 and outputs the results in the range B2:B11.

The following example shows how to use this syntax in

## practice.

### Example: Using VBA to Remove First Character from Strings

Suppose we have the following list of basketball team names in Excel:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	<b>Team</b>					
2	Mavericks					
3	Pacers					
4	Bucks					
5	Wizards					
6	Celtics					
7	Kings					
8	Nets					
9	Spurs					
10	Rockets					
11	Heat					
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						

Suppose we would like to remove the first character from each team name.

We can create the following macro to do so:

## **Sub RemoveFirstChar()**

**Dim i As Integer**

**Dim myString As String**

**For i = 2 To 11**

**myString = Range("A" & i)**

**Range("B" & i) = Right(myString, Len(myString) - 1)**

**Next i**

**End Sub**

**When we run this macro, we receive the following output:**

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	<b>Team</b>					
2	Mavericks	avericks				
3	Pacers	acers				
4	Bucks	ucks				
5	Wizards	izards				
6	Celtics	eltics				
7	Kings	ings				
8	Nets	ets				
9	Spurs	purs				
10	Rockets	ockets				
11	Heat	eat				
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						

**Column B displays each of the strings in column A with the first character removed.**

**If you would instead like to remove the first n characters from a string, simply change the 1 in the Right method to a different number.**

**For example, we can create the following macro to remove the first 2 characters from a string:**

**Sub RemoveFirstTwoChar()**

**Dim i As Integer**

## Dim myString As String

For i = 2 To 11

myString = Range("A" & i)

Range("B" & i) = Left(myString, Len(myString) - 2)

Next i

End Sub

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	<b>Team</b>					
2	Mavericks	vericks				
3	Pacers	cers				
4	Bucks	cks				
5	Wizards	zards				
6	Celtics	ltics				
7	Kings	ngs				
8	Nets	ts				
9	Spurs	urs				
10	Rockets	ckets				
11	Heat	at				
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						

**Column B displays each of the strings in column A with the first two characters removed.**

**Note: You can find the complete documentation for the VBA Right method .**

**The following tutorials explain how to perform other common tasks using VBA:**

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