

How can I replace commas with line breaks in Excel?

Authored by
stats writer

June 23, 2024

RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *How can I replace commas with line breaks in Excel?*.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=147653>

Replacing commas with line breaks in Excel can be done easily using the "Find and Replace" function. To do so, first select the range of cells where you want to replace the commas with line breaks. Then, press "Ctrl + H" to open the "Find and Replace" dialog box. In the "Find what" field, enter a comma (",") and leave the "Replace with" field blank. Now, click on the "Options" button and select "Replace All" under "Search". This will replace all the commas with line breaks in the selected cells. This method is useful for separating data in different cells into individual lines for better readability and organization.

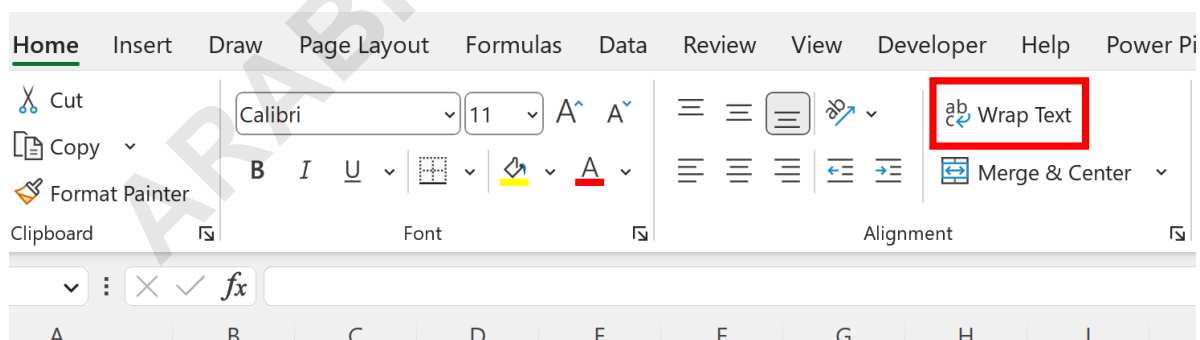
Excel: Replace Commas with Line Breaks

You can use the following two-step process to replace commas with line breaks in Excel:

Step 1: Use SUBSTITUTE Formula

=SUBSTITUTE(A2,",",CHAR(10))

Step 2: Turn on Wrap Text



The following example shows how to replace commas with line breaks in Excel in practice.

Example: Replace Commas with Line Breaks in Excel

Suppose we have the following column in Excel that contains the team name, position and points scored by 10 different basketball players:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Player Info				
2	Hawks, Guard, 22				
3	Mavs, Forward, 33				
4	Kings, Center, 19				
5	Nets, Forward, 35				
6	Rockets, Guard, 14				
7	Blazers, Forward, 25				
8	Wizards, Center, 33				
9	Celtics, Guard, 14				
10	Grizzlies, Center, 12				
11	Nuggets, Forward, 24				
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					

Suppose we would like to replace the commas in each cell with line breaks instead.

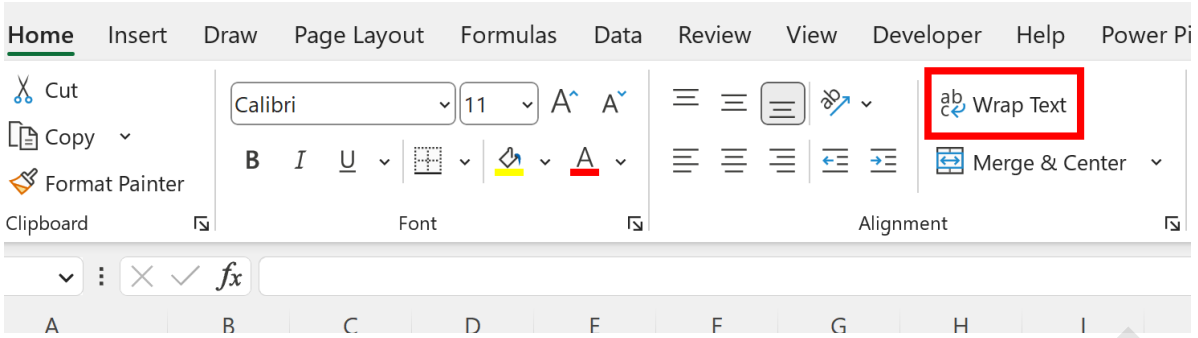
To do so, we can type the following formula into cell B2:

=SUBSTITUTE(A2,",",CHAR(10))

We can then click and drag this formula down to each remaining cell in column B:

	A	B	C	D
1	Player Info	Player Info with Line Breaks		
2	Hawks, Guard, 22	Hawks Guard 22		
3	Mavs, Forward, 33	Mavs Forward 33		
4	Kings, Center, 19	Kings Center 19		
5	Nets, Forward, 35	Nets Forward 35		
6	Rockets, Guard, 14	Rockets Guard 14		
7	Blazers, Forward, 25	Blazers Forward 25		
8	Wizards, Center, 33	Wizards Center 33		
9	Celtics, Guard, 14	Celtics Guard 14		
10	Grizzlies, Center, 12	Grizzlies Center 12		
11	Nuggets, Forward, 24	Nuggets Forward 24		
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				

Next, highlight the cell range B2:B11 and then click the Wrap Text icon in the Alignment group on the Home tab:



The cells in the range B2:B11 will be formatted with line breaks:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Player Info	Player Info with Line Breaks			
2	Hawks, Guard, 22	Hawks Guard 22			
3	Mavs, Forward, 33	Mavs Forward 33			
4	Kings, Center, 19	Kings Center 19			
5	Nets, Forward, 35	Nets Forward 35			
6	Rockets, Guard, 14	Rockets Guard 14			
7	Blazers, Forward, 25	Blazers Forward 25			
8	Wizards, Center, 33	Wizards Center 33			
9	Celtics, Guard, 14	Celtics Guard 14			
10	Grizzlies, Center, 12	Grizzlies Center 12			
11	Nuggets, Forward, 24	Nuggets Forward 24			
12					

Note that the Wrap Text feature in Excel is used to display all of the text in a given cell without letting it overflow to other cells.

We used the SUBSTITUTE function to replace commas with line breaks, but in order to visualize these line breaks we had to turn on Wrap Text so that Excel displayed the text in each cell with multiple lines.

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