

How can I sort data in Google Sheets?

Authored by
stats writer

June 29, 2024

RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *How can I sort data in Google Sheets?*. PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES.
Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=158236>

Sorting data in Google Sheets is a simple and efficient way to organize and analyze large amounts of information. To sort data in Google Sheets, first select the range of cells that you want to sort. Then, click on the "Data" tab and select "Sort Range" from the drop-down menu. A new window will appear, allowing you to choose the column to sort by, the sorting order (ascending or descending), and any additional criteria. Once you have made your selections, click "Sort" and your data will be automatically rearranged according to your chosen criteria. This feature is particularly useful for arranging data in a specific order or for quickly finding the highest or lowest values within a dataset. By utilizing the sorting function in Google Sheets, you can easily manipulate and organize your data to suit your needs.

SORTN

Returns the first *n* items in a data set after performing a sort.

Sample Usage

```
SORTN(A1:A10, 2)
```

```
SORTN(A2:C20, 2, 2, B2:B20, TRUE)
```

```
SORTN(A2:C20, 2, 3, B2:B20, TRUE, 3, FALSE)
```

Syntax

```
SORTN(range, , , , ...)
```

range - The data to be sorted to find the first *n* items.
n - The number of items to return. Must be greater than 0.
display_ties_mode - A number representing the way to display ties.

0: Show at most the first *n* rows in the sorted range.
1: Show at most the first *n* rows, plus any additional rows that are identical to the *n*th row.
2: Show at most the first *n* rows after removing duplicate rows.
3: Show at most the first *n* unique rows, but show every duplicate of these rows.

sort_column1 - - The index of the column in *range* or a range outside of *range* containing the values to sort by. A range specified as a *sort_column1* must be a single column with the same number of rows as *range*.

is_ascending1 - - TRUE or FALSE indicates how to sort *sort_column1*. TRUE sorts in ascending order. FALSE sorts in descending order.
sort_column2, is_ascending2, ... - - Additional columns and sort order flags used if a tie happens, in order of precedence.

Notes

`range` is sorted *only* by the specified columns. Other columns are returned in the order they originally appear. If `sort_column1` and `is_ascending1` aren't included, the sort is performed on the lowest-index column in `range`, with subsequent columns used to sort if there are ties.

See Also

SORT: Sorts the rows of a given array or range by the values in one or more columns. **FILTER**: Returns a filtered version of the source range, returning only rows or columns that meet the specified conditions. **MAX**: Returns the maximum value in a numeric dataset. **INDEX**: Returns the content of a cell, specified by row and column offset. **LARGE**: Returns the *n*th largest element from a data set, where *n* is user-defined.

Examples

The following table is used for the examples below.

	A	B	C
1	Student	Test 1 score	Test 2 score
2	Alice	100	90
3	Bob	75	85
4	Carol	80	85
5	Devon	100	95
6	Eloise	80	90

Formula	Result
=SORTN(A2:C6)	Alice 100 90
=SORTN(A2:C6, 2)	Alice 100 90 Bob 75 85
=SORTN(A2:C6, 3, 0, B2:B6, FALSE)	Alice 100 90 Devon 100 95 Carol 80 85
=SORTN(A2:C6, 3, 1, B2:B6, FALSE)	Alice 100 90 Devon 100 95 Carol 80 85 Eloise 80 90

=SORTN(A2:C6, 3, 2, B2:B6, FALSE)	Alice 100 90 Carol 80 85 Bob 75 85
=SORTN(A2:C6, 3, 3, B2:B6, FALSE)	Alice 100 90 Devon 100 95 Carol 80 85 Eloise 80 90 Bob 75 85
=SORTN(A2:C6, 3, 3, 2, FALSE, 3, FALSE)	Devon 100 95 Alice 100 90 Eloise 80 90

ARABPSYCHOLOGY.COM