

How can I sort values alphabetically in VBA?

Authored by
stats writer

June 24, 2024

RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *How can I sort values alphabetically in VBA?*. PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=150797>

Sorting values alphabetically in VBA involves using the built-in "Sort" function to organize data in ascending or descending order based on the selected column or range. This function can be applied to any type of data, such as numbers, letters, or dates, and allows for customization of the sorting criteria. By using this function, the user can efficiently organize their data and make it easier to analyze and manage in their VBA program.

VBA: Sort Values Alphabetically

You can use the following basic syntax in VBA to sort the values in a range alphabetically:

```
Sub SortAlphabetical()  
Range("A1:B11").Sort Key1:=Range("A1"),  
Order1:=xlAscending, Header:=xlYes  
End Sub
```

This particular example sorts the rows in the range A1:B11 by the values in column A in alphabetical order (from A to Z).

If you'd like to sort the values in reverse alphabetical order (from Z to A) then you can specify `Order1:=xlDescending` instead.

Note that `Header:=xlYes` specifies that the first row should be treated as a header row.

The following example shows how to use this syntax in practice.

Example: Sort Values Alphabetically Using VBA

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

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Team	Points				
2	Hawks	22				
3	Heat	19				
4	Mavericks	14				
5	Kings	15				
6	Blazers	20				
7	Pelicans	40				
8	Celtics	34				
9	Hornets	38				
10	Lakers	22				
11	Warriors	29				
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						

Suppose we would like to sort the rows based on team name in alphabetical order.

We can create the following macro to do so:

Sub SortAlphabetical()

```
Range("A1:B11").Sort Key1:=Range("A1"),  
Order1:=xlAscending, Header:=xlYes  
End Sub
```

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

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Team	Points				
2	Blazers	20				
3	Celtics	34				
4	Hawks	22				
5	Heat	19				
6	Hornets	38				
7	Kings	15				
8	Lakers	22				
9	Mavericks	14				
10	Pelicans	40				
11	Warriors	29				
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						

The rows are now sorted by team name in alphabetical order (from A to Z).

To instead sort the rows in reverse alphabetical order (from Z to A) we can specify Order1:=xlDescending:

Sub SortAlphabetical()

```
Range("A1:B11").Sort Key1:=Range("A1"),  
Order1:=xlDescending, Header:=xlYes  
End Sub
```

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Team	Points				
2	Warriors	29				
3	Pelicans	40				
4	Mavericks	14				
5	Lakers	22				
6	Kings	15				
7	Hornets	38				
8	Heat	19				
9	Hawks	22				
10	Celtics	34				
11	Blazers	20				
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						

The rows are now sorted by team name in reverse alphabetical order (from Z to A).

Note #1: In this example we sorted by one column. However, you can specify more Keys to sort by multiple columns.

Note #2: You can find the complete documentation for the VBA Sort method .

ARABPSYCHOLOGY.COM