How can I use Excel to find the first value that is greater than a specific number in a given set of data?

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Excel is a powerful tool that can be used to efficiently analyze and manipulate large sets of data. One useful function of Excel is its ability to find the first value that is greater than a specific number within a given set of data. This feature can be particularly beneficial when working with large datasets, as it allows for quick identification of relevant information. By utilizing Excel's search and filter functions, users can easily locate the first value that meets the specified criteria, saving time and effort in the data analysis process. This feature is especially useful for tasks such as identifying the first instance of a certain threshold being surpassed or finding the earliest date when a certain condition was met. Overall, Excel's ability to find the first value that is greater than a specific number provides a valuable tool for efficient and accurate data analysis.

Excel: Find First Value Greater than Specific Number

You can use the following formula in Excel to find the first value in a column greater than a specific number:

=INDEX(B2:B11,MATCH(TRUE,INDEX(B2:B11>20,0),))

This particular formula finds the first value in the range B2:B11 with a value greater than 20 and returns the value.

To find the first value greater than a different specific number, simply change the 20 in the formula to a different number.

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

Example: Find First Value Greater than Number in Excel

Suppose we have the following dataset in Excel that shows the number of points scored by basketball players on various teams:

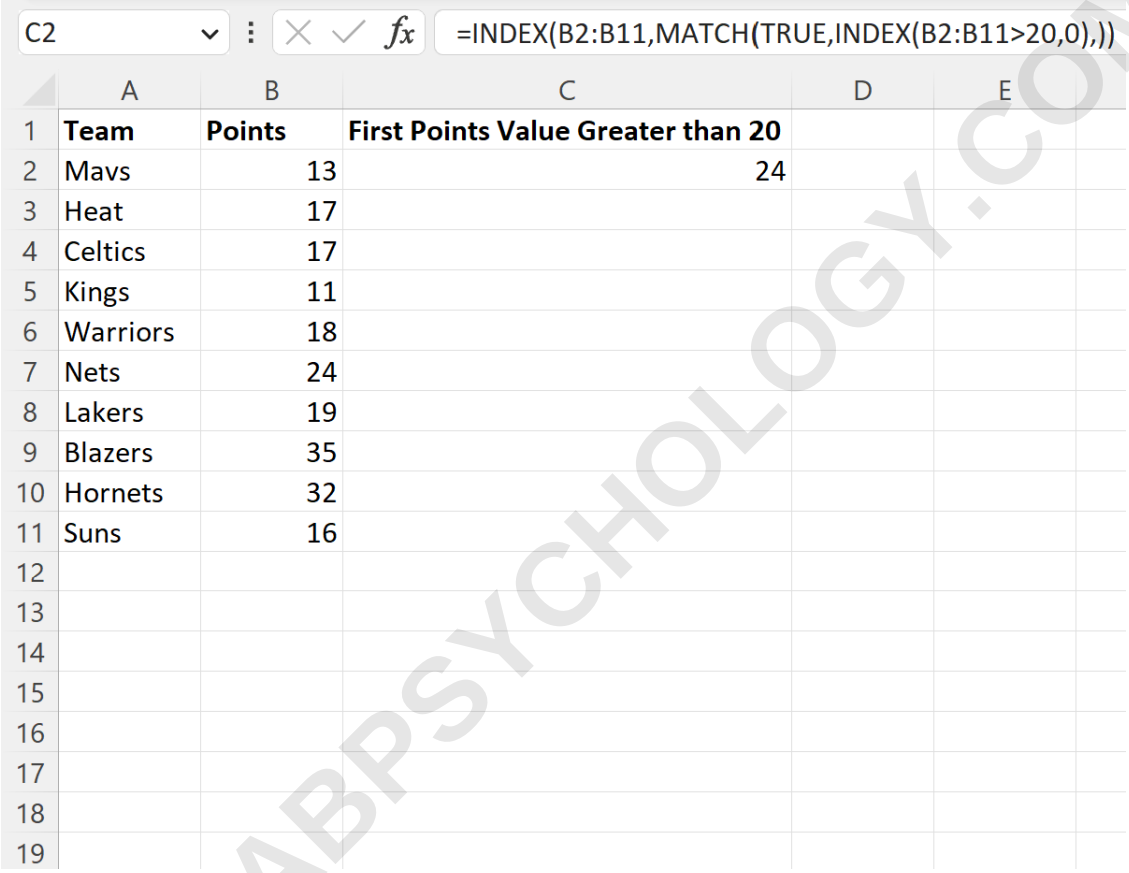
	A	B	C	D	E
1	**Team**	**Points**			
2	Mavs	13			
3	Heat	17			
4	Celtics	17			
5	Kings	11			
6	Warriors	18			
7	Nets	24			
8	Lakers	19			
9	Blazers	35			
10	Hornets	32			
11	Suns	16			
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					

Suppose we would like to find the first value in the Points column that is greater than 20.

We can type the following formula into cell C2 to find this value:

=INDEX(B2:B11,MATCH(TRUE,INDEX(B2:B11>20,0),))

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



C2 =INDEX(B2:B11,MATCH(TRUE,INDEX(B2:B11>20,0),))

	A	B	C	D	E
1	**Team**	**Points**	**First Points Value Greater than 20**		
2	Mavs	13	24		
3	Heat	17			
4	Celtics	17			
5	Kings	11			
6	Warriors	18			
7	Nets	24			
8	Lakers	19			
9	Blazers	35			
10	Hornets	32			
11	Suns	16			
12					
13					
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17					
18					
19					

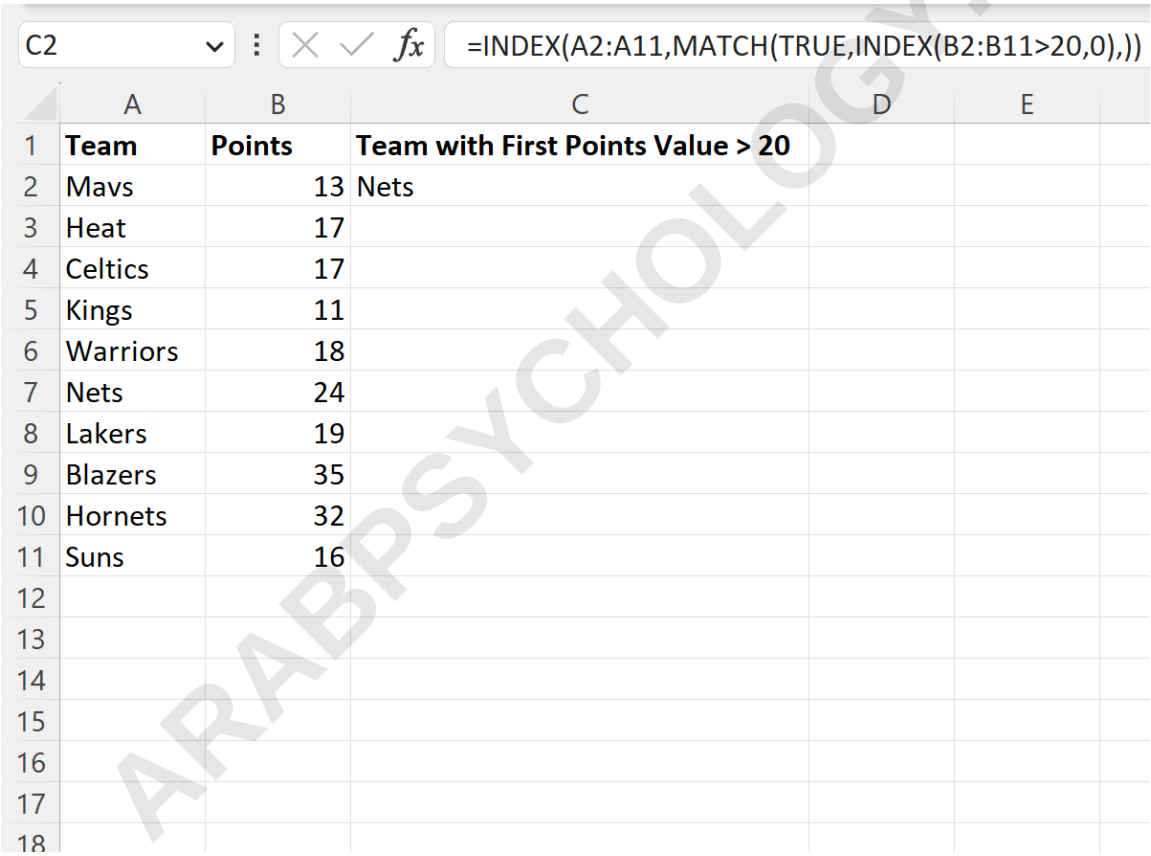
The formula returns a value of 24, which is the first value in the Points column that is greater than 20.

Note that if you would instead like to return the name in the Team column that corresponds to the first value in the Points column with a value greater than 20, you can

simply change the first range in the formula from B2:B11 to A2:A11:

=INDEX(A2:A11,MATCH(TRUE,INDEX(B2:B11>20,0),))

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



The formula now returns a value of "Nets", which represents the first team with a points value greater than 20.

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