

How can I use Excel to find unique values in non-adjacent columns?

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Excel is a powerful tool that can be used to find unique values in non-adjacent columns. This feature is particularly useful in situations where data is spread out across multiple columns and you need to quickly identify and extract the unique values. By using the "Advanced Filter" function in Excel, you can easily specify the non-adjacent columns and filter out the duplicate values, leaving only the unique values visible. This allows for efficient data analysis and organization, saving time and effort for the user. With its user-friendly interface and advanced functions, Excel provides a convenient solution for finding unique values in non-adjacent columns.

Excel: Find Unique Values in Non-Adjacent Columns

You can use the following formula to find unique values in non-adjacent columns in Excel:

```
=SORT(UNIQUE(FILTER(A1:C11,{1,0,1})))
```

This particular formula returns the unique combinations of values in the range A1:C11 for columns A and C only.

Note that the values in the curly brackets indicate which columns to include when finding unique values.

The number 1 specifies to include a column while 0 specifies to exclude it.

For example:

The first 1 indicates that column A should be included. The 0 indicates that column B should be

excluded. The second 1 indicates that column C should be included.

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

Example: Find Unique Values in Non-Adjacent Columns in Excel

Suppose we have the following dataset that contains information about basketball players on various teams:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Team	Points	Position		
2	Mavs	24	Guard		
3	Mavs	33	Center		
4	Mavs	39	Forward		
5	Mavs	40	Forward		
6	Rockets	25	Center		
7	Rockets	20	Guard		
8	Rockets	24	Guard		
9	Spurs	18	Forward		
10	Spurs	14	Center		
11	Spurs	16	Center		
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					

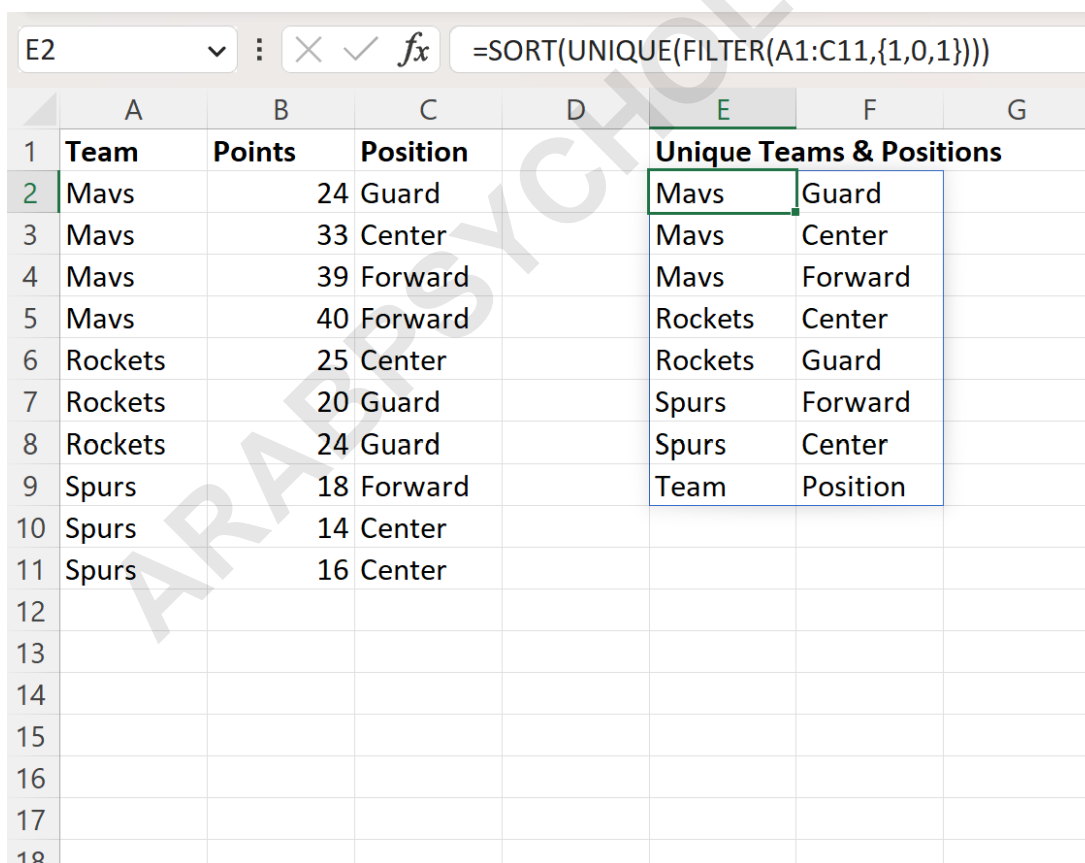
Suppose we would like to find the unique combinations of teams and positions.

Since the team and position columns are not directly next to each other, we can't simply use the UNIQUE function.

Instead, we must use the following formula:

=SORT(UNIQUE(FILTER(A1:C11,{1,0,1})))

We can type this formula into cell D2 and then press Enter:



The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet with the following data:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Team	Points	Position		Unique Teams & Positions		
2	Mavs	24	Guard		Mavs	Guard	
3	Mavs	33	Center		Mavs	Center	
4	Mavs	39	Forward		Mavs	Forward	
5	Mavs	40	Forward		Rockets	Center	
6	Rockets	25	Center		Rockets	Guard	
7	Rockets	20	Guard		Spurs	Forward	
8	Rockets	24	Guard		Spurs	Center	
9	Spurs	18	Forward		Team	Position	
10	Spurs	14	Center				
11	Spurs	16	Center				
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							

Note that in this example we only used two non-

adjacent columns but you can include as many non-adjacent columns as you'd like by using more 1's and 0's in the formula.

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

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