

How can I use Excel to get the fiscal year from a given date?

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Excel is a powerful spreadsheet software that allows users to manipulate and analyze data in a variety of ways. One useful feature of Excel is the ability to extract the fiscal year from a given date. This can be done by utilizing the built-in functions and formulas in Excel. By inputting a date, Excel can calculate and display the corresponding fiscal year, taking into account the specific start and end dates of the fiscal year. This functionality is particularly useful for financial analysis and budgeting purposes, as it allows for easy organization and tracking of data based on fiscal years. Overall, using Excel to obtain the fiscal year from a given date is a simple and efficient way to manage and analyze financial data.

Excel: Get Fiscal Year from a Date

A fiscal year is a 12-month period used by companies for accounting purposes.

Sometimes a fiscal year is measured from the beginning of January to the end of December, which matches a calendar year.

However, sometimes companies use a different rolling 12-month period as their fiscal year.

For example, sometimes a fiscal year ranges from the beginning of April to the end of March.

To extract a fiscal year from a date in Excel, you can use the following formula:

=IF(MONTH(A2)>3, YEAR(A2), YEAR(A2)-1)

This particular formula extracts the fiscal year from the date in cell A2 and assumes that the fiscal year ends on the last day of March (the third month of the year).

To use a different ending month, simply change the 3 in the formula to a different value.

For example, if the fiscal year ends on the last day of October then use a 10 instead since this is the 10th month of the year.

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

Example: Get Fiscal Year from Date in Excel

Suppose we have the following column of dates in Excel:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date				
2	1/1/2023				
3	1/15/2023				
4	2/22/2023				
5	3/27/2023				
6	4/19/2023				
7	5/10/2023				
8	6/1/2023				
9	7/1/2023				
10	8/22/2023				
11	9/10/2023				
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					

Let's assume that this particular company uses a fiscal year that starts on the first day of April and ends on the last day of March.

We can type the following formula into cell B2 to get the fiscal year for the date in cell A2:

=IF(MONTH(A2)>3, YEAR(A2), YEAR(A2)-1)

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

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Date	Fiscal Year					
2	1/1/2023	2022					
3	1/15/2023	2022					
4	2/22/2023	2022					
5	3/27/2023	2022					
6	4/19/2023	2023					
7	5/10/2023	2023					
8	6/1/2023	2023					
9	7/1/2023	2023					
10	8/22/2023	2023					
11	9/10/2023	2023					
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							

Column B shows the fiscal year for each date in column A.

Each date that is before April 1, 2023 has a fiscal year of 2022 while each date starting on April 1, 2023 or after has a fiscal year of 2023.

How This Formula Works

Recall the formula that we used to get the fiscal year:

=IF(MONTH(A2)>3, YEAR(A2), YEAR(A2)-1)

Here is how this formula works:

The MONTH function extracts the month from a date.

If the month is greater than 3 (i.e. later than March) then the year from cell A2 is returned.

Otherwise, if the month is equal to or less than 3 then the year before the year in cell A2 is returned.

For example, cell A2 has a date of 1/1/2023. Since the month of this date is less than 3, the year 2022 is returned.

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