

How can I use Excel to highlight an entire row based on a specific cell value?

Authored by
stats writer

June 25, 2024

RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *How can I use Excel to highlight an entire row based on a specific cell value?*. PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=152271>

Excel is a powerful tool that can be used to highlight an entire row based on a specific cell value. This can be achieved by using conditional formatting, which allows you to set rules that format cells based on their content. By specifying the criteria for the specific cell value, you can create a rule that will automatically highlight the entire row if the specified cell meets the criteria. This feature is useful for organizing and visually identifying important data in a spreadsheet. With the ability to customize the formatting and apply it to multiple rows, Excel makes it easy to highlight relevant information and improve the overall readability of your data.

Excel: Highlight Entire Row Based on Cell Value

Often you may want to highlight an entire row in Excel based on a given cell value in the row.

For example, you may want to highlight each row in the following dataset in which the value in the Passed column is "Yes":

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Student	Hours	Score	Passed			
2	A	5	87	Yes			
3	B	8	81	Yes			
4	C	9	90	Yes			
5	D	4	78	No			
6	E	4	75	No			
7	F	9	91	Yes			
8	G	2	65	No			
9	H	0	68	No			
10	I	5	79	No			
11	J	7	83	Yes			
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							
21							

This is easy to do using the Conditional Formatting feature in Excel.

The following example shows how to do so in practice.

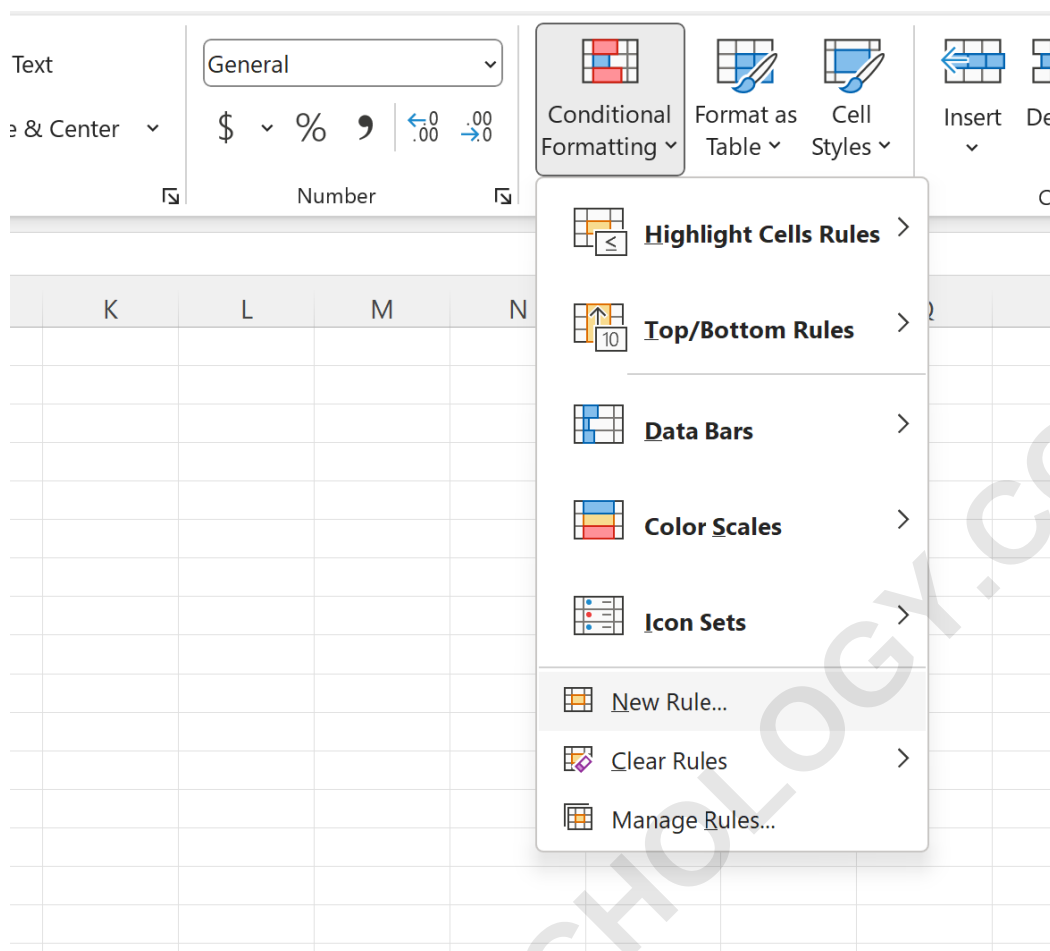
Example: Highlight Entire Row Based on Cell Value in Excel

Suppose we have the following dataset in Excel that contains information on the total hours studied, final exam score, and passing status of various students in some class:

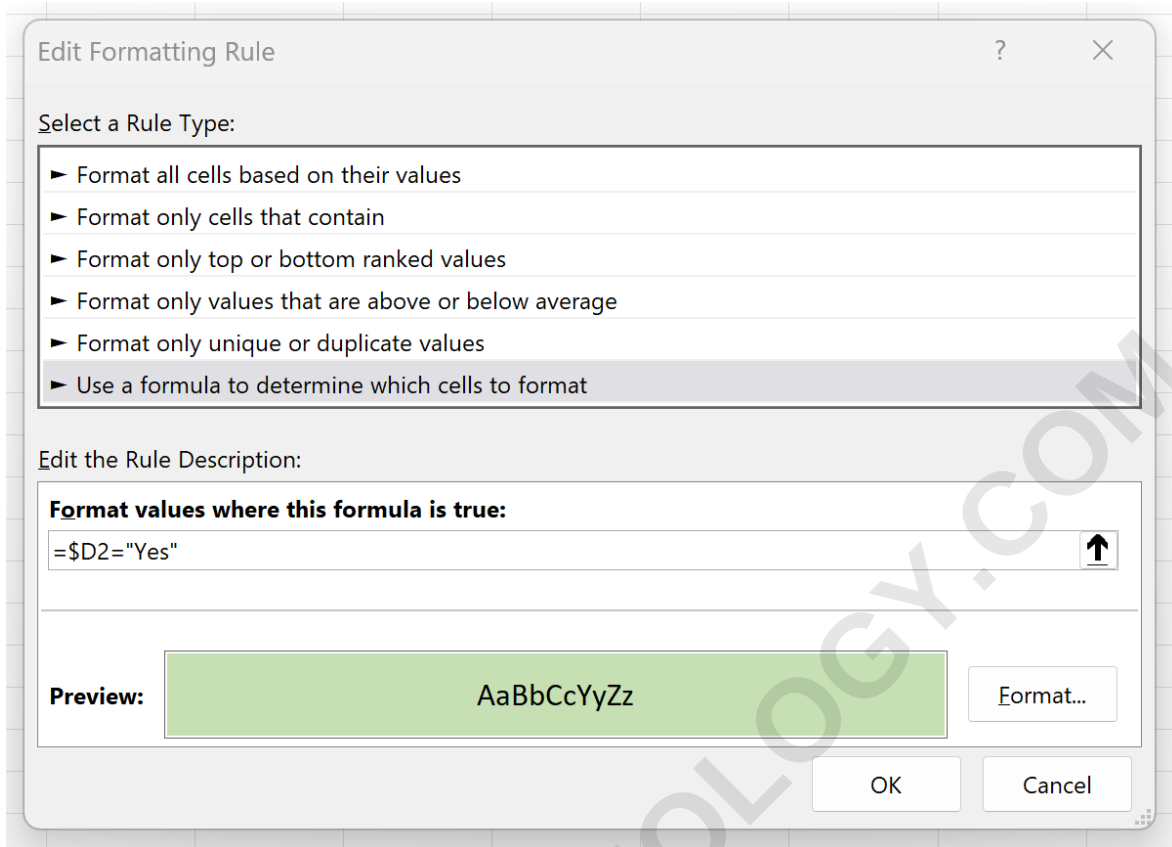
	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Student	Hours	Score	Passed		
2	A	5	87	Yes		
3	B	8	81	Yes		
4	C	9	90	Yes		
5	D	4	78	No		
6	E	4	75	No		
7	F	9	91	Yes		
8	G	2	65	No		
9	H	0	68	No		
10	I	5	79	No		
11	J	7	83	Yes		
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						

Now suppose that we would like to highlight each row in which the value in the Passed column is "Yes."

To do so, we can highlight the cell range A2:D11, then click the Conditional Formatting icon, then click New Rule:



In the new window that appears, click the option called Use a formula to determine which cells to format, then type `=D2="Yes"` in the box, then click the Format button and choose a fill color to use:



Once you click OK, each of the rows that contain a "Yes" in the Passed column will be highlighted:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Student	Hours	Score	Passed			
2	A	5	87	Yes			
3	B	8	81	Yes			
4	C	9	90	Yes			
5	D	4	78	No			
6	E	4	75	No			
7	F	9	91	Yes			
8	G	2	65	No			
9	H	0	68	No			
10	I	5	79	No			
11	J	7	83	Yes			
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							
21							

Each row that contains "Yes" in the Passed column now has a fill color of light green while each row that contains "No" is left unchanged.

Note that for this example we chose to highlight the rows using a light green, but you can choose any color you'd like by selecting a different color using the Format button within the Edit Formatting Rule window.

The following tutorials explain how to perform other

common tasks in Excel:

ARABPSYCHOLOGY.COM