

How can I use Google Sheets to count cells that are not equal to a certain text?

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Google Sheets is a powerful spreadsheet program that allows users to perform a variety of calculations and data analysis tasks. One useful feature of Google Sheets is the ability to count cells that are not equal to a certain text. This can be done by using the COUNTIF formula, which allows users to specify a criteria and count the number of cells that meet that criteria. By inputting the criteria as "not equal to" the desired text, the formula will count all cells in the specified range that do not contain the specified text. This feature is useful for quickly identifying and analyzing data that does not fit a specific category or criteria.

Google Sheets: COUNTIF Not Equal to Text

You can use the following formula in Google Sheets to count the number of cells that are not equal to a specific text:

```
=COUNTIF(A2:A11, "<>some_string")
```

This particular formula counts the number of cells in the range A2:A12 that are not equal to "some_string."

Note: The <> operator stands for "not equal" in Google Sheets.

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

Example: COUNTIF Not Equal to Text in Google Sheets

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

	A	B	C	D
1	Team	Points		
2	Mavericks	22		
3	Hawks	24		
4	Kings	30		
5	Hawks	18		
6	Lakers	14		
7	Lakers	15		
8	Spurs	22		
9	Hawks	20		
10	Warriors	15		
11	Spurs	17		
12	Cavs	24		
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				

We can use the following formula to count the number of cells in the Team column that are not equal to "Hawks":

=COUNTIF(A2:A12,"<>Hawks")

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

D2 fx =COUNTIF(A2:A12, "<>Hawks")

	A	B	C	D
1	Team	Points		Team Not Equal to Hawks
2	Mavericks	22		8
3	Hawks	24		
4	Kings	30		
5	Hawks	18		
6	Lakers	14		
7	Lakers	15		
8	Spurs	22		
9	Hawks	20		
10	Warriors	15		
11	Spurs	17		
12	Cavs	24		
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				

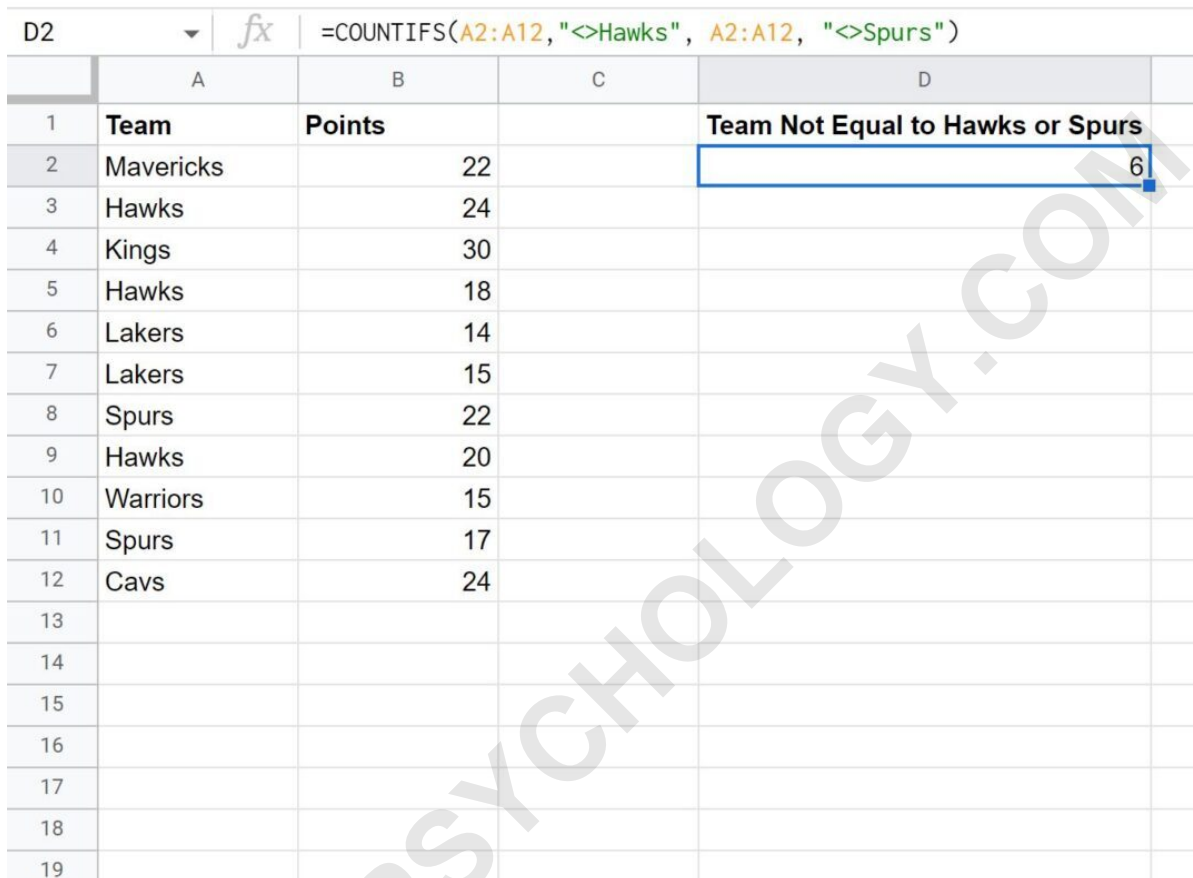
From the output we can see that there are 8 cells not equal to "Hawks" in the Team column.

If you would like to count the number of cells not equal to several different text, you can instead use the **COUNTIFS** function.

For example, we can use the following formula to count the number of cells in the Team column that are not equal to "Hawks" or "Spurs":

=COUNTIFS(A2:A12,"<>Hawks", A2:A12, "<>Spurs")

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



The screenshot shows a Google Sheet with the following data and formula:

	A	B	C	D
1	Team	Points		Team Not Equal to Hawks or Spurs
2	Mavericks	22		6
3	Hawks	24		
4	Kings	30		
5	Hawks	18		
6	Lakers	14		
7	Lakers	15		
8	Spurs	22		
9	Hawks	20		
10	Warriors	15		
11	Spurs	17		
12	Cavs	24		
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				

The formula bar shows: `=COUNTIFS(A2:A12,"<>Hawks", A2:A12, "<>Spurs")`

From the output we can see that there are 6 cells not equal to "Hawks" or "Spurs" in the Team column.