

How can I use “NOT LIKE” in a Google Sheets Query?

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PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=154008>

Google Sheets Query is a powerful tool that allows users to extract data from a spreadsheet based on specific conditions. One of the most commonly used operators in a query is "LIKE", which helps to filter data based on a partial match. However, in cases where the user wants to exclude certain data from the results, the "NOT LIKE" operator can be used. This operator allows users to specify a pattern that should not be present in the data being queried. By using "NOT LIKE" in a Google Sheets Query, users can effectively filter out unwanted data and obtain a more refined and accurate set of results.

Google Sheets Query: Use "NOT LIKE" in Query

You can use the following syntax in a Google Sheets query to return all rows where the value in some column is "NOT LIKE" some pattern:

```
=QUERY(A1:C11, "SELECT * WHERE NOT B LIKE '%uar%'")
```

This particular query will return all rows in the range A1:C11 where column B does not contain the pattern "uar" anywhere in the string.

Note: The % operator is a wildcard character in Google Sheets.

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

Example: Use "NOT LIKE" in Google Sheets Query

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

	A	B	C	D
1	Team	Position	Points	
2	Mavs	Guard	22	
3	Hawks	Guard	20	
4	Magic	Forward	19	
5	Thunder	Guard	15	
6	Kings	Forward	29	
7	Pacers	Forward	24	
8	Clippers	Forward	28	
9	Nuggets	Guard	20	
10	Lakers	Forward	14	
11	Celtics	Guard	12	
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
21				

We can use the following query to return all rows where the value in the Position column does not contain the pattern "uar" anywhere in the string.

```
=QUERY(A1:C11, "SELECT * WHERE NOT B LIKE '%uar%'")
```

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

A14			=QUERY(A1:C11, "SELECT * WHERE NOT B LIKE '%uar%'")		
	A	B	C	D	E
1	Team	Position	Points		
2	Mavs	Guard	22		
3	Hawks	Guard	20		
4	Magic	Forward	19		
5	Thunder	Guard	15		
6	Kings	Forward	29		
7	Pacers	Forward	24		
8	Clippers	Forward	28		
9	Nuggets	Guard	20		
10	Lakers	Forward	14		
11	Celtics	Guard	12		
12					
13					
14	Team	Position	Points		
15	Magic	Forward	19		
16	Kings	Forward	29		
17	Pacers	Forward	24		
18	Clippers	Forward	28		
19	Lakers	Forward	14		
20					
21					
22					
23					

Notice that the only rows returned are the ones where the Position column does not contain the pattern "uar" anywhere in the string.

In other words, any row with a Position of "Guard" is

not returned in the query.

You can also use multiple "NOT LIKE" statements in one query.

For example, we can use the following query to return rows where the Position column does not have a pattern like "uar" and the Team column does not have a pattern like "er":

```
=QUERY(A1:C11, "SELECT * WHERE NOT B LIKE '%uar%' AND NOT A LIKE '%er%'")
```

A14		<i>fx</i>	=QUERY(A1:C11, "SELECT * WHERE NOT B LIKE '%uar%' AND NOT A LIKE '%er%'")				
	A	B	C	D	E	F	
1	Team	Position	Points				
2	Mavs	Guard	22				
3	Hawks	Guard	20				
4	Magic	Forward	19				
5	Thunder	Guard	15				
6	Kings	Forward	29				
7	Pacers	Forward	24				
8	Clippers	Forward	28				
9	Nuggets	Guard	20				
10	Lakers	Forward	14				
11	Celtics	Guard	12				
12							
13							
14	Team	Position	Points				
15	Magic	Forward	19				
16	Kings	Forward	29				
17							
18							
19							
20							
21							
22							
23							

Notice that only two rows meet both of these "NOT LIKE" conditions.