How can I use the COUNTIFS function in Excel to count values across multiple columns?

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June 22, 2024

The COUNTIFS function in Excel is a powerful tool that allows users to count values across multiple columns in a spreadsheet. This function is particularly useful for analyzing large data sets and identifying specific criteria within the data. By specifying multiple criteria, the COUNTIFS function can count the number of cells that meet all of the specified conditions. This allows for a more precise and comprehensive analysis of data. To use the COUNTIFS function, the user must specify the range of cells to be counted and the criteria to be met. This function can greatly improve efficiency and accuracy in data analysis and is a valuable tool for any Excel user.

Excel: Use COUNTIFS to Count Across Multiple Columns

You can use the COUNTIFS function in Excel to count the number of rows that meet criteria across multiple columns.

Here are three common ways to use the COUNTIFS function across multiple columns:

Method 1: Use COUNTIFS Across Multiple Columns with AND Logic

=COUNTIFS(A2:A11, "Mavs", B2:B11, "Guard", C2:C11, ">15")

This particular formula counts the number of rows where the value in A2:A11 is equal to "Mavs" and the value in B2:B11 is equal to "Guard" and the value in C2:C11 is greater than 15.

Method 2: Use COUNTIFS Across Multiple Columns with OR Logic

=COUNTIFS(A2:A11, "Mavs")+COUNTIFS(A2:A11, "<>Mavs", B2:B11, "Guard")

This particular formula counts the number of rows where the value in A2:A11 is equal to "Mavs" or the value in B2:B11 is equal to "Guard".

Method 3: Use COUNTIFS Across Multiple Columns with Both AND / OR Logic

=COUNTIFS(A2:A11, "Mavs", B2:B11, "Guard") + COUNTIFS(A2:A11, "Spurs", B2:B11, "Center")

This particular formula counts the number of rows where the value in A2:A11 is "Mavs" and the value in B2:B11 is "Guard" or where the value in A2:A11 is "Spurs" and the value in B2:B11 is Center".

The following examples show how to use each method in practice with the following dataset in Excel that contains information about various basketball players:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	**Team**	**Position**	**Points**			
2	Mavs	Guard	13			
3	Mavs	Guard	16			
4	Mavs	Forward	20			
5	Mavs	Forward	40			
6	Mavs	Center	38			
7	Spurs	Guard	34			
8	Spurs	Guard	20			
9	Spurs	Forward	15			
10	Spurs	Forward	25			
11	Spurs	Center	14			
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						

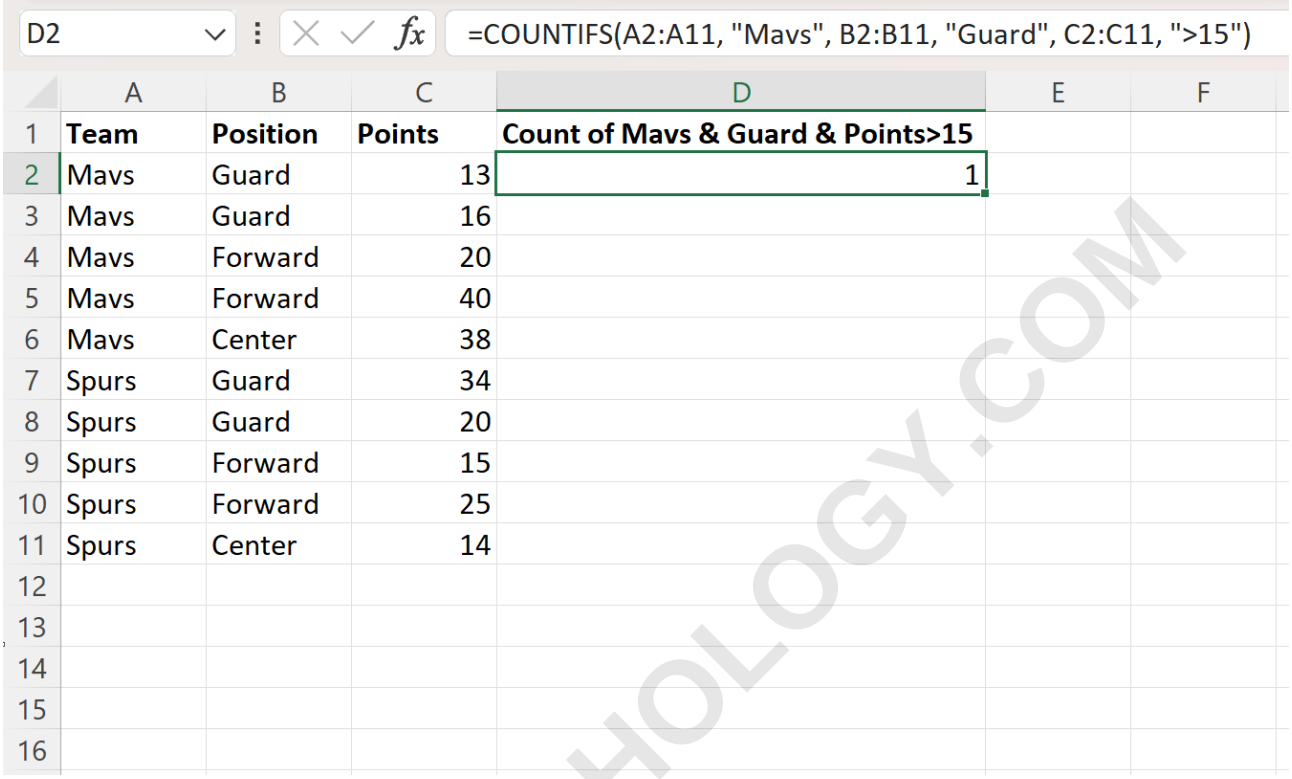
Example 1: Use COUNTIFS Across Multiple Columns with AND Logic

We can type the following formula into cell D2 to count the number of rows where the team is "Mavs" and the position is "Guard" and the points value is greater than 15:

=COUNTIFS(A2:A11, "Mavs", B2:B11, "Guard", C2:C11, ">15")

The following screenshot shows how to use this

formula in practice:



	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	**Team**	**Position**	**Points**	**Count of Mavs & Guard & Points>15**		
2	Mavs	Guard	13	1		
3	Mavs	Guard	16			
4	Mavs	Forward	20			
5	Mavs	Forward	40			
6	Mavs	Center	38			
7	Spurs	Guard	34			
8	Spurs	Guard	20			
9	Spurs	Forward	15			
10	Spurs	Forward	25			
11	Spurs	Center	14			
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						

The total number of players that meet these three criteria is 1.

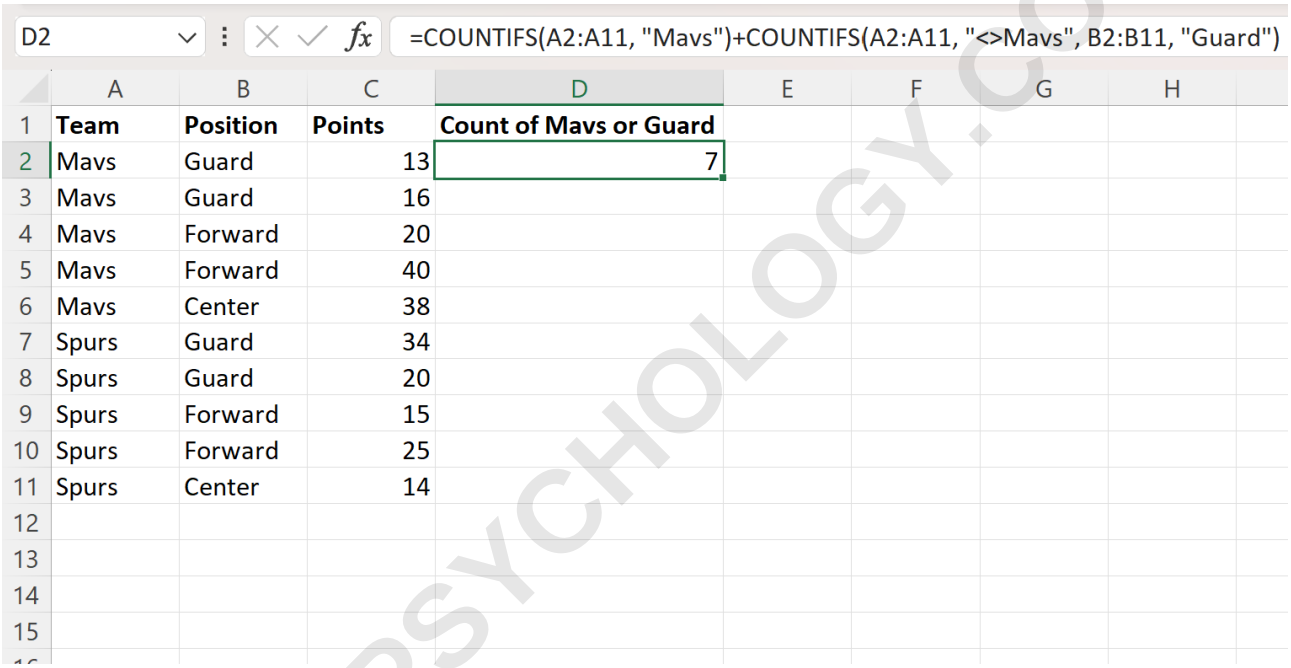
Specifically, we can see that the player in row number 3 is the only player to meet all three of these criteria.

Example 2: Use COUNTIFS Across Multiple Columns with OR Logic

We can type the following formula into cell D2 to count the number of rows where the team is "Mavs" or the position is "Guard:

=COUNTIFS(A2:A11, "Mavs")+COUNTIFS(A2:A11, "<>Mavs", B2:B11, "Guard")

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



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	**Team**	**Position**	**Points**	**Count of Mavs or Guard**				
2	Mavs	Guard	13	7				
3	Mavs	Guard	16					
4	Mavs	Forward	20					
5	Mavs	Forward	40					
6	Mavs	Center	38					
7	Spurs	Guard	34					
8	Spurs	Guard	20					
9	Spurs	Forward	15					
10	Spurs	Forward	25					
11	Spurs	Center	14					
12								
13								
14								
15								

The total number of players that meet these three criteria is 7.

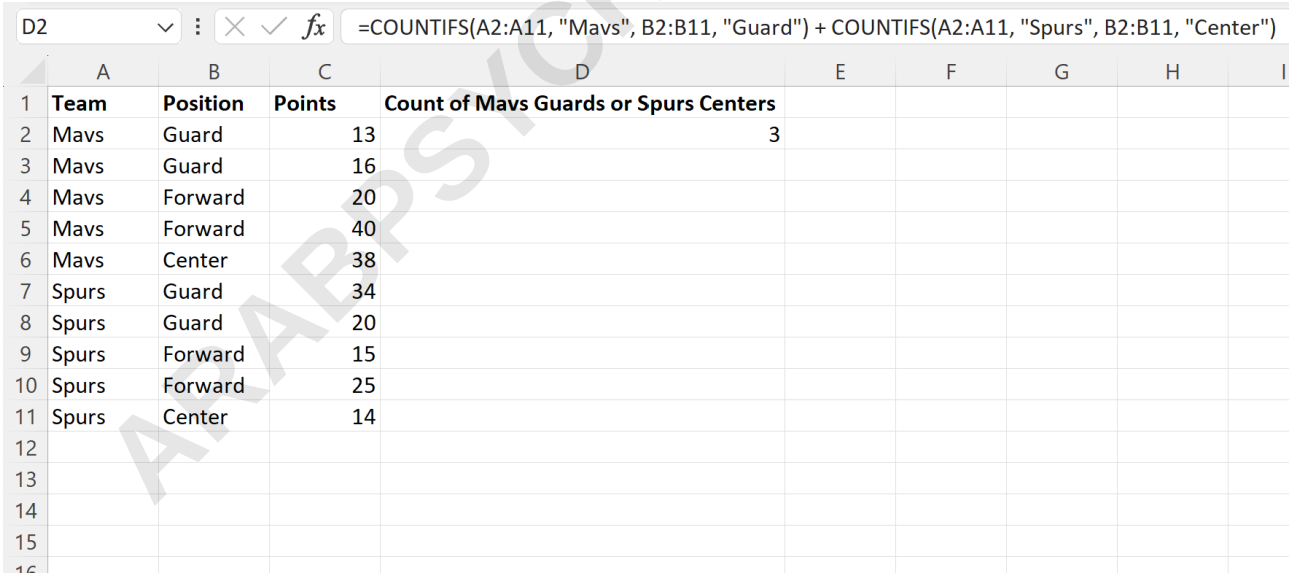
Note: In the second COUNTIFS function we had to specify that the team should not be equal to "Mavs" so that we didn't double count the guards on the Mavs team.

Example 3: Use COUNTIFS Across Multiple Columns with Both AND / OR Logic

We can type the following formula into cell D2 to count the number of rows where the player is a Mavs Guard or a Spurs Center:

=COUNTIFS(A2:A11, "Mavs", B2:B11, "Guard") + COUNTIFS(A2:A11, "Spurs", B2:B11, "Center")

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



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	**Team**	**Position**	**Points**	**Count of Mavs Guards or Spurs Centers**					
2	Mavs	Guard	13	3					
3	Mavs	Guard	16						
4	Mavs	Forward	20						
5	Mavs	Forward	40						
6	Mavs	Center	38						
7	Spurs	Guard	34						
8	Spurs	Guard	20						
9	Spurs	Forward	15						
10	Spurs	Forward	25						
11	Spurs	Center	14						
12									
13									
14									
15									

The total number of players that meet these three criteria is 3.

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