“How can I use the DAYS360 function in Excel to calculate the number of days between two dates based on a 360-day year?”

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The DAYS360 function in Excel is a useful tool for calculating the number of days between two dates using a 360-day year. This function takes into consideration the standard 30-day month and assumes a 360-day year, making it particularly useful for financial calculations. By inputting the two dates in the correct format, the DAYS360 function will automatically calculate the number of days between them, providing an efficient and accurate method for determining time differences in a 360-day year. This function can be easily utilized in various scenarios, such as loan and interest calculations, and is a valuable feature for financial analysis and planning.

This article describes the formula syntax and usage of the **DAYS360** function in Microsoft Excel.

Description

The **DAYS360** function returns the number of days between two dates based on a 360-day year (twelve 30-day months), which is used in some accounting calculations. Use this function to help compute payments if your accounting system is based on twelve 30-day months.

Syntax

DAYS360(start_date,end_date,)

The DAYS360 function syntax has the following arguments:

Start_date, end_date Required. The two dates between which you want to know the number of days. If **start_date** occurs after **end_date**, the **DAYS360** function returns a negative number. Dates should be entered by using the **DATE** function, or derived from the results of other formulas or functions. For example, use **DATE(2008,5,23)** to return the 23rd day of May, 2008. Problems can occur if dates are entered as text.

Method Optional. A logical value that specifies whether to use the U.S. or European method in the calculation.

Method	Defined
FALSE or omitted	U.S. (NASD) method. If the starting date is the last day of a month, it becomes equal to the 30th day of the same month. If the ending date is the last day of a month and the starting date is earlier than the 30th day of a month, the ending date becomes equal to the 1st day of the next month; otherwise the ending date becomes equal to the 30th day of the same month.
TRUE	European method. Starting dates and ending dates that occur on the 31st day of a month become equal to the 30th day of the same month.

Note: Excel stores dates as sequential serial numbers so that they can be used in calculations. By

default, January 1, 1900 is serial number 1, and January 1, 2008 is serial number 39448 because it is 39,447 days after January 1, 1900.

Example

Copy the example data in the following table, and paste it in cell A1 of a new Excel worksheet. For formulas to show results, select them, press F2, and then press Enter. If you need to, you can adjust the column widths to see all the data.

Dates		
1-Jan-11		
30-Jan-11		
1-Feb-11		
31-Dec-11		
Formula	**Description**	**Result**
=DAYS360(A3,A4)	Number of days between 1/30/2011 and 2/1/2011, based on a 360-day year.	1
=DAYS360(A2,A5)	Number of days between 1/1/2011 and 12/31/2011, based on a 360-day year.	360
=DAYS360(A2,A4)	Number of days between 1/1/2011 and 2/1/2011, based on a 360-day year.	30