

How can I use the EDATE function in Excel to calculate the date that is a certain number of months before or after a given date?

Authored by
stats writer

June 29, 2024

RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *How can I use the EDATE function in Excel to calculate the date that is a certain number of months before or after a given date?*. PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=159261>

The EDATE function in Excel is a useful tool for calculating dates that are a specified number of months before or after a given date. By inputting a starting date and the desired number of months, the EDATE function will automatically calculate and return the resulting date. This function is particularly useful for financial analysis, project planning, and managing schedules. Additionally, the EDATE function can be combined with other functions and formulas to create more complex calculations involving dates. Overall, the EDATE function is a convenient and efficient way to calculate dates in Excel.

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

Description

Returns the serial number that represents the date that is the indicated number of months before or after a specified date (the start_date). Use EDATE to calculate maturity dates or due dates that fall on the same day of the month as the date of issue.

Syntax

EDATE(start_date, months)

The EDATE function syntax has the following arguments:

Start_date Required. A date that represents the start date. Dates should be entered by using the DATE function, or as results of other formulas or functions. For example, use DATE(2008,5,23) for the 23rd day of May, 2008. Problems can occur if dates are entered as text.

Months Required. The number of months before or after start_date. A positive value for months yields a future date; a negative value yields a past date.

Remarks

Microsoft Excel stores dates as sequential serial numbers so 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 39,448 days after January 1, 1900.

If start_date is not a valid date, EDATE returns the #VALUE! error value.

If months is not an integer, it is truncated.