

# How can I use the INFO function in Excel?

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June 30, 2024

## RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *How can I use the INFO function in Excel?*. PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES.  
Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=161208>

The INFO function in Excel is a built-in tool that allows users to retrieve information about the current operating environment of the spreadsheet. This function can be used to display details such as the current date and time, the file path, and the Excel version being used. To use the INFO function, simply enter the desired code into a cell and press enter. This function is especially useful for tracking and organizing data, as well as for troubleshooting and verifying the accuracy of information. It is a valuable tool for any user looking to efficiently manage and analyze data in Excel.

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

**Note:** The INFO function is not available in Excel Web App.

## Description

Returns information about the current operating environment.

## Syntax

INFO(type\_text)

The INFO function syntax has the following arguments:

**Type\_text** Required. Text that specifies what type of information you want returned.

Type_text	Returns
"directory"	Path of the current directory or folder specified in the Excel option, <b>At startup, open all files in</b> (Select <b>File &gt; Options &gt; Advanced &gt; General</b> ).
"numfile"	Number of worksheets in the open workbooks.
"origin"	Returns the absolute cell reference of the top and leftmost cell visible in the window, based on the current scrolling position, as text prepended with "\$A:". This value is intended for for Lotus 1-2-3 release 3.x compatibility. The actual value returned depends on the current reference style setting. Using D9 as an example, the return value would be: <b>A1 reference style</b> "\$A:\$D\$9". <b>R1C1 reference style</b> "\$A:R9C4"
"osversion"	Current operating system version, as text.
"recalc"	Current recalculation mode; returns "Automatic" or "Manual".
"release"	Version of Microsoft Excel, as text.
"system"	Name of the operating environment: Macintosh = "mac" Windows = "pcdos"

**Important:** In previous versions of Microsoft Excel, the "memavail", "memused", and "totmem" type\_text values, returned memory information. These type\_text values are no longer supported and now return a #N/A error value.

## Example

Copy the example formulas in the following table, and paste them in a new Excel worksheet.

Formula	Description	Result
=INFO("numfile")	Number of worksheets in open workbooks	a number indicating how many sheets are in the currently open workbooks
=INFO("recalc")	Recalculation mode for the workbook.	"Automatic" or "Manual" depending on the current state of your calculation options.