

# How can I use the “N” function in Google Sheets?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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The "N" function in Google Sheets is a useful tool that allows users to check if a cell contains a numerical value. This function can be used to quickly identify and extract numerical data from a range of cells, making it easier to perform calculations and analyze data. To use the "N" function, simply input the cell or range of cells you want to check, and the function will return a TRUE or FALSE value, indicating whether the cell contains a numerical value or not. This function can be particularly helpful for organizing and manipulating data in spreadsheets.

## N

Returns the argument provided as a number.

### Sample Usage

`N(A2)`

`N(4)`

### Syntax

`N(value)`

`value` - The argument to be converted to a number.

If `value` is `TRUE`, `N` returns 1.

If `value` is a number, the number is returned.

If `value` is a date or time, `N` returns a generated serial number, based on the number of days since December 30, 1899.

Negative values are interpreted as days before this date, and fractional values indicate time of day past midnight.

If `value` is `FALSE` or any value not listed above, `N` returns 0.

### Notes

When using `N` on numeric values in other cells, formatting (into currencies, scientific notation, etc.) is lost. To specify formatting on the return value of `N`, simply apply the format desired to the cell containing the formula.

This function is, in fact, rarely necessary as Google Spreadsheet automatically converts between

most formats appropriately. It is provided primarily for compatibility with formulas used in other spreadsheet packages.

## See Also

**TO\_DATE**: Converts a provided number to a date.

**T**: Returns string arguments as text.

## Examples

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