

How can I use the SPLIT function in Google Sheets to separate text using multiple delimiters?

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The SPLIT function in Google Sheets allows users to separate text by using multiple delimiters, such as commas, spaces, or symbols. This function is particularly useful for organizing data into different columns or cells based on specific criteria. By specifying the delimiters within the function, users can easily split text into smaller segments and manipulate the data as needed. This feature is beneficial for tasks such as categorizing information, creating lists, or analyzing data sets. Overall, the SPLIT function in Google Sheets provides a convenient and efficient way to separate text using multiple delimiters, enhancing the organization and manipulation of data.

Google Sheets: Use SPLIT with Multiple Delimiters

The SPLIT function in Google Sheets can be used to divide text based on a specific delimiter.

To use the SPLIT function with multiple delimiters, you can use the following syntax with the REGEXREPLACE function:

=SPLIT(REGEXREPLACE(A2, "_|,|;\"", " "), " ")

This particular example will split the text in cell A2 using a space, underscore, comma or semi-colon as a delimiter.

The following example shows how to use this formula in practice.

Example: How to Use SPLIT Function with Multiple Delimiters in

Google Sheets

Suppose we have the following column of names in Google Sheets:

	A	B	C	D
1	Name			
2	Andy Bernard			
3	Bob_Erickson			
4	Chad_Davis			
5	Dean,Anderson			
6	Eric Wilbor			
7	Frank;Johnson			
8	George,Carl			
9	Henry_Miller			
10	Isaac King			
11	John;Freeman			
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				

Notice that the first and last names are split by a variety of different delimiters, including:

Spaces ()Underscores (_)Commas (,)Semi-colons (;)

We can type the following formula into cell B2 to split the text in cell A2 based on any of these four delimiters:

=SPLIT(REGEXREPLACE(A2, "_|,|;", " "), " ")

We can then click and drag this formula down to each remaining cell in column B:

B2 **fx** =SPLIT(REGEXREPLACE(A2, "_|,|;", " "), " ")

	A	B	C	D
1	Name			
2	Andy Bernard	Andy	Bernard	
3	Bob_Erickson	Bob	Erickson	
4	Chad_Davis	Chad	Davis	
5	Dean,Anderson	Dean	Anderson	
6	Eric Wilbor	Eric	Wilbor	
7	Frank;Johnson	Frank	Johnson	
8	George,Carl	George	Carl	
9	Henry_Miller	Henry	Miller	
10	Isaac King	Isaac	King	
11	John;Freeman	John	Freeman	
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				

The formula splits the names in column A into two new columns by splitting the text based on either a space, an underscore, a comma or a semi-colon.

How This Formula Works

Recall the formula that we used to split the text based

on multiple delimiters:

=SPLIT(REGEXREPLACE(A2, "_|,|;", " "), " ")

Here is how this formula works:

First, the REGEXREPLACE function replaces each underscore, comma and semi-colon in cell A2 with a space (the | symbol stands for "OR").

For example, the name Bob_Erickson becomes Bob Erickson.

Next, the SPLIT function splits the text in column A based on where the space occurs.

The end result is that we're able to split each of the names in column A into two new columns based on multiple delimiters.

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