

How can I use the VLOOKUP function in Google Sheets to retrieve data by date?

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The VLOOKUP function in Google Sheets allows users to retrieve data based on a specified date. This function can be used by entering the date as the lookup value and selecting the range of data to search within. The function will then return the corresponding data from the chosen range that matches the specified date. This can be useful for organizing and analyzing data by date, and can save time and effort when manually searching for specific information.

Google Sheets: Use VLOOKUP by Date

You can use the following syntax to use a VLOOKUP by date in Google Sheets:

=VLOOKUP(D2,A2:B9,2,FALSE)

This particular formula looks up the date in cell D2 in the range A2:B9 and returns the corresponding value in column 2 of the range.

Note: The FALSE argument tells Google Sheets to look for exact matches instead of approximate matches.

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

Example: Use VLOOKUP by Date in Google Sheets

Suppose we have the following dataset in Google Sheets that shows the total sales of some product on various dates:

	A	B	C	D
1	Date	Sales		
2	1/1/2022	22		
3	1/5/2022	26		
4	2/4/2022	25		
5	3/15/2022	14		
6	4/19/2022	10		
7	5/1/2022	10		
8	5/26/2022	12		
9	6/14/2022	19		
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				

We can use the following formula with VLOOKUP to look up the date value in cell D2 in column A and return the corresponding sales value in column B:

=VLOOKUP(D2,A2:B9,2,FALSE)

The following screenshot shows how to use this formula in practice:

E2 *fx* =VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B9, 2, FALSE)

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date	Sales		Date	Sales
2	1/1/2022	22		5/26/2022	12
3	1/5/2022	26			
4	2/4/2022	25			
5	3/15/2022	14			
6	4/19/2022	10			
7	5/1/2022	10			
8	5/26/2022	12			
9	6/14/2022	19			
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					
19					

The VLOOKUP formula returns 12, which is the sales value that corresponds to the date 5/26/2022 in the original dataset.

Note that this formula assumes the values in column A are in a valid date format and that the value we supply to the VLOOKUP formula is also in a valid date format.

If the value that we supply to the VLOOKUP formula is not valid, then the formula will simply return #N/A as a result:

E2 fx =VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B9, 2, FALSE)

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date	Sales		Date	Sales
2	1/1/2022	22		5.26.2022	#N/A
3	1/5/2022	26			
4	2/4/2022	25			
5	3/15/2022	14			
6	4/19/2022	10			
7	5/1/2022	10			
8	5/26/2022	12			
9	6/14/2022	19			
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					

Since 5.26.2022 is not a valid date format, the VLOOKUP formula returns #N/A as a result.

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