

How can I use VLOOKUP from another workbook in Excel?

Authored by
stats writer

June 27, 2024

RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *How can I use VLOOKUP from another workbook in Excel?*. PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=155085>

VLOOKUP is a powerful function in Microsoft Excel that allows users to retrieve specific data from a large dataset. It can be used to search for a value in one column and return a corresponding value from another column. This functionality can also be extended to data stored in a different workbook, making it a useful tool for organizing and analyzing data from multiple sources. To use VLOOKUP from another workbook, the user must first ensure that both workbooks are open. Then, in the formula bar, the user can specify the name of the other workbook followed by an exclamation point (!) and the cell range containing the data to be searched. This allows for seamless integration and access to data from different workbooks, making data analysis and organization more efficient and effective.

Excel: Use VLOOKUP From Another Workbook

You can use the following basic syntax to perform a VLOOKUP from another workbook in Excel:

=VLOOKUP(A2,'Sheet1'!\$A\$1:\$B\$11,2,0)

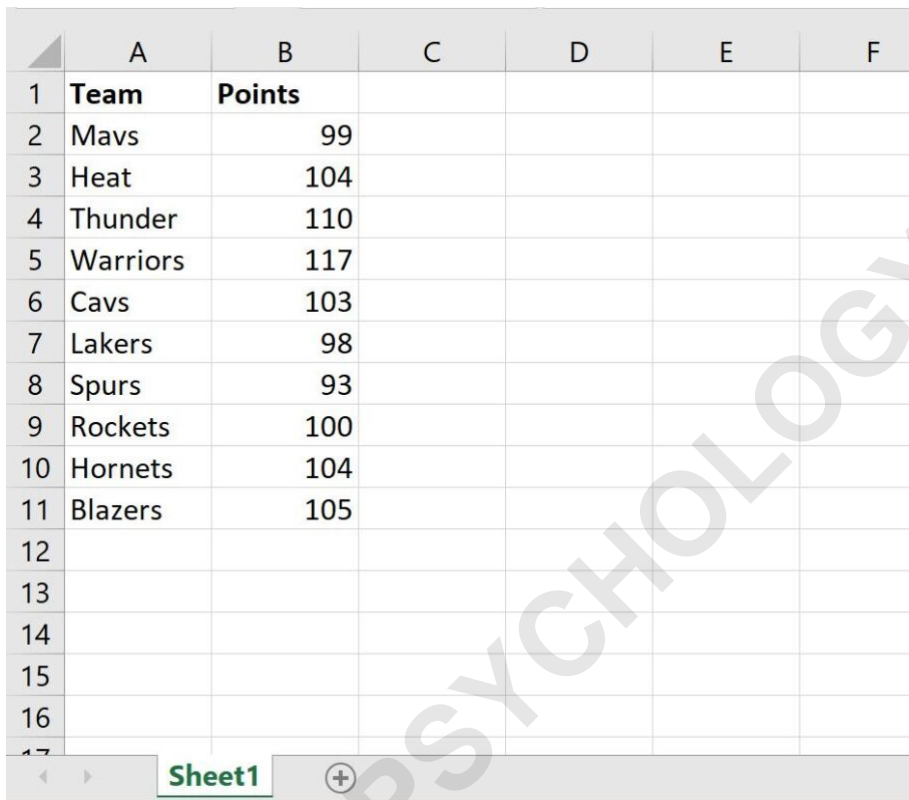
This particular formula will look up the value in cell A2 of the current workbook in the range A1:B11 of a second workbook called data2.xlsx and return the corresponding value in the second column.

Note: For this formula to work, both workbooks should be saved in the same directory.

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

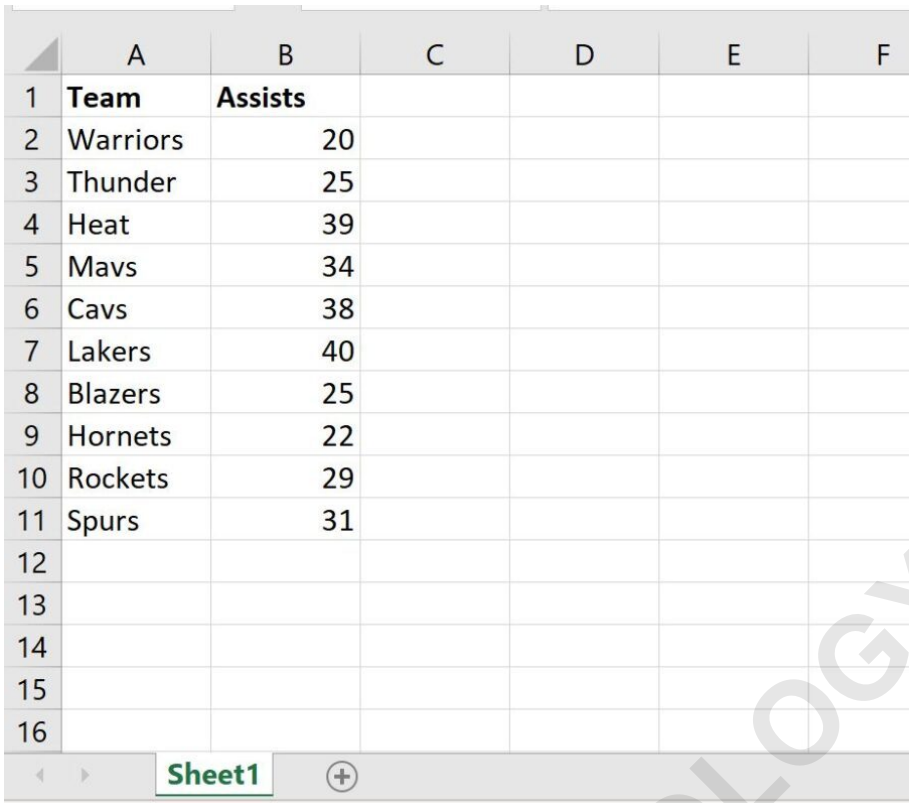
Step 1: Enter Data into Both Workbooks

Suppose we have the following workbook called **data.1.xlsx**:



	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Team	Points				
2	Mavs	99				
3	Heat	104				
4	Thunder	110				
5	Warriors	117				
6	Cavs	103				
7	Lakers	98				
8	Spurs	93				
9	Rockets	100				
10	Hornets	104				
11	Blazers	105				
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						

And suppose we have another workbook called **data2.xlsx**:



	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Team	Assists				
2	Warriors	20				
3	Thunder	25				
4	Heat	39				
5	Mavs	34				
6	Cavs	38				
7	Lakers	40				
8	Blazers	25				
9	Hornets	22				
10	Rockets	29				
11	Spurs	31				
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						

Both workbooks are saved in the same directory.

Step 2: Perform VLOOKUP Between Workbooks

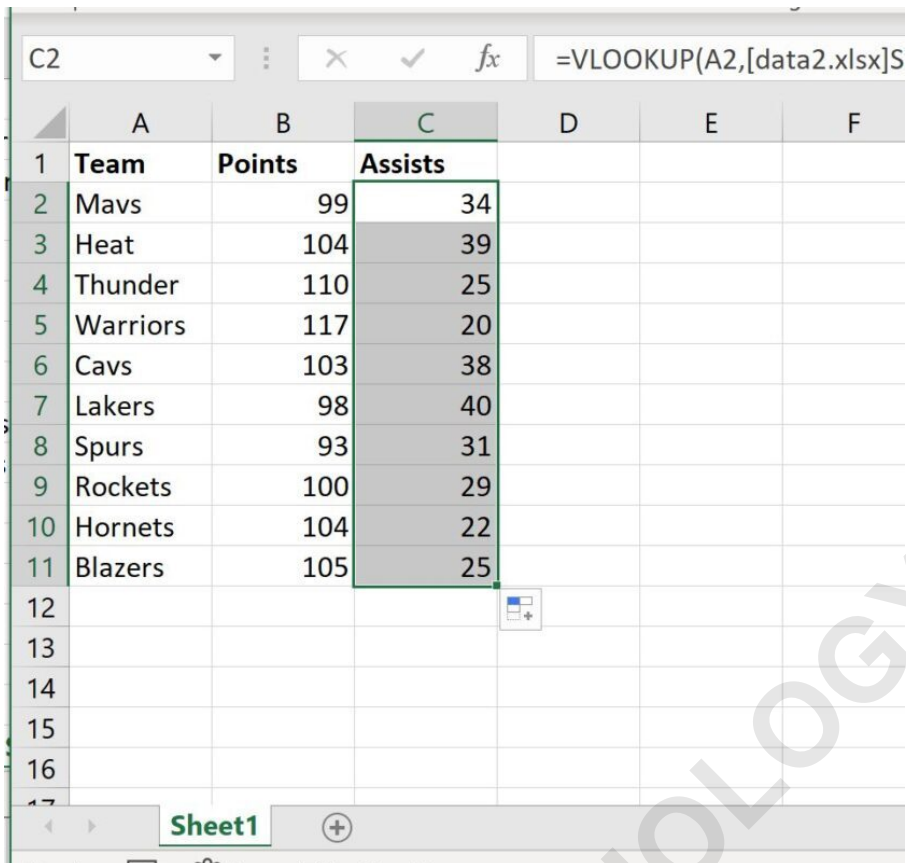
Now suppose we would like to use a VLOOKUP in the first workbook to look up the team names in the second workbook and return the corresponding value in the Assists column.

To do so, we can type the following formula into cell C2 of the first workbook:

=VLOOKUP(A2,'Sheet1'!\$A\$1:\$B\$11,2,0)

Once we press Enter, the value in the Assists column from the second workbook that corresponds to the "Mavs" team will be shown:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Team	Points	Assists					
2	Mavs	99	34					
3	Heat	104						
4	Thunder	110						
5	Warriors	117						
6	Cavs	103						
7	Lakers	98						
8	Spurs	93						
9	Rockets	100						
10	Hornets	104						
11	Blazers	105						
12								
13								
14								
15								
16								
17								



The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet with the following data:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Team	Points	Assists			
2	Mavs	99	34			
3	Heat	104	39			
4	Thunder	110	25			
5	Warriors	117	20			
6	Cavs	103	38			
7	Lakers	98	40			
8	Spurs	93	31			
9	Rockets	100	29			
10	Hornets	104	22			
11	Blazers	105	25			
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						

The formula bar shows the formula: `=VLOOKUP(A2,[data2.xlsx]S`

The values in the Assists column of the second workbook have now all been pulled into the first workbook.

The following tutorials explain how to perform other common operations in Excel: