How can I use VLOOKUP to return the maximum value in Excel?

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VLOOKUP is a powerful function in Excel that allows users to search for a specific value in a table and return a corresponding value from a different column. In order to use VLOOKUP to return the maximum value in Excel, you will need to first create a table that contains the data you want to search through. Then, you can use the VLOOKUP function to search for the maximum value in a specific column and return the corresponding value from another column. This can be helpful when analyzing large sets of data, as it allows you to quickly find the highest value within a specific category. By using VLOOKUP in this way, you can save time and effort in finding the maximum value in your Excel spreadsheet.

Excel: Use VLOOKUP to Return Max Value

You can use the following syntax in Excel with the MAX and VLOOKUP functions to find the max value in a range and return a corresponding value:

=VLOOKUP(MAX(A2:A11), A2:B11, 2, FALSE)

This particular formula uses MAX to find the max value in the range A2:A11 and then uses VLOOKUP to look up the value in the range B2:B11 that corresponds to this max value.

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

Example: How to Use VLOOKUP with MAX in Excel

Suppose we have the following dataset that contains information about points scored by various basketball

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players:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	**Points**	**Team**				
2	22	Mavs				
3	14	Spurs				
4	19	Rockets				
5	13	Kings				
6	40	Warriors				
7	30	Nets				
8	28	Lakers				
9	17	Thunder				
10	15	Blazers				
11	11	Jazz				
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						

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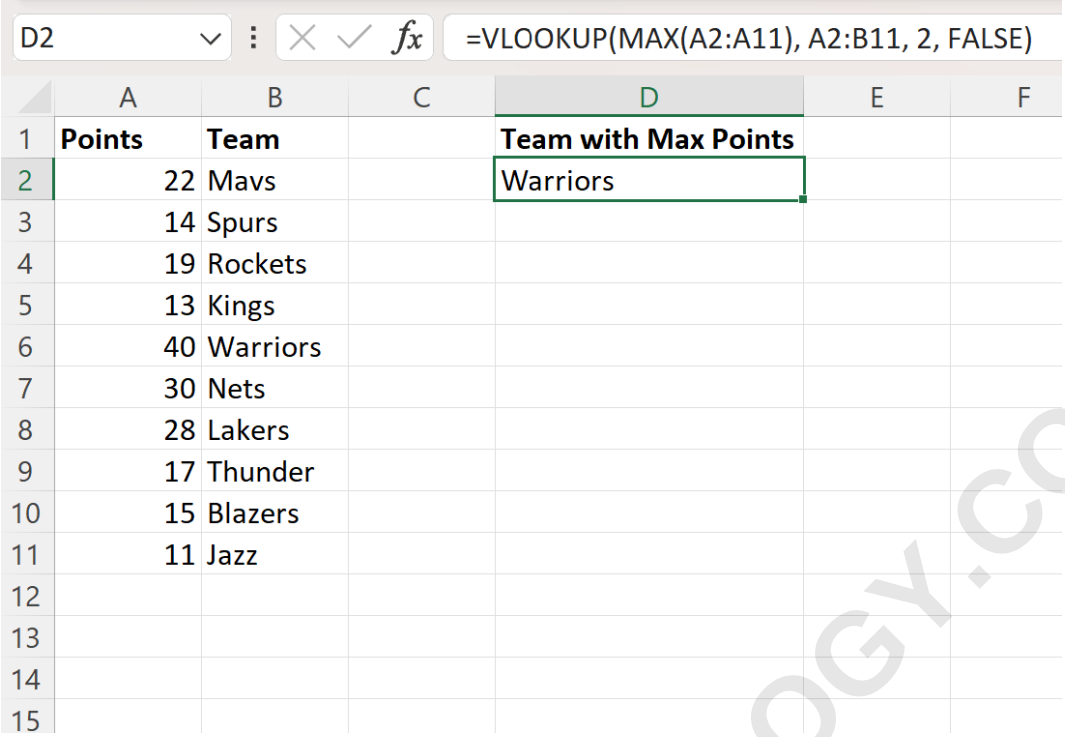
Suppose we would like to look up the max value in the points column and return the corresponding team name.

We can type the following formula into cell D2 to do so:

=VLOOKUP(MAX(A2:A11), A2:B11, 2, FALSE)

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



	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	**Points**	**Team**		**Team with Max Points**		
2	22	Mavs		Warriors		
3	14	Spurs				
4	19	Rockets				
5	13	Kings				
6	40	Warriors				
7	30	Nets				
8	28	Lakers				
9	17	Thunder				
10	15	Blazers				
11	11	Jazz				
12						
13						
14						
15						

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This formula uses the MAX function to find the max value of 40 in the points column.

Then, the formula uses the VLOOKUP function to return the team name Warriors, which is the team that corresponds to the max value in the points column.

Bonus: Find the Max Value Associated with a Lookup Value

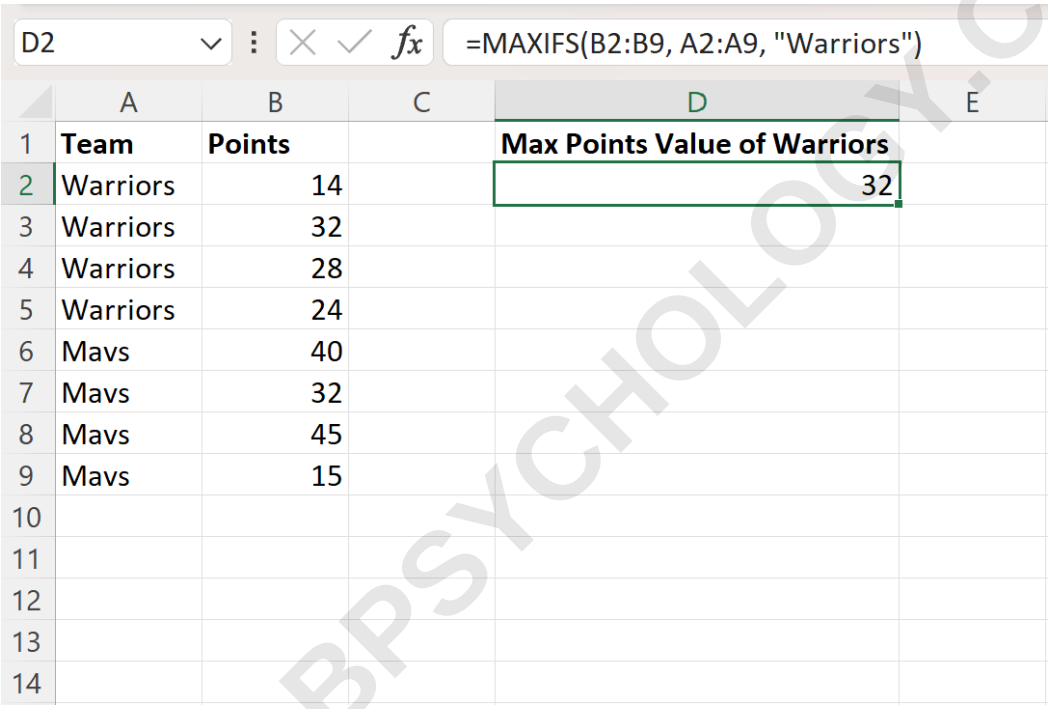
If you instead wanted to find the max value associated with a specific lookup value, you could use the MAXIFS function instead.

For example, you could use the following formula to

find the max value associated with the Warriors" team:

=MAXIFS(B2:B9, A2:A9, "Warriors")

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



	A	B	C	D	E
1	**Team**	**Points**		**Max Points Value of Warriors**	
2	Warriors	14		32	
3	Warriors	32			
4	Warriors	28			
5	Warriors	24			
6	Mavs	40			
7	Mavs	32			
8	Mavs	45			
9	Mavs	15			
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					

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The formula returns a value of 32, which is the max value associated with the Warriors" in this dataset.

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