

# How can I use VLOOKUP with an IF statement in Google Sheets?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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VLOOKUP is a function in Google Sheets that allows users to search for a specific value in a column and retrieve data from a corresponding column in the same row. When combined with an IF statement, it can provide a more dynamic and efficient way of retrieving data. By using an IF statement in conjunction with VLOOKUP, users can specify certain conditions that must be met for the function to return a value. This can be particularly useful when dealing with large datasets and wanting to extract specific information based on certain criteria. Overall, incorporating an IF statement with VLOOKUP in Google Sheets can enhance the functionality and accuracy of data retrieval, making it a valuable tool for organizing and analyzing information.

## Google Sheets: Use VLOOKUP with IF Statement

**You can use the following syntax to use a VLOOKUP with an IF statement in Google Sheets:**

```
=IF(ISNA(VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B11, 2, FALSE)), "", VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B11, 2, FALSE))
```

**This particular formula looks up the value in cell D2 in the range A2:B11.**

**If the value exists, then this formula returns the corresponding value in column 2 of the range.**

**If the value does not exist, then a blank is returned.**

**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 with IF Statement in Google Sheets

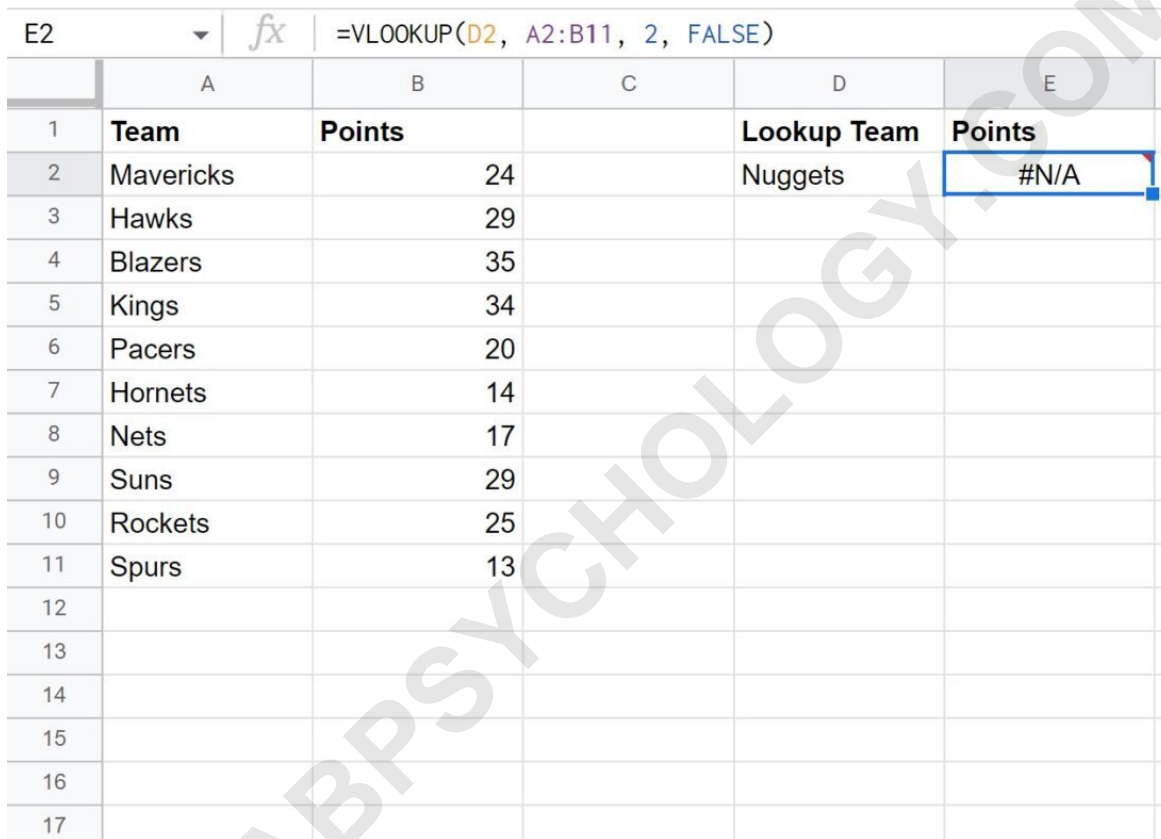
Suppose we have the following dataset in Google Sheets that shows the points scored by basketball players on various teams:

	A	B	C	D
1	<b>Team</b>	<b>Points</b>		
2	Mavericks	24		
3	Hawks	29		
4	Blazers	35		
5	Kings	34		
6	Pacers	20		
7	Hornets	14		
8	Nets	17		
9	Suns	29		
10	Rockets	25		
11	Spurs	13		
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				

Suppose we attempt to use the following VLOOKUP formula to look up the team name in cell D2 in column A and return the corresponding points value in column B:

## =VLOOKUP(D2,A2:B11,2,FALSE)

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



	A	B	C	D	E
1	<b>Team</b>	<b>Points</b>		<b>Lookup Team</b>	<b>Points</b>
2	Mavericks	24		Nuggets	#N/A
3	Hawks	29			
4	Blazers	35			
5	Kings	34			
6	Pacers	20			
7	Hornets	14			
8	Nets	17			
9	Suns	29			
10	Rockets	25			
11	Spurs	13			
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					

The VLOOKUP formula returns #N/A since "Nuggets" does not exist in the team column.

To return a blank value instead of #N/A, we can use the following formula:

=IF(ISNA(VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B11, 2, FALSE)), "",

## VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B11, 2, FALSE))

E2 fx =IF(ISNA(VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B11, 2, FALSE)), "", VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B11, 2, FALSE))

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	<b>Team</b>	<b>Points</b>		<b>Lookup Team</b>	<b>Points</b>	
2	Mavericks	24		Nuggets		
3	Hawks	29				
4	Blazers	35				
5	Kings	34				
6	Pacers	20				
7	Hornets	14				
8	Nets	17				
9	Suns	29				
10	Rockets	25				
11	Spurs	13				
12						
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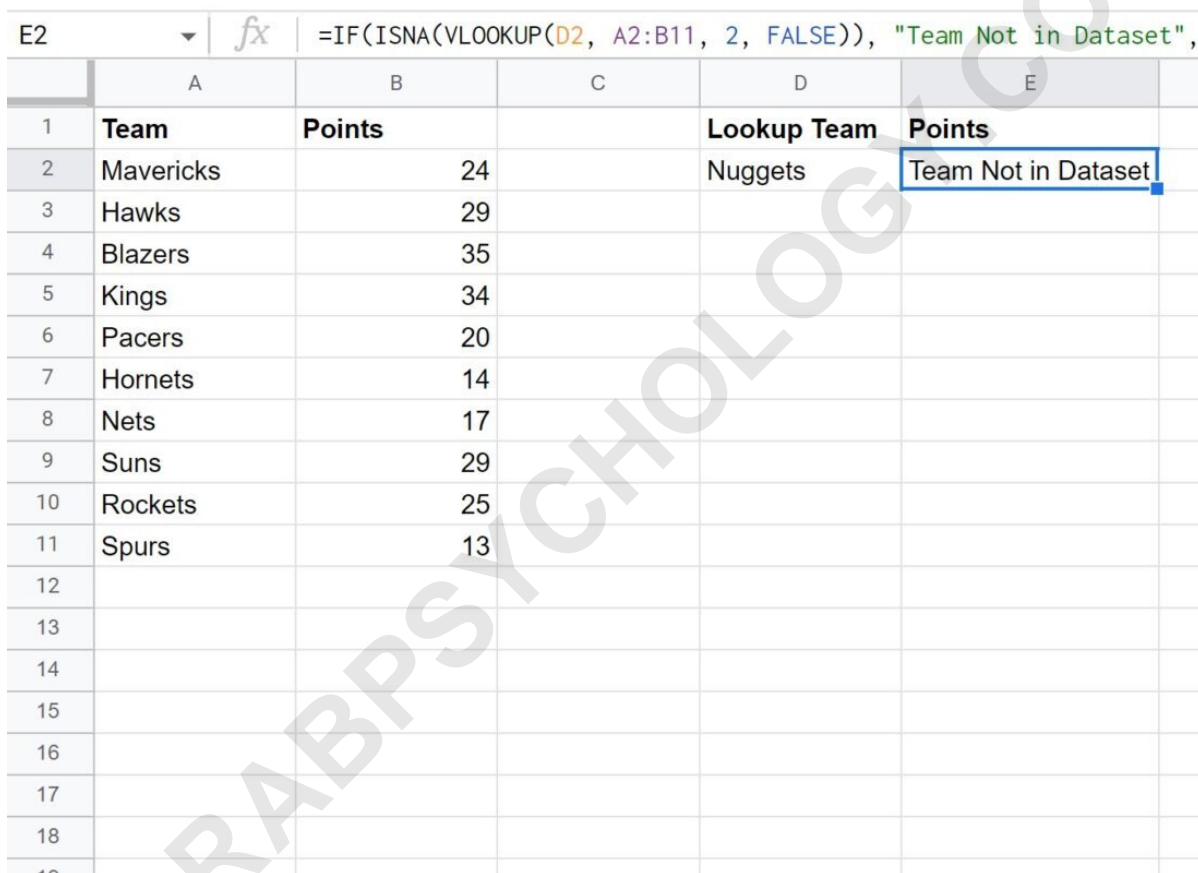
Notice that a blank value is returned this time instead of #N/A.

Also note that you could return a different value instead of a blank if you'd like.

For example, you could use the following formula to return "Team Not in Dataset" if the team name you use in the VLOOKUP formula is not found in the dataset:

**=IF(ISNA(VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B11, 2, FALSE)), "Team Not in Dataset", VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B11, 2, FALSE))**

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



	A	B	C	D	E
1	<b>Team</b>	<b>Points</b>		<b>Lookup Team</b>	<b>Points</b>
2	Mavericks	24		Nuggets	Team Not in Dataset
3	Hawks	29			
4	Blazers	35			
5	Kings	34			
6	Pacers	20			
7	Hornets	14			
8	Nets	17			
9	Suns	29			
10	Rockets	25			
11	Spurs	13			
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Notice that the formula returns "Team Not in Dataset" since the Nuggets don't exist in the team column.

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