

How to Sum Values Before a Date in Excel Using SUMIF

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The SUMIF function in Excel is a powerful tool that allows users to calculate the sum of values in a given range based on specific criteria. One useful application of this function is to calculate values before a specific date. By utilizing the SUMIF function, users can easily filter and add up data that falls within a certain time frame, making it a valuable tool for analyzing and organizing data. Users can specify the date criteria in the formula and the function will automatically sum up all the values that meet the specified date condition. This feature can be particularly useful for financial or project management purposes, as it allows for quick and accurate calculation of values within a specific time period.

Excel: Use SUMIF Before Date

You can use the following formula to sum all values in one column in Excel where the date in a corresponding column is less than a specific date:

`=SUMIF(A2:A11, "<"&E1, B2:B11)`

This particular formula calculates the sum of values in the range B2:B11 only where the corresponding cells in the range A2:A11 are before the date in cell E1.

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

Example: How to Use SUMIF Before Date in Excel

Suppose we have the following dataset that shows the number of sales made on various dates at some company:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date	Sales			
2	1/1/2023	4			
3	1/14/2023	7			
4	1/25/2023	7			
5	2/3/2023	6			
6	3/1/2023	12			
7	4/15/2023	8			
8	4/19/2023	10			
9	4/25/2023	11			
10	5/1/2023	12			
11	5/15/2023	3			
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					

Suppose we would like to calculate the sum of all sales that occurred before 4/10/2023.

We can specify this cutoff date in cell E1 and then type the following formula into cell E2 to calculate the sum of all sales that occurred before this date:

=SUMIF(A2:A11, "<"&E1, B2:B11)

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

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Date	Sales		Cutoff Date	4/10/2023	
2	1/1/2023	4		Sum of Sales	36	
3	1/14/2023	7				
4	1/25/2023	7				
5	2/3/2023	6				
6	3/1/2023	12				
7	4/15/2023	8				
8	4/19/2023	10				
9	4/25/2023	11				
10	5/1/2023	12				
11	5/15/2023	3				
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						

The formula returns a value of 36, which represents the sum of all sales made before 4/10/2023.

We can verify this is correct by manually calculating the sum of all sales before this date:

Sum of Sales before 4/10/2023: $4 + 7 + 7 + 6 + 12 = 36$

This matches the value calculated by our formula.

Note that if we change the cutoff date in cell E1, our formula will automatically update to show the sum of sales before the new date.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Date	Sales		Cutoff Date	2/10/2023	
2	1/1/2023	4		Sum of Sales	24	
3	1/14/2023	7				
4	1/25/2023	7				
5	2/3/2023	6				
6	3/1/2023	12				
7	4/15/2023	8				
8	4/19/2023	10				
9	4/25/2023	11				
10	5/1/2023	12				
11	5/15/2023	3				
12						
13						
14						
15						

The formula now returns a value of 24, which represents the sum of all sales made before 2/10/2023.

We can verify this is correct by manually calculating the sum of all sales before this date:

Sum of Sales before 2/10/2023: $4 + 7 + 7 + 6 = 24$

This matches the value calculated by our formula.

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