

# How to Find the Maximum Value with VLOOKUP 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 table and return a corresponding value from a different column. To return the maximum value using VLOOKUP, the function can be used in combination with the MAX function, which calculates the highest value in a given range. By specifying the range of values to search in and the column to return the value from, VLOOKUP can find the highest value and return it as the result. This makes it a useful tool for quickly finding the maximum value in a dataset in Google Sheets.

You can use the following syntax in Google Sheets 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 Google Sheets**

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

	A	B	C
1	<b>Points</b>	<b>Team</b>	
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			

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:

D2  $\text{fx}$  =VLOOKUP(MAX(A2:A11), A2:B11, 2, FALSE)

	A	B	C	D
1	<b>Points</b>	<b>Team</b>		<b>Team with Max Points</b>
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				

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.

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:

D2    `=MAXIFS(B2:B9, A2:A9, "Warriors")`

	A	B	C	D
1	<b>Team</b>	<b>Points</b>		<b>Max Points for Warriors</b>
2	Warriors	22		30
3	Warriors	14		
4	Warriors	19		
5	Warriors	30		
6	Mavs	24		
7	Mavs	28		
8	Mavs	13		
9	Mavs	25		
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				

The formula returns a value of **30**, which is the max value associated with the "Warriors" in this dataset.

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