How can XLOOKUP be used to return all matches in Excel?

Authored by

stats writer

June 26, 2024

XLOOKUP is a powerful function in Excel that allows users to easily find and retrieve data in a spreadsheet. One of its key features is the ability to return all matches for a specific search criterion. This means that users can search for a particular value and have XLOOKUP return all instances of that value within a given range. This functionality is particularly useful when dealing with large datasets or when searching for multiple occurrences of a specific value. With XLOOKUP, users can efficiently extract the desired information and save time and effort in data analysis.

Excel: Use XLOOKUP to Return All Matches

By default, the XLOOKUP function in Excel looks up some value in a range and returns a corresponding value *only for the first match*.

However, you can use the FILTER function instead to look up some value in a range and return corresponding values for *all matches*:

=FILTER(C2:C11, E2=A2:A11)

This particular formula looks in the range C2:C11 and returns the corresponding values in the range A2:A11 for *all rows* where the value in C2:C11 is equal to E2.

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

Example: Use XLOOKUP to Return All Matches

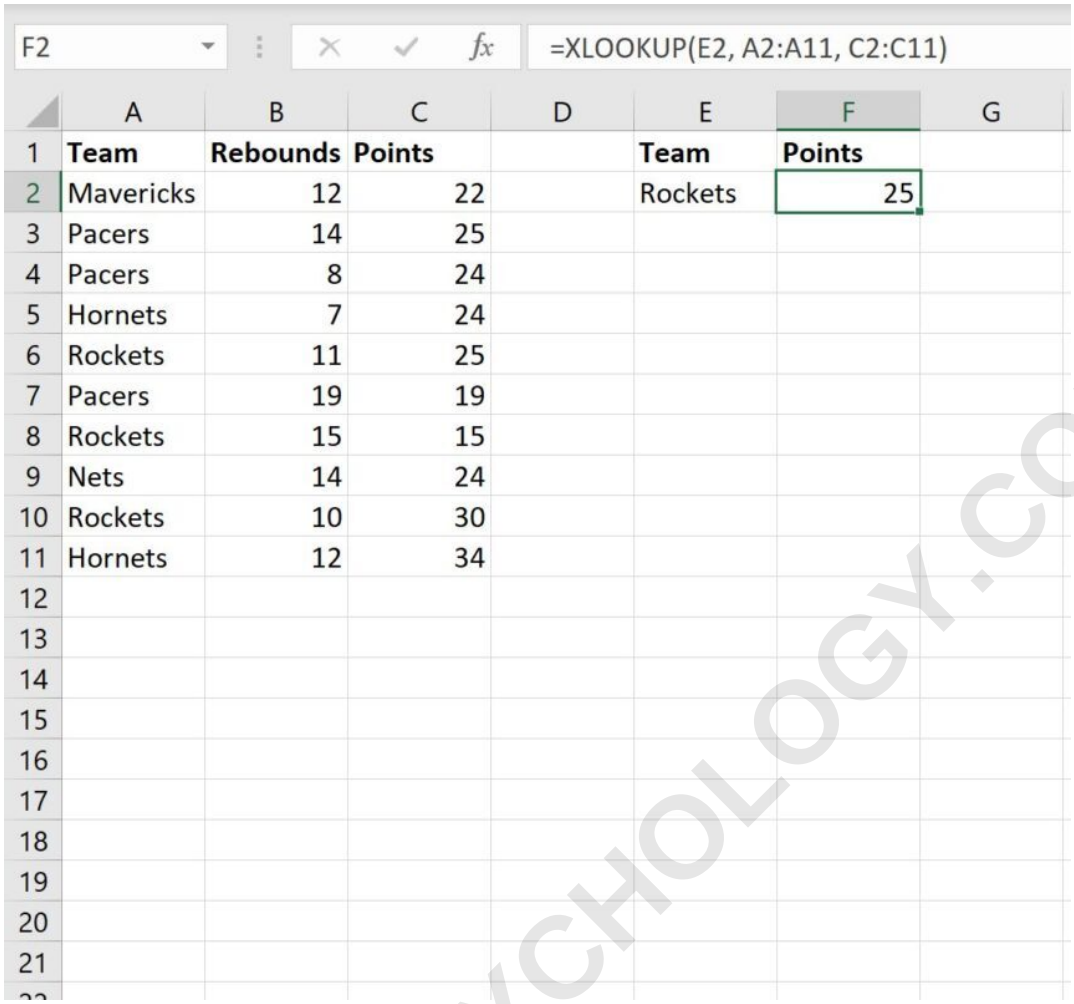
Suppose we have the following dataset in Excel that shows information about various basketball teams:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	**Team**	**Rebounds**	**Points**			
2	Mavericks	12	22			
3	Pacers	14	25			
4	Pacers	8	24			
5	Hornets	7	24			
6	Rockets	11	25			
7	Pacers	19	19			
8	Rockets	15	15			
9	Nets	14	24			
10	Rockets	10	30			
11	Hornets	12	34			
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						

Suppose we use the following formula with XLOOKUP to look up the team "Rockets" in column A and return the corresponding points value in column C:

=XLOOKUP(E2, A2:A11, C2:C11)

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



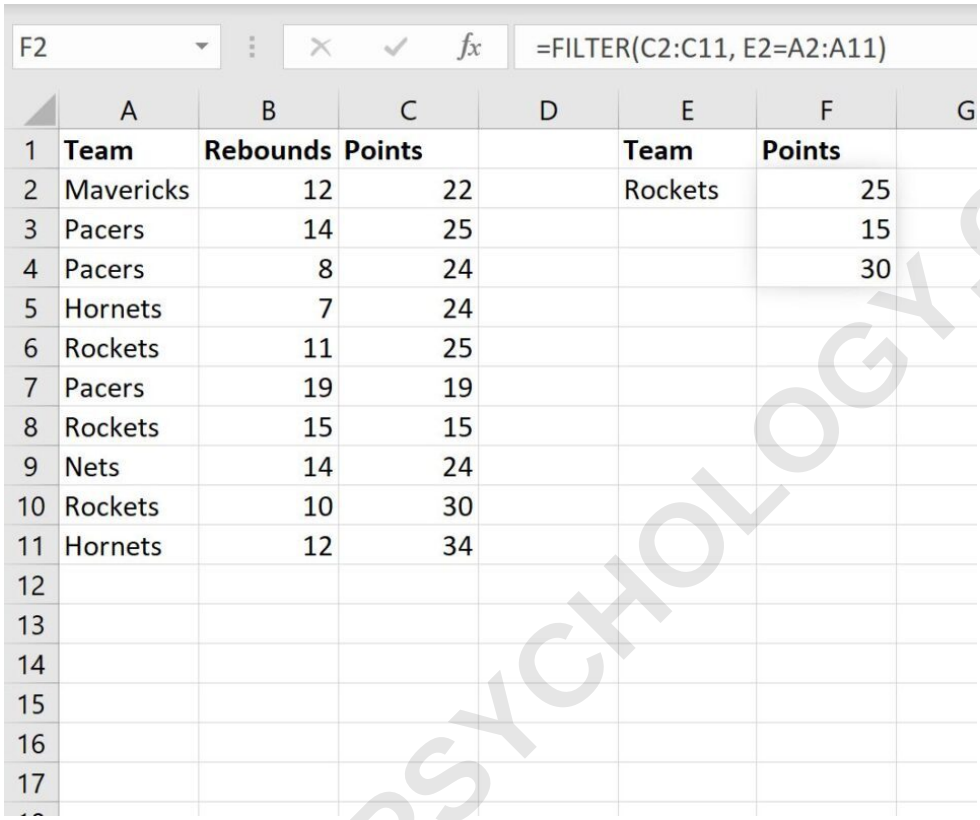
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	**Team**	**Rebounds**	**Points**		**Team**	**Points**	
2	Mavericks	12	22		Rockets	25	
3	Pacers	14	25				
4	Pacers	8	24				
5	Hornets	7	24				
6	Rockets	11	25				
7	Pacers	19	19				
8	Rockets	15	15				
9	Nets	14	24				
10	Rockets	10	30				
11	Hornets	12	34				
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							
21							

The XLOOKUP function returns the value in the "Points" column for the first occurrence of Rockets in the "Team" column, but it fails to return the points values for the other two rows that also contain Rockets in the "Team" column.

To return the points values for all rows that contain Rockets in the "Team" column, we can use the FILTER function instead.

Here's the exact formula we can use:

=FILTER(C2:C11, E2=A2:A11)



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	**Team**	**Rebounds**	**Points**		**Team**	**Points**	
2	Mavericks	12	22		Rockets	25	
3	Pacers	14	25			15	
4	Pacers	8	24			30	
5	Hornets	7	24				
6	Rockets	11	25				
7	Pacers	19	19				
8	Rockets	15	15				
9	Nets	14	24				
10	Rockets	10	30				
11	Hornets	12	34				
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							

Notice that the FILTER function returns all three points values for the three rows where the "Team" column contains Rockets.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	**Team**	**Rebounds**	**Points**		**Team**	**Points**
2	Mavericks	12	22		Rockets	25
3	Pacers	14	25			15
4	Pacers	8	24			30
5	Hornets	7	24			
6	Rockets	11	25			
7	Pacers	19	19			
8	Rockets	15	15			
9	Nets	14	24			
10	Rockets	10	30			
11	Hornets	12	34			
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						

Related:

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