

# How do I convert a date to a number in Google Sheets?

Authored by  
**stats writer**

June 28, 2024

## RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *How do I convert a date to a number in Google Sheets?*.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=155841>

Converting a date to a number in Google Sheets allows for easier manipulation and calculation of dates in a spreadsheet. To do so, simply use the "TO\_DATE" function and enter the date you want to convert as the argument. This will return the date in a numerical format, with the date being represented as the number of days since December 30, 1899. This conversion can be useful for tracking and analyzing data over time in a more efficient manner.

## Convert Date to Number in Google Sheets (3 Examples)

This tutorial explains how to convert a date to a number in three different scenarios:

1. Convert One Date to Number
2. Convert Several Dates to Numbers
3. Convert Date to Number of Days Since Another Date

Let's jump in!

Example 1: Convert One Date to Number

Suppose we would like to convert the date "4/10/2022" to a number in Google Sheets.

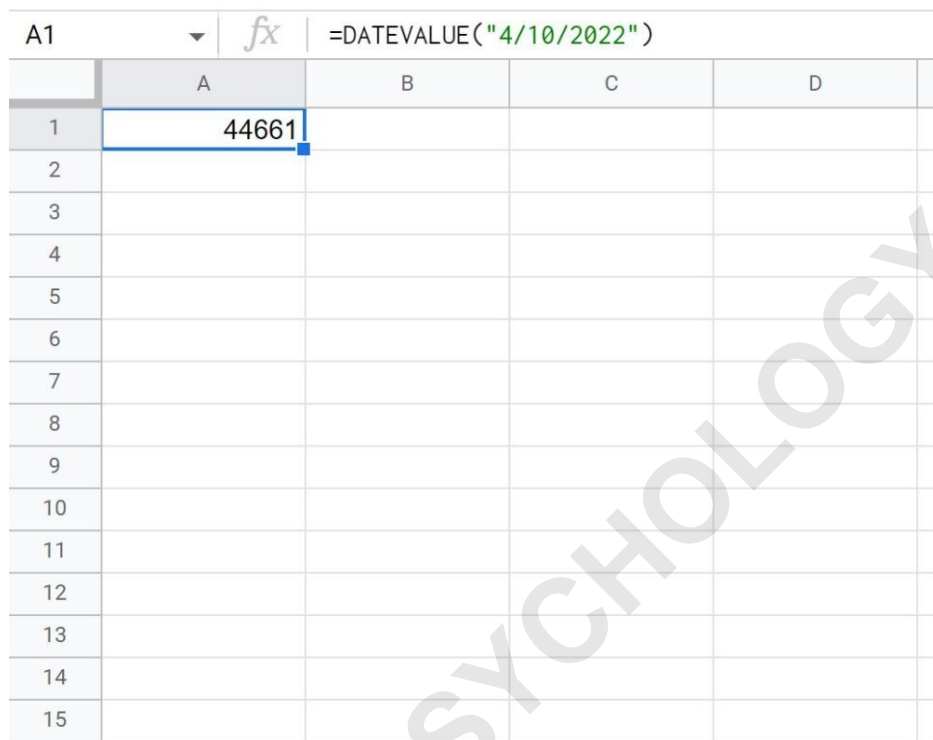
We can use the DATEVALUE function in Excel to do so:

**=DATEVALUE("4/10/2022")**

By default, this function calculates the number of days

between a given date and 1/1/1900.

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



	A	B	C	D
1	44661			
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				

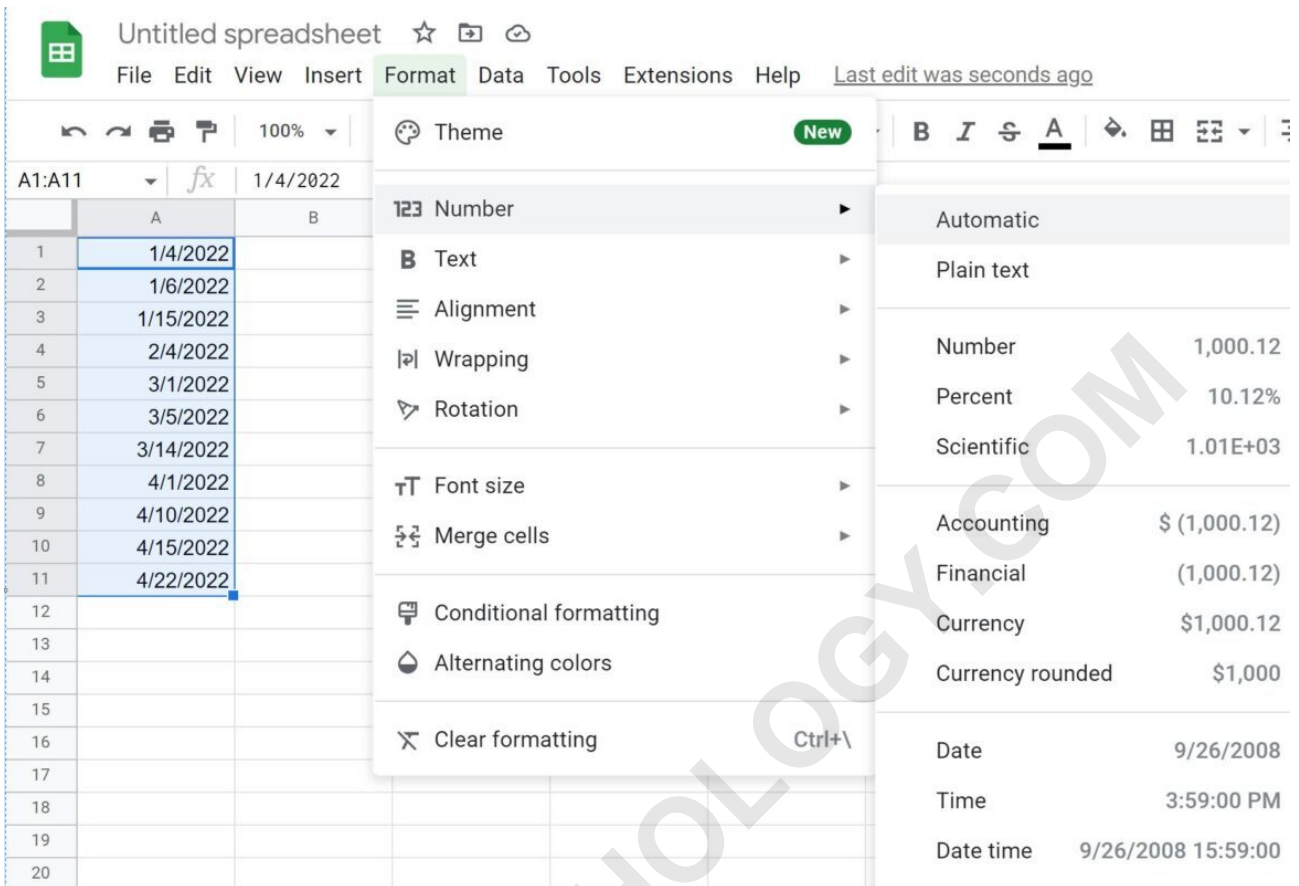
This tells us that there is a difference of 44,661 days between 4/10/2022 and 1/1/1900.

**Example 2: Convert Several Dates to Numbers**

Suppose we have the following list of dates in Google Sheets:

	A	B	C	D
1	1/4/2022			
2	1/6/2022			
3	1/15/2022			
4	2/4/2022			
5	3/1/2022			
6	3/5/2022			
7	3/14/2022			
8	4/1/2022			
9	4/10/2022			
10	4/15/2022			
11	4/22/2022			
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				

**To convert each of these dates to a number, we can highlight the range of cells that contain the dates, then click the Format tab, then click Number from the dropdown menu, then click Automatic:**



**This will automatically convert each date to a number that represents the number of days between each date and 1/1/1900:**

	A	B	C	D
1	44565			
2	44567			
3	44576			
4	44596			
5	44621			
6	44625			
7	44634			
8	44652			
9	44661			
10	44666			
11	44673			
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				

### Example 3: Convert Date to Number of Days Since Another Date

We can use the following formula to convert a date to a number of days since another date:

**=DATEDIF(B2, A2, "d")**

This particular formula calculates the number of days between the date in cell B2 and the date in cell A2.

The following screenshot shows how to use the DATEDIF formula to calculate the number of days between the dates in column A and 1/1/2022:

B2  $\nabla$  *fx* =DATEDIF(\$E\$1, A2, "d")

	A	B	C	D	E
1	<b>Date</b>	<b>Date Difference</b>		<b>Starting Date</b>	1/1/2022
2	1/4/2022	3			
3	1/6/2022	5			
4	1/15/2022	14			
5	2/4/2022	34			
6	3/1/2022	59			
7	3/5/2022	63			
8	3/14/2022	72			
9	4/1/2022	90			
10	4/10/2022	99			
11	4/15/2022	104			
12	4/22/2022	111			
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					

**Here's how to interpret the values in column B:**

**There are 3 days between 1/1/2022 and 1/4/2022. There are 5 days between 1/1/2022 and 1/6/2022. There are 14 days between 1/1/2022 and 1/15/2022.**

**And so on.**

### **Additional Resources**

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