

# How do I count specific words in Google Sheets?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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Counting specific words in Google Sheets can be done using the built-in function "COUNTIF". First, select the range of cells where the words are located. Then, use the formula "=COUNTIF(range,word)" and replace "range" with the selected cells and "word" with the specific word you want to count. This function will count the number of cells in the selected range that contain the specified word. This is a useful tool for analyzing text data and finding the frequency of certain words.

## Count Specific Words in Google Sheets

**You can use the following formula to count the occurrence of a specific word in Google Sheets:**

**=COUNTIF(B2:B15,"\*Guard\*")**

**This particular formula will count the number of cells in the range B2:B15 that contain the word "Guard" somewhere in the cell.**

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

**Example: Count Specific Words in Google Sheets**

**Suppose we have the following dataset that contains information about various basketball players:**

	A	B	C	D	
1	<b>Player</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Points</b>		
2	Andy	Shooting Guard	22		
3	Bob	Point Guard	34		
4	Chad	Point Guard	20		
5	Doug	Small Foward	19		
6	Eric	Power Forward	15		
7	Frank	Center	15		
8	George	Power Foward	19		
9	Henry	Point Guard	12		
10	Isaac	Shooting Guard	31		
11	John	Small Forward	38		
12	Ken	Small Forward	12		
13	Liam	Point Guard	11		
14	Mike	Center	10		
15	Nate	Center	8		
16					
17					
18					
19					

**We can use the following formula to count the number of cells in column B that contain "Guard" somewhere in the cell:**

**=COUNTIF(B2:B15,"\*Guard\*")**

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

	A	B	C	D	E
E2					<code>=COUNTIF(B2:B15, "*Guard*")</code>
1	<b>Player</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Points</b>		<b>Count of Cells that contain "Guard"</b>
2	Andy	Shooting Guard	22		6
3	Bob	Point Guard	34		
4	Chad	Point Guard	20		
5	Doug	Small Foward	19		
6	Eric	Power Forward	15		
7	Frank	Center	15		
8	George	Power Foward	19		
9	Henry	Point Guard	12		
10	Isaac	Shooting Guard	31		
11	John	Small Forward	38		
12	Ken	Small Forward	12		
13	Liam	Point Guard	11		
14	Mike	Center	10		
15	Nate	Center	8		
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**From the output we can see that 6 cells in column B contain "Guard" somewhere in the cell.**

**We can confirm this is correct by manually identifying each of these cells:**

	A	B	C	D	E
1	<b>Player</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Points</b>		<b>Count of Cells that contain "Guard"</b>
2	Andy	Shooting Guard	22		6
3	Bob	Point Guard	34		
4	Chad	Point Guard	20		
5	Doug	Small Foward	19		
6	Eric	Power Forward	15		
7	Frank	Center	15		
8	George	Power Foward	19		
9	Henry	Point Guard	12		
10	Isaac	Shooting Guard	31		
11	John	Small Forward	38		
12	Ken	Small Forward	12		
13	Liam	Point Guard	11		
14	Mike	Center	10		
15	Nate	Center	8		
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					
21					

To find the count of cells that contain a different word, simply replace Guard with another word in the formula.

For example, use the following formula to count the number of cells that contain "Forward" somewhere in the cell:

**=COUNTIF(B2:B15,"\*Forward\*")**