

How do I make Google Sheets ignore blank cells when using formulas?

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This article explains how to make Google Sheets ignore blank cells when using formulas. By using the IF and ISBLANK functions, users can create a formula that will ignore any blank cells within a range of data. This allows for more accurate calculations and prevents errors caused by blank cells. Additionally, the use of the IFERROR function can help to catch and handle any errors that may occur. By following these steps, users can effectively manage and manipulate data in Google Sheets without being affected by blank cells.

Google Sheets: Ignore Blank Cells with Formulas

You can use the following formulas in Google Sheets to ignore blank values when performing calculations:

Formula 1: Calculate Average & Ignore Blanks

=AVERAGEIF(A2:A13,"<>",B2:B13)

This formula calculates the average value in the range B2:B13 only for the cells where A2:A13 is not blank.

Formula 2: Calculate Sum & Ignore Blanks

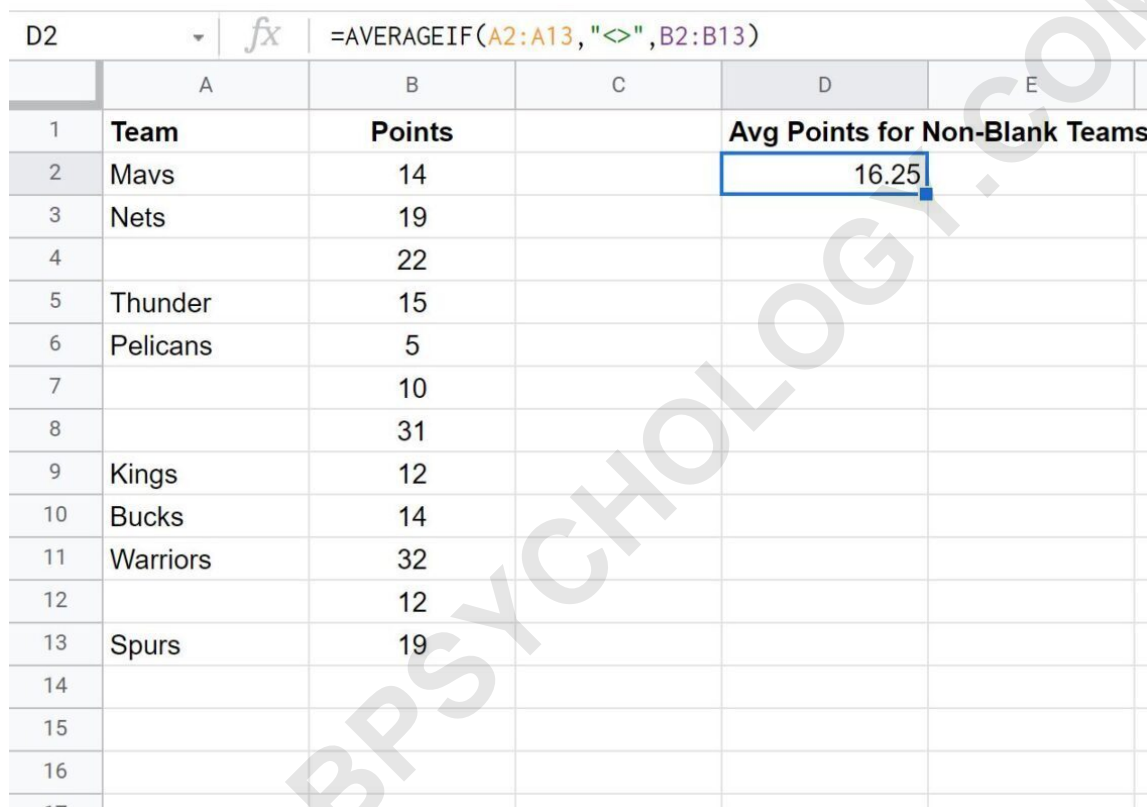
=SUMIF(A2:A13,"<>",B2:B13)

This formula calculates the sum of values in the range B2:B13 only for the cells where A2:A13 is not blank.

The following examples show how to use these formulas in practice.

Example 1: Calculate Average & Ignore Blanks

The following screenshot shows how to calculate the average value in the Points column only for the cells where the value in the Team column is not blank:



	A	B	C	D	E
1	Team	Points		Avg Points for Non-Blank Teams	
2	Mavs	14		16.25	
3	Nets	19			
4		22			
5	Thunder	15			
6	Pelicans	5			
7		10			
8		31			
9	Kings	12			
10	Bucks	14			
11	Warriors	32			
12		12			
13	Spurs	19			
14					
15					
16					
17					

The average points value for the teams that aren't blank is 16.25.

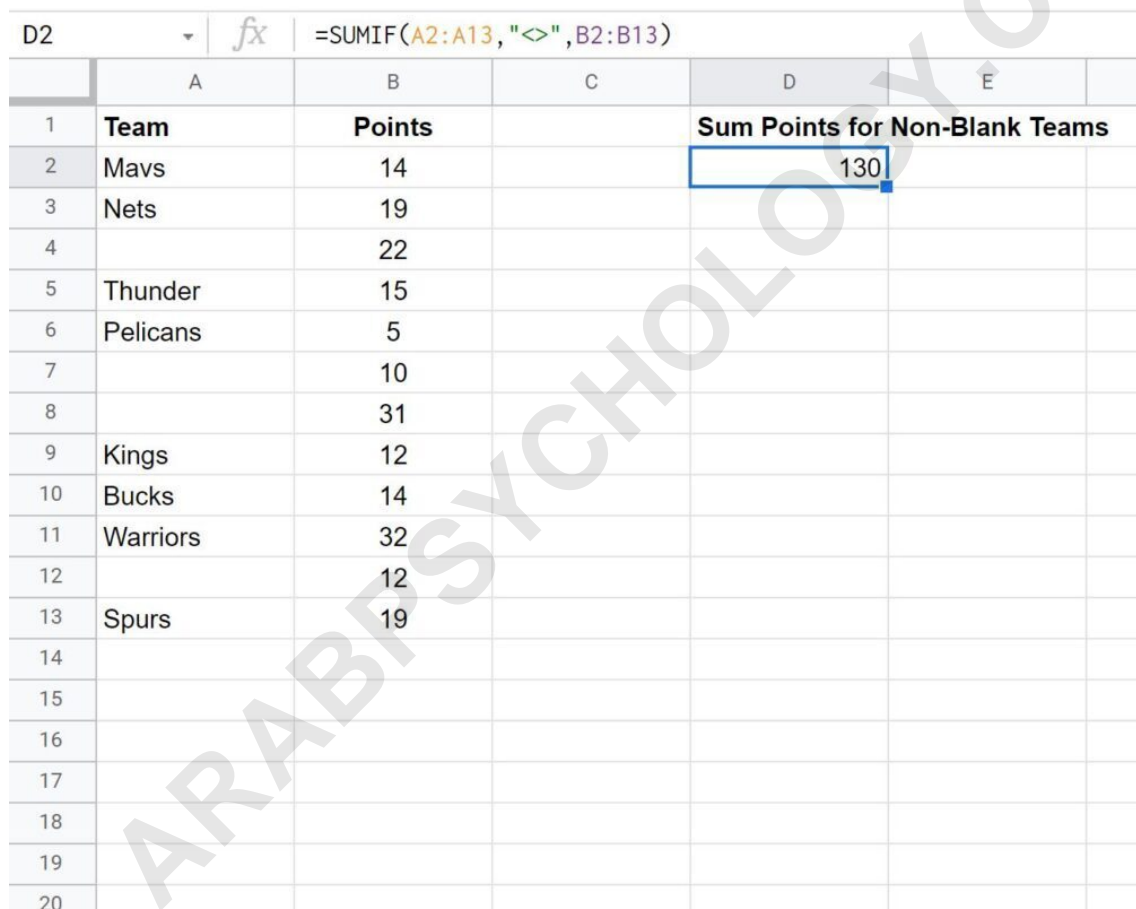
We can verify this is correct by manually calculating the average points value for the non-blank teams:

Average Points for Non-Blank Teams:

$$(14+19+15+5+12+14+32+19) / 8 = 16.25.$$

Example 2: Calculate Sum & Ignore Blanks

The following screenshot shows how to calculate the sum of values in the Points column only for the cells where the value in the Team column is not blank:



The screenshot shows a Google Sheet with the following data and formula:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Team	Points		Sum Points for Non-Blank Teams	
2	Mavs	14		130	
3	Nets	19			
4		22			
5	Thunder	15			
6	Pelicans	5			
7		10			
8		31			
9	Kings	12			
10	Bucks	14			
11	Warriors	32			
12		12			
13	Spurs	19			
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					

The formula bar shows: `=SUMIF(A2:A13, "<>", B2:B13)`

We can verify this is correct by manually calculating the sum of the points values for the non-blank teams:

Sum of Points for Non-Blank Teams:

14+19+15+5+12+14+32+19 = 130.

Additional Resources

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