

How do I use the Excel SUMIF function to add cells that contain specific text?

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RECOMMENDED CITATION

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The Excel SUMIF function is a useful tool for adding cells that contain specific text. This function allows users to specify certain criteria, such as text, and only add cells that meet that criteria. To use the SUMIF function, simply enter the range of cells to be added, followed by the criteria in quotation marks, and then the range of cells to be added if the criteria is met. This function can be particularly helpful when dealing with large datasets and wanting to quickly add only certain cells that contain specific text. It is a valuable feature for organizing and analyzing data in Excel.

Excel: Sum If Cells Contain Text

You can use the following methods to sum cells in Excel that contain specific text:

Method 1: Sum Cells that Contain One Specific Text

=SUMIF(A2:A11, "*avs*", B2:B11)

This formula will sum the cells in the range B2:B11 where the corresponding cells in A2:A11 contain "avs" in the cell.

Method 2: Sum Cells that Contain One of Several Text

=SUMIF(A2:A11, "*avs*", B2:B11)+SUMIF(A2:A11, "*eat*", B2:B11)

This formula will sum the cells in the range B2:B11 where the corresponding cells in A2:A11 contain "avs" or "eat" in the cell.

The following examples show how to use each method in practice with the following dataset in Excel:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Team	Points			
2	Mavs	12			
3	Spurs	10			
4	Cavs	5			
5	Mavs	8			
6	Spurs	6			
7	Rockets	5			
8	Mavs	10			
9	Heat	13			
10	Warriors	14			
11	Cavs	17			
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					
19					

Example 1: Sum Cells that Contain One Specific Text

We can use the following formula to sum the values in the Points column where the Team name contains "avs" in the name:

=SUMIF(A2:A11, "*avs*", B2:B11)

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

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Team	Points		Contains "avs"			
2	Mavs	12		52			
3	Spurs	10					
4	Cavs	5					
5	Mavs	8					
6	Spurs	6					
7	Rockets	5					
8	Mavs	10					
9	Heat	13					
10	Warriors	14					
11	Cavs	17					
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							

We can see that the cells where the Team column contains "avs" scored a total of 52 points.

We can manually verify this by summing the values where the Team column contains "avs":

Sum of Points for Teams with "avs" in name: $12 + 5 + 8 + 10 + 17 = 52$.

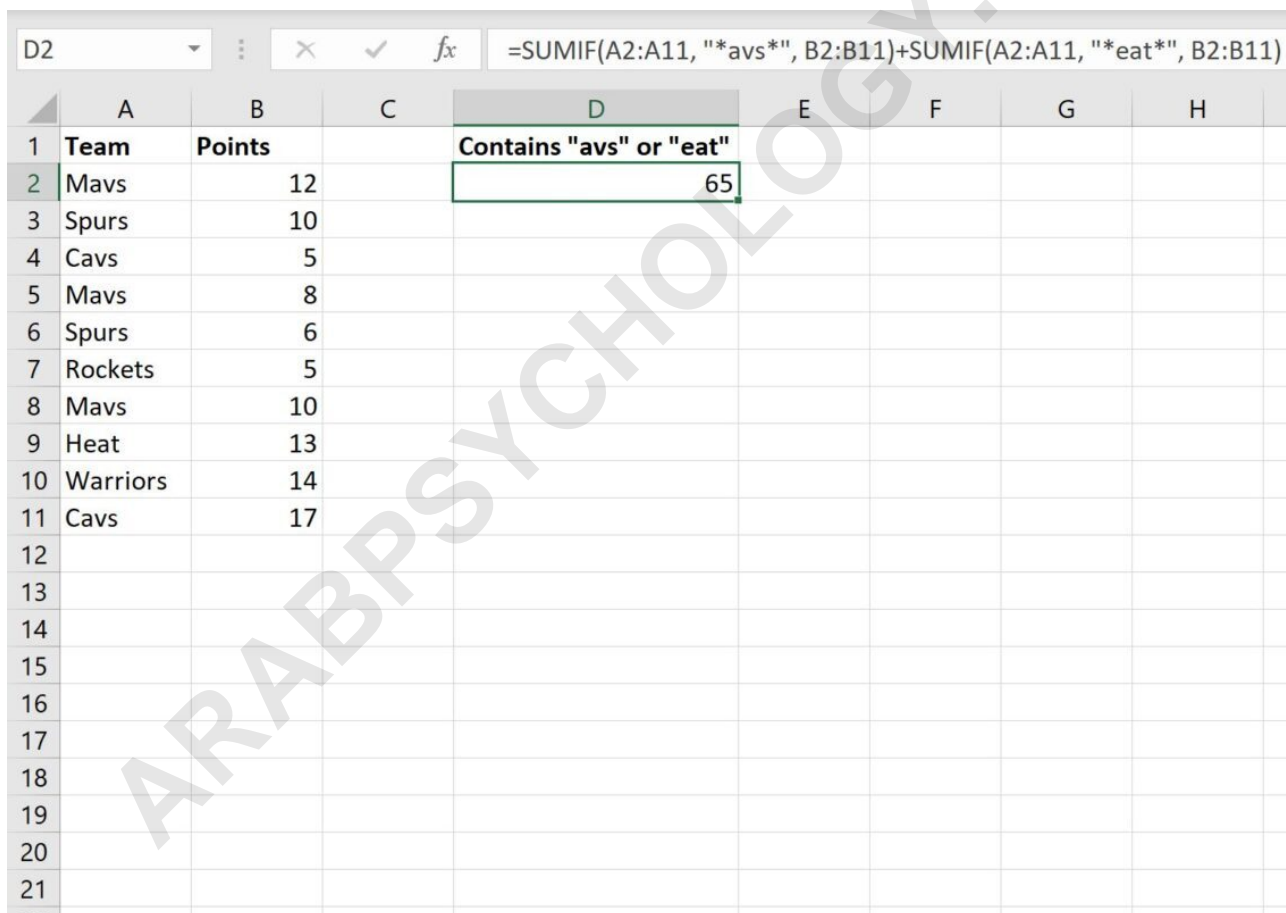
Example 2: Sum Cells that Contain One of Several Text

We can use the following formula to sum the values in the Points column where the Team name contains "avs"

or "eat" in the name:

=SUMIF(A2:A11, "*avs*", B2:B11)+SUMIF(A2:A11, "*eat*", B2:B11)

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



The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet with the following data:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Team	Points		Contains "avs" or "eat"				
2	Mavs	12		65				
3	Spurs	10						
4	Cavs	5						
5	Mavs	8						
6	Spurs	6						
7	Rockets	5						
8	Mavs	10						
9	Heat	13						
10	Warriors	14						
11	Cavs	17						
12								
13								
14								
15								
16								
17								
18								
19								
20								
21								

The formula bar shows the formula: `=SUMIF(A2:A11, "*avs*", B2:B11)+SUMIF(A2:A11, "*eat*", B2:B11)`

We can see that the cells where the Team column contains "avs" or "eat" scored a total of 65 points.

We can manually verify this by summing the values where the Team column contains "avs" or "eat":

Sum of Points for Teams with "avs" or "eat" in name: 12 + 5 + 8 + 10 + 13 + 17 = 65.

Additional Resources

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

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