

# How do I use the MONTH function in Excel?

Authored by  
**stats writer**

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The MONTH function in Excel is a tool that allows users to extract the month from a given date and display it in a cell. To use this function, simply type "=MONTH(" followed by the cell containing the date or the date itself, and then close the parentheses. This will return the numerical value of the month, ranging from 1 to 12, depending on the date provided. This function can be useful for organizing and analyzing data that includes dates, such as sales reports or financial statements. It can also be combined with other functions to perform more complex calculations. Overall, the MONTH function is a convenient and efficient way to extract the month from a date in Excel.

This article describes the formula syntax and usage of the **MONTH** function in Microsoft Excel.

## Description

Returns the month of a date represented by a serial number. The month is given as an integer, ranging from 1 (January) to 12 (December).

## Syntax

MONTH(serial\_number)

The MONTH function syntax has the following arguments:

**Serial\_number** Required. The date of the month you are trying to find. Dates should be entered by using the DATE function, or as results of other formulas or functions. For example, use DATE(2008,5,23) for the 23rd day of May, 2008. Problems can occur if dates are entered as text.

## Remarks

Microsoft Excel stores dates as sequential serial numbers so they can be used in calculations. By default, January 1, 1900 is serial number 1, and January 1, 2008 is serial number 39448 because it is 39,448 days after January 1, 1900.

Values returned by the YEAR, MONTH and DAY functions will be Gregorian values regardless of the display format for the supplied date value. For example, if the display format of the supplied date is Hijri, the returned values for the YEAR, MONTH and DAY functions will be values associated with the equivalent Gregorian date.

## See Also

[DATE function](#)

Add or subtract dates

Date and time functions (reference)

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