

# How do I write a Case Statement in Google Sheets?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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A Case Statement in Google Sheets is a function that allows you to evaluate a given value and return a result based on a set of specified conditions. It is written using the "switch" function, which takes three arguments: the value you want to evaluate, the condition you want to evaluate it with, and the value you want to return if the condition is true. You can also specify multiple conditions and return values. The syntax for the switch function is "`=switch(value, condition, return_value, )`".

A **case statement** is a type of statement that goes through conditions and returns a value when the first condition is met.

The easiest way to implement a case statement in Google Sheets is by using the **SWITCH()** function, which uses the following basic syntax:

```
=SWITCH(A2, "G", "Guard", "F", "Forward", "C", "Center", "None")
```

This particular function looks at cell A2 and returns the following value:

**"Guard"** if cell A2 contains "G"

**"Forward"** if cell A2 contains "F"

**"Center"** if cell A2 contains "C"

**"None"** if cell A2 does not contain any of the previous values

The following example shows how to use this function in practice in Google Sheets.

### **Example: Case Statement in Google Sheets**

Suppose we have the following list of basketball positions:

	A	B	C	D	
1	<b>Position</b>				
2	G				
3	G				
4	F				
5	F				
6	G				
7	F				
8	C				
9	G				
10	F				
11	F				
12	G				
13	F				
14	C				
15	C				
16	Z				
17					
18					
19					

We'll use the following **SWITCH()** function to return a specific position name in column B based on the value in column A:

**=SWITCH(A2, "G", "Guard", "F", "Forward", "C", "Center", "None")**

We'll type this formula into cell **B2** and then copy and paste it down to every remaining cell in column B:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	<b>Position</b>	<b>Position Name</b>				
2	G	Guard				
3	G	Guard				
4	F	Forward				
5	F	Forward				
6	G	Guard				
7	F	Forward				
8	C	Center				
9	G	Guard				
10	F	Forward				
11	F	Forward				
12	G	Guard				
13	F	Forward				
14	C	Center				
15	C	Center				
16	Z	None				
17						
18						
19						
20						
21						
22						

This formula returns the following values in column B:

**"Guard"** if column A contains "G"

**"Forward"** if column A contains "F"

**"Center"** if column A contains "C"

**"None"** if column A does not contain any of the previous values

Notice that the last value in column B returns a value of **"None"** since we didn't specify a specific value to return for "Z" in the formula.

We could also use the following formula to simply return the original value from column A if it does not contain any of the specified values in the **SWITCH** formula:

**=SWITCH(A2, "G", "Guard", "F", "Forward", "C", "Center", A2)**

We'll type this formula into cell **B2** and then copy and paste it down to every remaining cell in column B:

B2 fx =SWITCH(A2, "G", "Guard", "F", "Forward", "C", "Center", A2)

	A	B	C	D	E
1	<b>Position</b>	<b>Position Name</b>			
2	G	Guard			
3	G	Guard			
4	F	Forward			
5	F	Forward			
6	G	Guard			
7	F	Forward			
8	C	Center			
9	G	Guard			
10	F	Forward			
11	F	Forward			
12	G	Guard			
13	F	Forward			
14	C	Center			
15	C	Center			
16	Z	Z			
17					
18					

Notice that the last value in column B simply returns a value of **Z** since the last value in column A didn't contain any of the specified values in the **SWITCH** formula.

**Note:** You can find the complete documentation for the **SWITCH** function in Google Sheets .