How to Easily Use VLOOKUP with IF Statements in Google Sheets

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VLOOKUP with IF Statements in Google Sheets can be used to compare two ranges of data and return a certain value depending on the result of the comparison. This can be done by combining the VLOOKUP function with an IF statement. The VLOOKUP function checks for a certain value in a range of data and the IF statement checks to see if the VLOOKUP result matches a certain criteria. If the criteria is met, the IF statement will return a specified value. If the criteria is not met, the IF statement can be set to return another value.

You can use the following syntax to use a VLOOKUP with an IF statement in Google Sheets:

=IF(ISNA(VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B11, 2, FALSE)), "", VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B11, 2, FALSE))

This particular formula looks up the value in cell **D2** in the range **A2:B11**.

If the value exists, then this formula returns the corresponding value in column **2** of the range.

If the value does not exist, then a blank is returned.

Note: The **FALSE** argument tells Google Sheets to look for exact matches instead of approximate matches.

The following example shows how to use this syntax in practice.

Example: Use VLOOKUP with IF Statement in Google Sheets

Suppose we have the following dataset in Google Sheets that shows the points scored by basketball players on various teams:

	A	B	C	D
1	**Team**	**Points**		
2	Mavericks	24		
3	Hawks	29		
4	Blazers	35		
5	Kings	34		
6	Pacers	20		
7	Hornets	14		
8	Nets	17		
9	Suns	29		
10	Rockets	25		
11	Spurs	13		
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Suppose we attempt to use the following **VLOOKUP** formula to look up the team name in cell D2 in column A and return the corresponding points value in column B:

=VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B11, 2, FALSE)

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

E2 | fx | =VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B11, 2, FALSE)

	A	B	C	D	E
1	**Team**	**Points**		**Lookup Team**	**Points**
2	Mavericks	24		Nuggets	#N/A
3	Hawks	29			
4	Blazers	35			
5	Kings	34			
6	Pacers	20			
7	Hornets	14			
8	Nets	17			
9	Suns	29			
10	Rockets	25			
11	Spurs	13			
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The **VLOOKUP** formula returns **#N/A** since "Nuggets" does not exist in the team column.

To return a blank value instead of #N/A, we can use the following formula:

=IF(ISNA(VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B11, 2, FALSE)), "", VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B11, 2, FALSE))

E2 =IF(ISNA(VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B11, 2, FALSE)), "", VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B11, 2, FALSE))

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	**Team**	**Points**		**Lookup Team**	**Points**	
2	Mavericks	24		Nuggets		
3	Hawks	29				
4	Blazers	35				
5	Kings	34				
6	Pacers	20				
7	Hornets	14				
8	Nets	17				
9	Suns	29				
10	Rockets	25				
11	Spurs	13				
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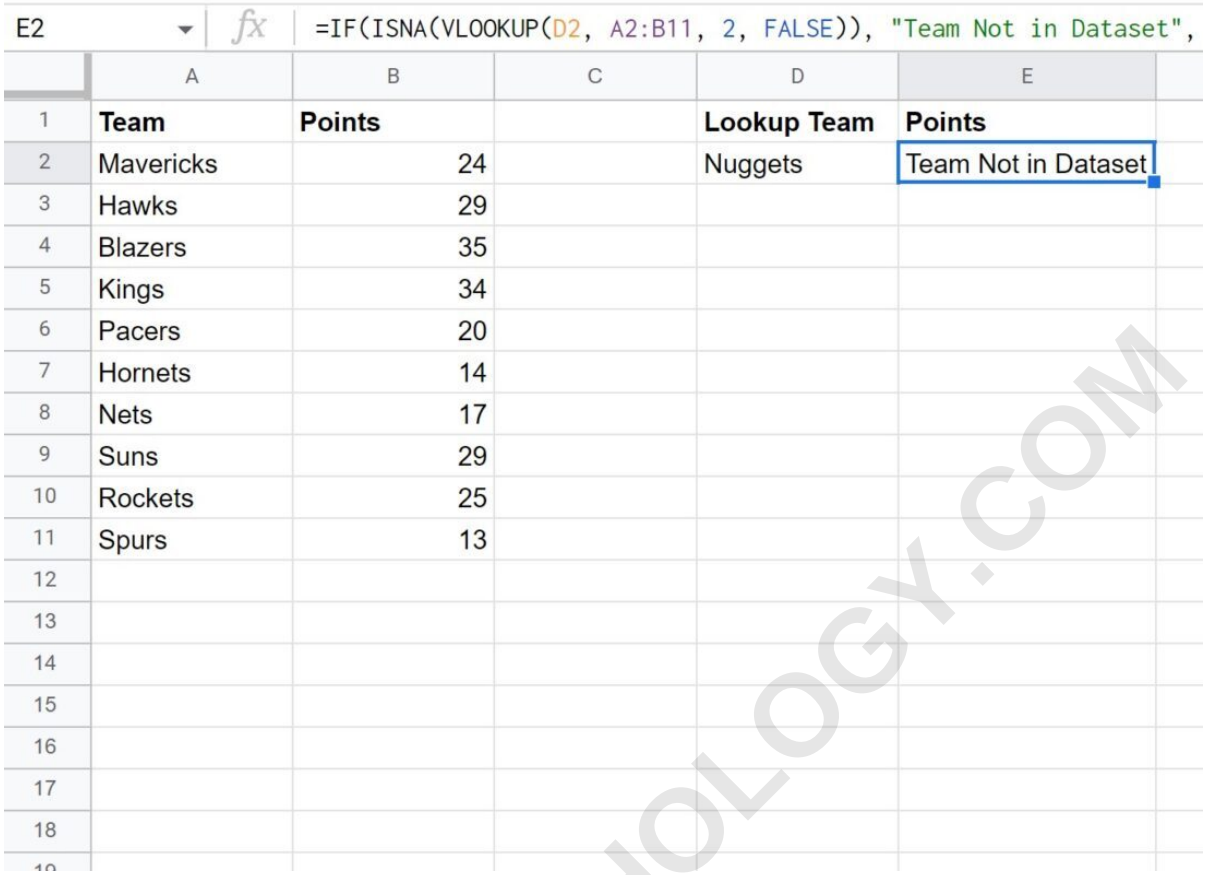
Notice that a blank value is returned this time instead of **#N/A**.

Also note that you could return a different value instead of a blank if you'd like.

For example, you could use the following formula to return "Team Not in Dataset" if the team name you use in the **VLOOKUP** formula is not found in the dataset:

=IF(ISNA(VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B11, 2, FALSE)), "Team Not in Dataset", VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B11, 2, FALSE))

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



E2 =IF(ISNA(VLOOKUP(D2, A2:B11, 2, FALSE)), "Team Not in Dataset",

	A	B	C	D	E
1	**Team**	**Points**		**Lookup Team**	**Points**
2	Mavericks	24		Nuggets	Team Not in Dataset
3	Hawks	29			
4	Blazers	35			
5	Kings	34			
6	Pacers	20			
7	Hornets	14			
8	Nets	17			
9	Suns	29			
10	Rockets	25			
11	Spurs	13			
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Notice that the formula returns "Team Not in Dataset" since the Nuggets don't exist in the team column.