What are some common formulas used in Google Sheets?

Authored by

stats writer

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Google Sheets is a powerful tool for organizing and manipulating data, making it a popular choice for businesses, students, and individuals. In order to effectively utilize this spreadsheet software, it is important to understand the common formulas used in Google Sheets. These formulas allow users to perform various calculations, such as summing up data, finding averages, and filtering information. Some of the most commonly used formulas in Google Sheets include SUM, AVERAGE, COUNT, IF, and VLOOKUP. These formulas can help streamline data analysis and improve efficiency in spreadsheet management. By mastering these common formulas, users can greatly enhance their productivity and effectively utilize the full potential of Google Sheets.

Google Sheets Formulas

Formulas

A formula in Google Sheets is used to do mathematical calculations. Formulas always start with the equal sign (=) typed in the cell, followed by your calculation.

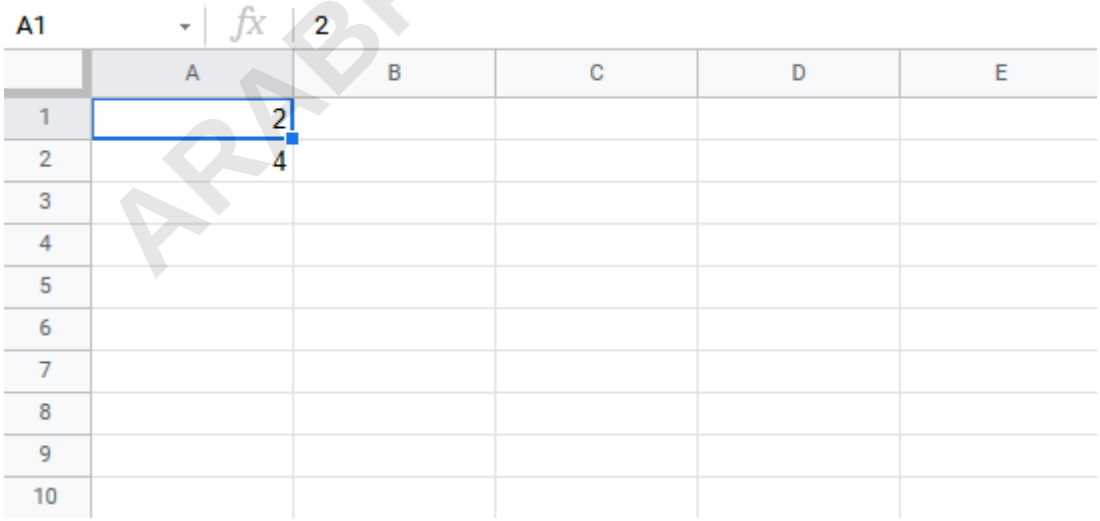
Formulas can be used for calculations such as:

```
=1+1=2*2=4/2=2
```

formulas can take cells as input.

Let's have a look at an example.

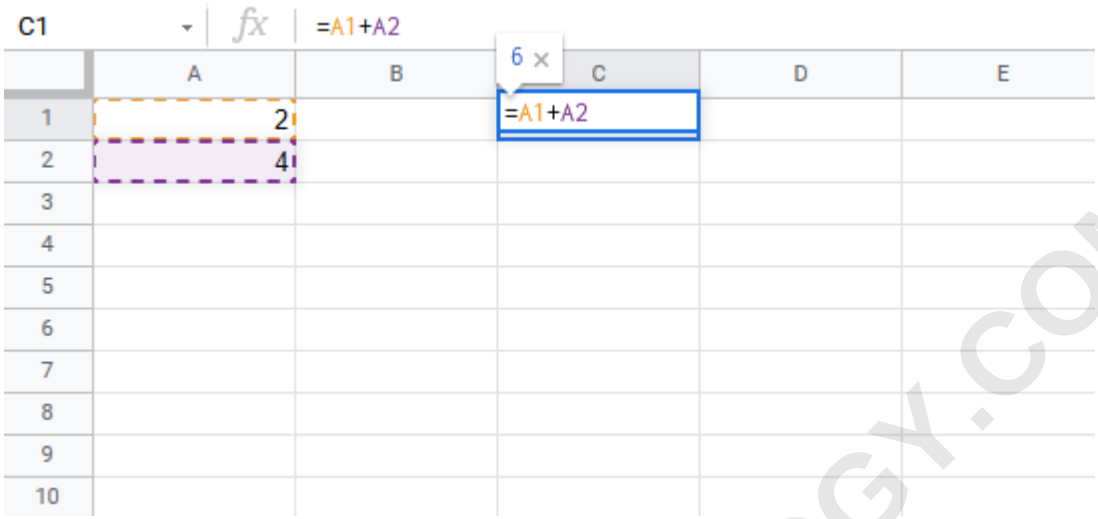
Type or copy the following values:

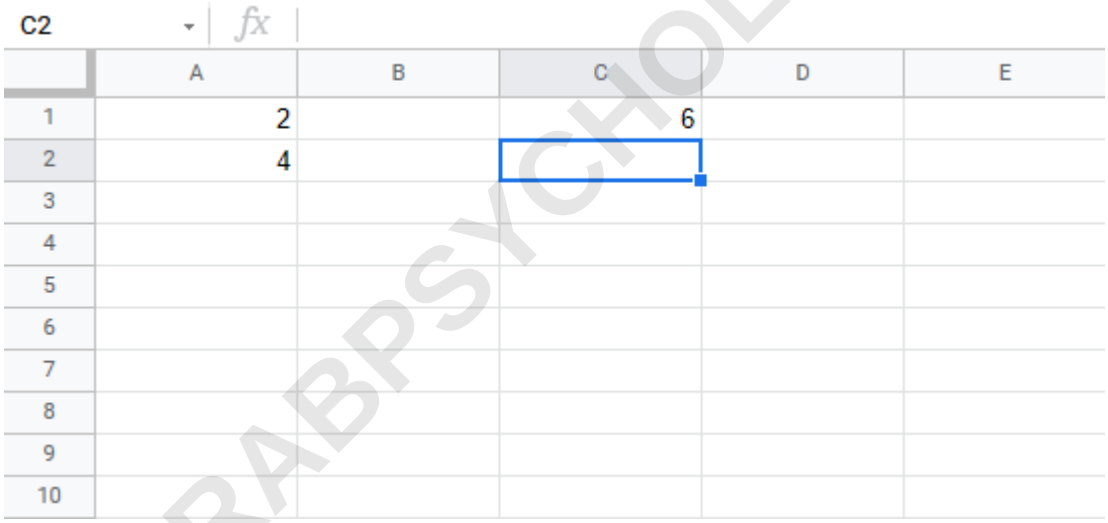


Now we want to do a calculation with those values.

Step by step:

Select `C1` and type (=)Select `A1`Type (+)Select `A2`Press enter

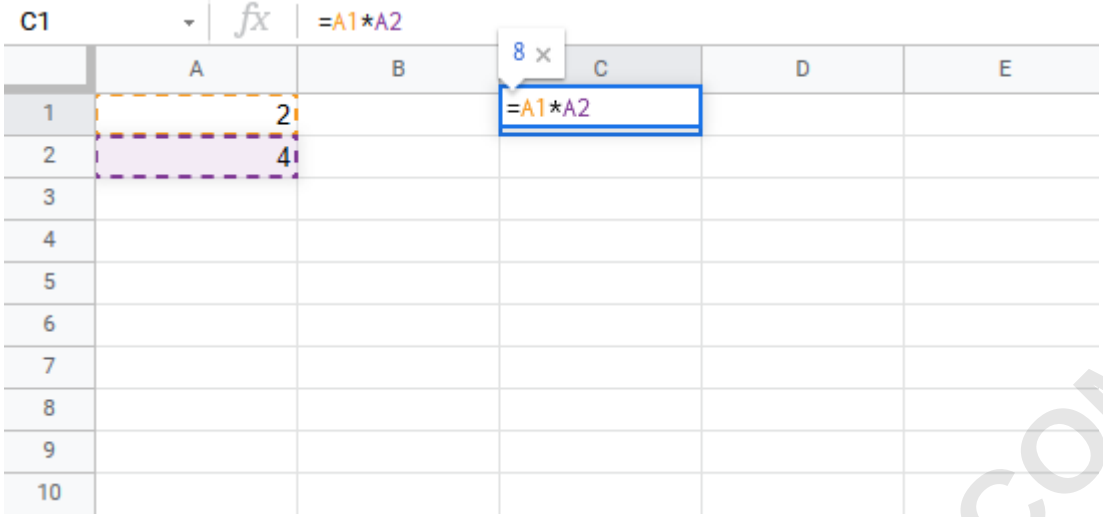




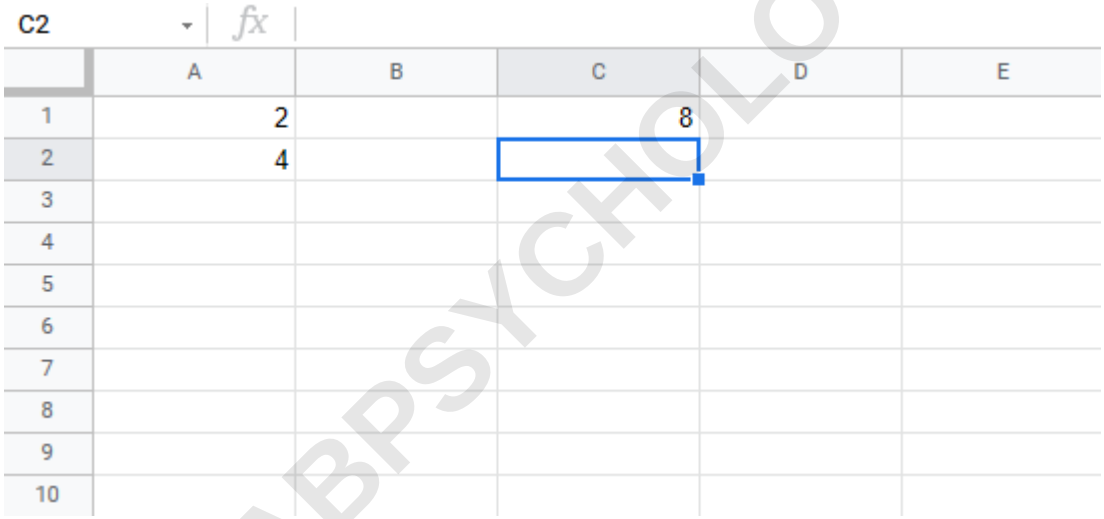
You got it! You have successfully calculated `A1(2) + A2(4) = C1(6)`.

Note: Using cells to make calculations is an important part of Google Sheets and you will use this a lot as you learn.

Lets change from addition to multiplication, by replacing the (+) with a (*). It should now be `=A1*A2`, press enter to see what happens.



You got `C1(8)`, right? **Well done!**



Google Sheets is great in this way. It allows you to add values to cells and do calculations on them.

Now, try to change the multiplication (`*`) to subtraction (`-`) and dividing (`/`).

Delete all values in the sheet after you have tried the different combinations.

Let's add new data for the next example, where we will help the Pokemon trainers to count their Pokeballs.

Type or copy the following values:

K25

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Trainers	Pokeball	Great Balls	Ultra Balls	
2	Iva	2	3	1	
3	Liam	5	5	2	
4	Adora	10	2	3	
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					

The data explained:

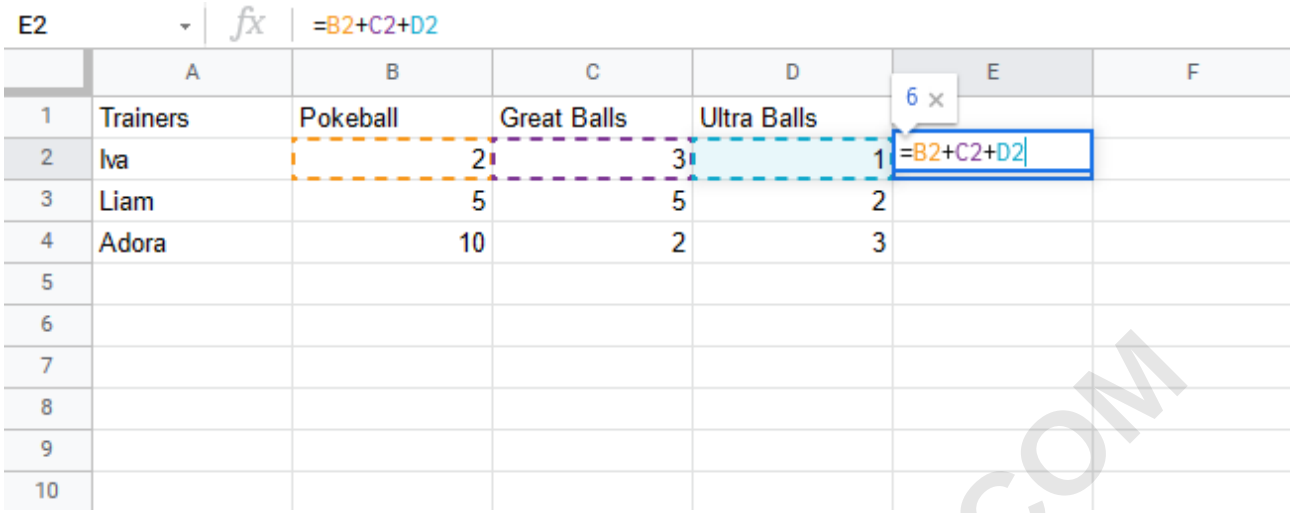
Column `A`: Pokemon TrainersRow `1`: Types of PokeballsRange `B2:D4`: Amount of Pokeballs, Great balls and Ultra balls

Note: It is important to practice reading data to understand its context. In this example you should focus on the trainers and their Pokeballs, which have three different types: Pokeball, Great ball and Ultra ball.

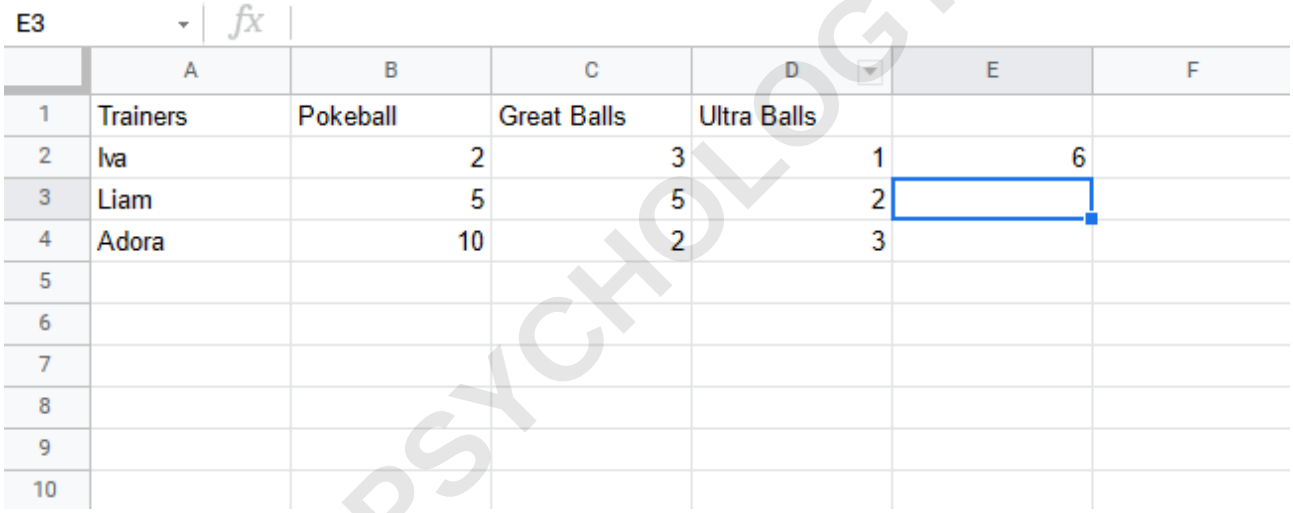
Let's help Iva to count her Pokeballs. You find Iva in `A2(Iva)`. The values in `row 2 B2(2), C2(3), D2(1)` belong to her.

Count the Pokeballs, step by step:

Select cell `E2` and type (=)Select `B2`Type (+)Select `C2`Type (+)Select `D2`Hit enter



	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Trainers	Pokeball	Great Balls	Ultra Balls		
2	Iva	2	3	1	=B2+C2+D2	
3	Liam	5	5	2		
4	Adora	10	2	3		
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						



	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Trainers	Pokeball	Great Balls	Ultra Balls		
2	Iva	2	3	1	6	
3	Liam	5	5	2		
4	Adora	10	2	3		
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						

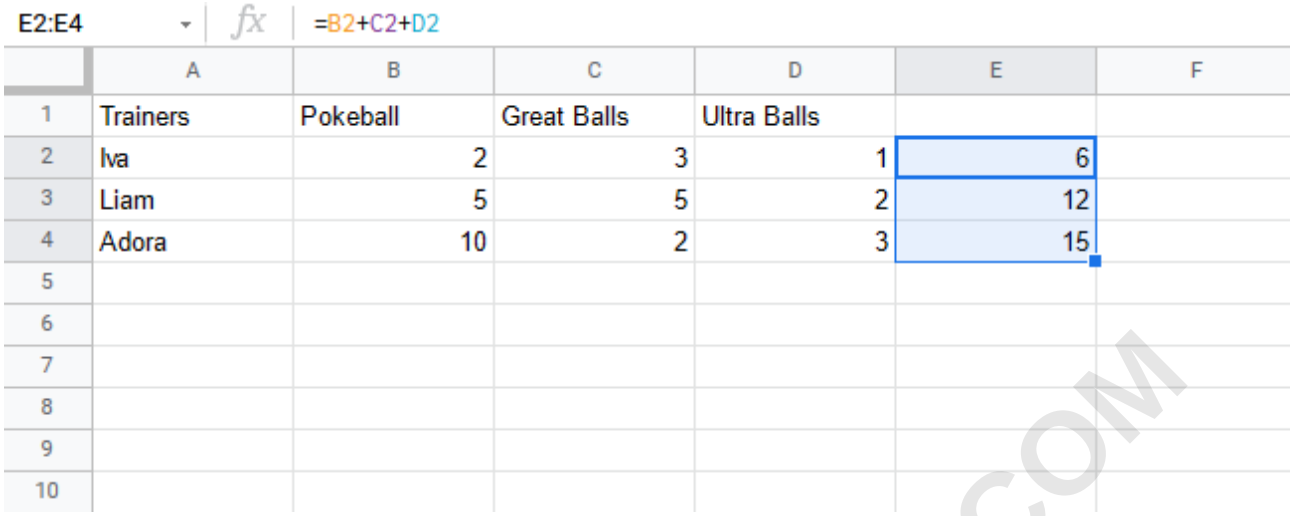
Did you get the value `E2(6)`? **Good job!** You have helped Iva to count her Pokeballs.

Now, let's help Liam and Adora with counting theirs.

Do you remember the fill function that we learned about earlier? It can be used to continue calculations sidewards, downwards and upwards. Let's try it!

Lets use the fill function to continue the formula, step by step:

Select `E2`Fill `E2:E4`



	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Trainers	Pokeball	Great Balls	Ultra Balls		
2	Iva	2	3	1	6	
3	Liam	5	5	2	12	
4	Adora	10	2	3	15	
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						

That is cool, right? The fill function continued the calculation that you used for Iva and was able to understand that you wanted to count the cells in the next rows as well.

Now we have counted the Pokeballs for all the trainers; Iva(6), Liam(12) and Adora(15).

Let's see how many Pokeballs Iva, Liam and Adora have in total.

The total is called **SUM** in Google Sheets.

There are two ways to calculate the **SUM**.

Adding cellsSUM function

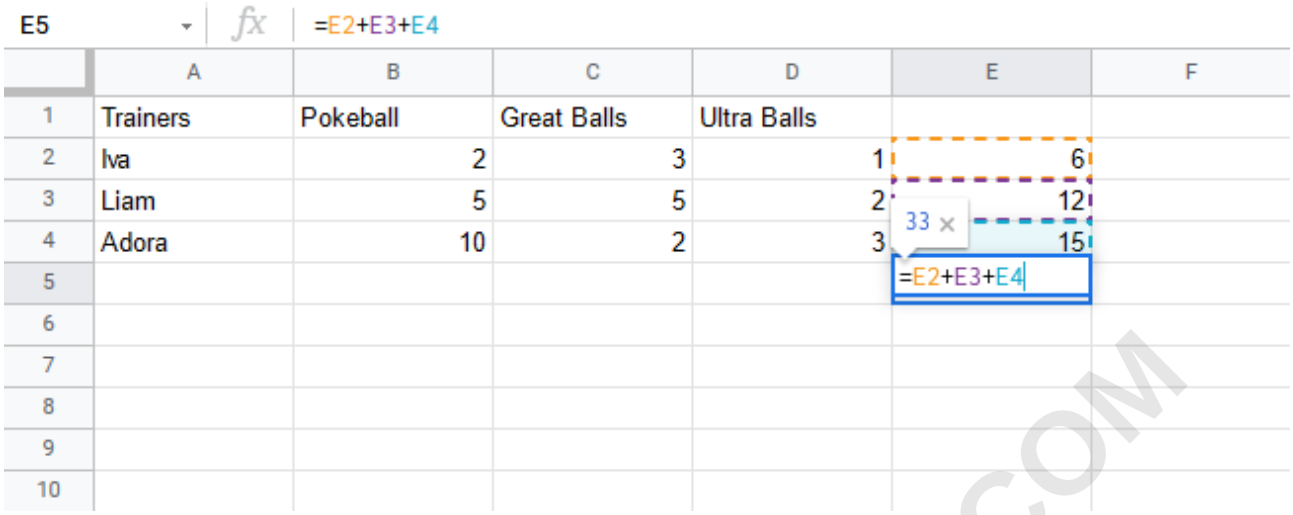
Google Sheets has many pre-made functions available for you to use. The **SUM** function is one of the most used ones. You will learn more about functions in a later chapter.

Let's try both approaches.

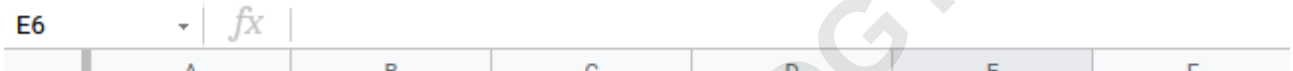
Note: You can navigate to the cells with your keyboard arrows instead of right clicking them. Try it!

Sum by adding cells, step by step:

Select cell E5, and type `=`Select `E2`Type (`+`)Select `E3`Type (`+`)Select `E4`Hit enter



	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Trainers	Pokeball	Great Balls	Ultra Balls		
2	Iva	2	3	1	6	
3	Liam	5	5	2	12	
4	Adora	10	2	3	15	
5					=E2+E3+E4	
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						



	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Trainers	Pokeball	Great Balls	Ultra Balls		
2	Iva	2	3	1	6	
3	Liam	5	5	2	12	
4	Adora	10	2	3	15	
5					33	
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						

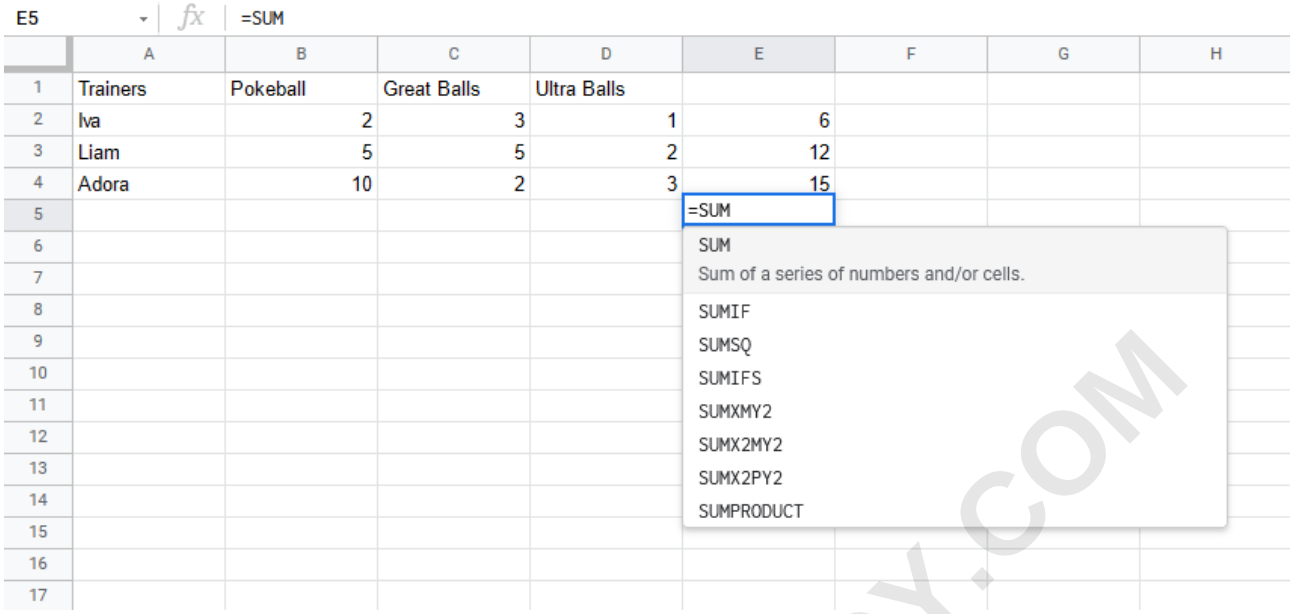
The result is `E5(33)`.

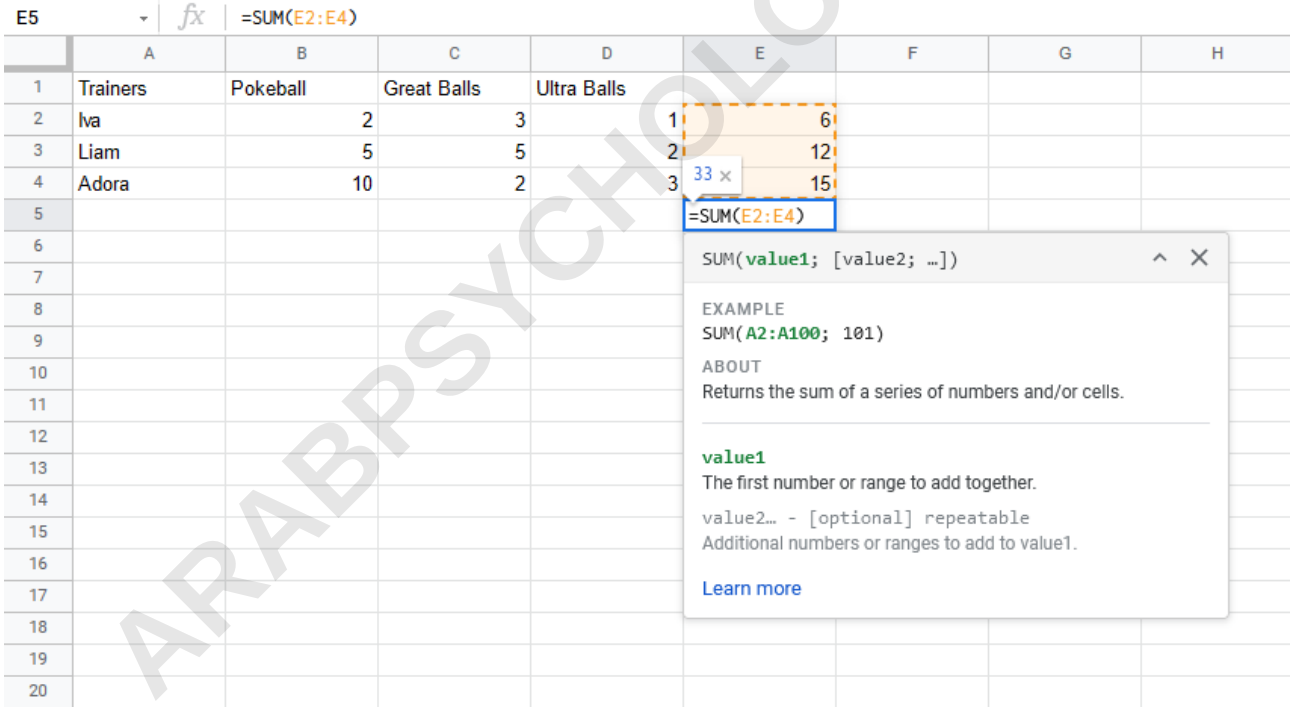
Let's try the **SUM** function.

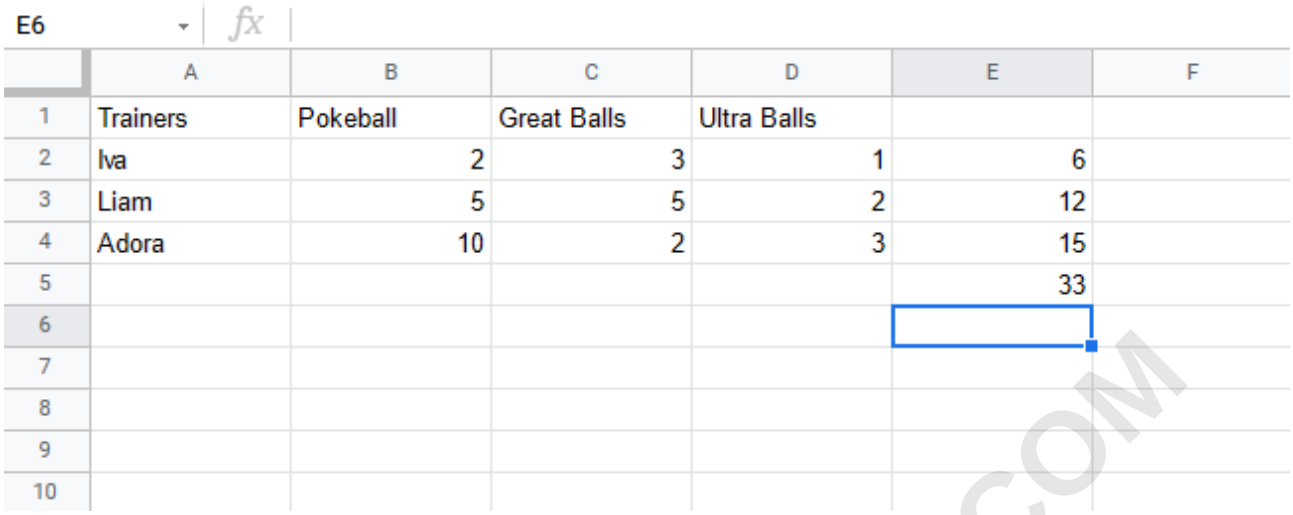
Remember to delete the values that you currently have in `E5`.

SUM function, step by step:

Type `E5(=)`Write **SUM**Double click **SUM** in the menuMark the range `E2:E4`Hit enter







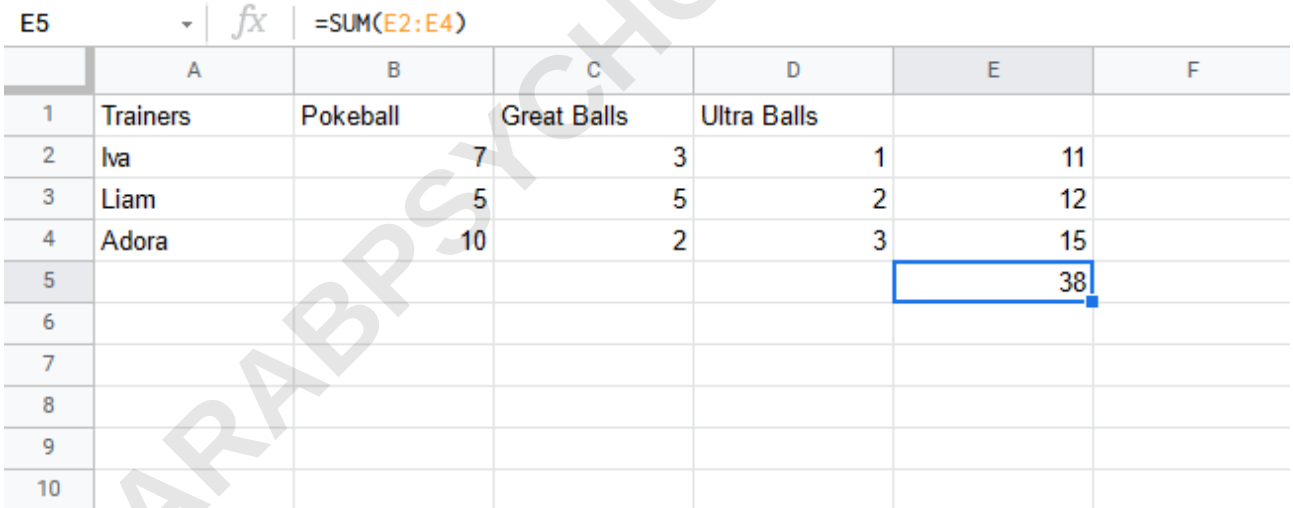
E6

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Trainers	Pokeball	Great Balls	Ultra Balls		
2	Iva	2	3	1	6	
3	Liam	5	5	2	12	
4	Adora	10	2	3	15	
5					33	
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						

Great job! You have successfully calculated the **SUM** using the **SUM** function.

Iva, Liam and Adora have `33` Pokeballs in total.

Let's change a value to see what happens. Type `B2(7)`:



E5 =SUM(E2:E4)

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Trainers	Pokeball	Great Balls	Ultra Balls		
2	Iva	7	3	1	11	
3	Liam	5	5	2	12	
4	Adora	10	2	3	15	
5					38	
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						

The value in cell `B2` was changed from `2` to `7`. Notice that the formulas are doing calculations when we change the value in the cells, and the **SUM** is updated from `33` to `38`. It allows us to change values that are used by the formulas, and the calculations remain.

Chapter Summary

Values used in formulas can be typed directly and by using cells. The formula updates the result if you change the value of cells, which is used in the formula. The fill function can be used to

continue your formulas upwards, downwards and sidewards. Google Sheets has pre-built functions, such as **SUM**.

In the next chapter you will learn about relative and absolute references.