

What is the minimum value in a given set of data using the Excel MIN function?

Authored by
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June 29, 2024

RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *What is the minimum value in a given set of data using the Excel MIN function?*. PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=158107>

The Excel MIN function is a mathematical formula that calculates the minimum value in a given set of data. This function is commonly used in data analysis and allows users to quickly determine the lowest value in a set of numerical data. It is a useful tool for identifying outliers or determining the smallest value in a dataset. By using the MIN function, users can efficiently analyze large amounts of data and make informed decisions based on the minimum value. Overall, the Excel MIN function provides a simple yet powerful solution for finding the minimum value in a set of data.

Excel MIN Function

MIN Function

The **MIN** function is a premade function in Excel, which finds the lowest number in a range.

It is typed =MIN

The function ignores cells with text. It will only work for cells with numbers.

Note: There is another function called MAX, which finds the highest value in a range, the opposite of **MIN**.

How to use the =MIN function:

Select a cell (G5) Type =MIN Double click the **MIN** command Select a range (D2:D21) Hit enter

Let's have a look at an example!

Find the Pokemon which has the lowest total stats in the range D2:D21:

	A	B	D	E	F	G
1	Name	Type 1	Total stats			
2	Mankey	Fighting	305			
3	Poliwrath	Water	510			
4	Victreebel	Grass	490			
5	Tentacool	Water	335		MIN	=
6	Magnetron	Electric	465			
7	Dewgong	Water	475			
8	Cloyster	Water	525			
9	Onix	Rock	385			
10	Dragonair	Dragon	420			
11	Pidgeotto	Normal	349			
12	Rattata	Normal	253			
13	Beedrill	Bug	395			
14	Doduo	Normal	310			
15	Kingler	Water	475			
16	Nidoqueen	Poison	505			
17	Hitmonchan	Fighting	455			
18	Charmeleon	Fire	405			
19	Arbok	Poison	438			
20	Gastly	Ghost	310			
21	Magikarp	Water	200			
22						

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1	Name	Type 1	Total stats					
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3	Poliwrath	Water	510					
4	Victreebel	Grass	490					
5	Tentacool	Water	335		MIN	=MIN(		
6	Magnetron	Electric	465			MIN (number1; [number2]; ...)		
7	Dewgong	Water	475					
8	Cloyster	Water	525					
9	Onix	Rock	385					
10	Dragonair	Dragon	420					
11	Pidgeotto	Normal	349					
12	Rattata	Normal	253					
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18	Charmeleon	Fire	405			
19	Arbok	Poison	438			
20	Gastly	Ghost	310			
21	Magikarp	Water	200			
22						

Look at that! The function has successfully found the lowest value, 200. Magikarp has the lowest Total stats of the Pokemons in the range D2:D21.

Let's add text to a cell in the range D2:D21 to see what happens. Type Kadabra to D21.

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4	Victreebel	Grass	490			
5	Tentacool	Water	335		MIN	253
6	Magnetron	Electric	465			
7	Dewgong	Water	475			
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17	Hitmonchan	Fighting	455			
18	Charmeleon	Fire	405			
19	Arbok	Poison	438			
20	Gastly	Ghost	310			
21	Magikarp	Water	Kadabra			
22						

Right on! The function ignores the text typed in the range. 253 is returned as the new lowest value, as the old one was replaced with text. Rattata is now the Pokemon with the lowest Total stats in the range D2:D21.

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