

# “What is the most recent date in Excel and how can it be found?”

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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The most recent date in Excel refers to the latest or most current date entered into a spreadsheet. It can be found by using the MAX function, which returns the maximum value in a range of cells. This function can be applied to a column or row of dates to determine the most recent date. For example, if a column contains the dates "01/01/2021", "02/15/2021", "03/31/2021", the MAX function would return "03/31/2021" as the most recent date. Similarly, if a row contains the dates "06/15/2021", "07/01/2021", "08/10/2021", the MAX function would return "08/10/2021" as the most recent date. This function is useful for organizing and analyzing data that includes dates, such as tracking project deadlines or financial transactions.

## Find Most Recent Date in Excel (With Examples)

You can use the following formulas in Excel to find the most recent date in a specific range:

### Method 1: Find Most Recent Date

**=MAX(B2:B11)**

This particular formula returns the most recent date in the range B2:B11.

### Method 2: Find Most Recent Date Based on Criteria

**=MAX(INDEX((F1=A2:A11)\*B2:B11,))**

This particular formula returns the most recent date in the range B2:B11 only for the cells where the corresponding value in the range A2:A11 is equal to the value in cell F1.

The following examples show how to use each method in practice with the following dataset in Excel:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	<b>Employee</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Sales</b>			
2	Andy	1/4/2023	4			
3	Bob	1/19/2023	6			
4	Andy	4/15/2023	3			
5	Andy	12/10/2023	7			
6	Bob	3/9/2023	7			
7	Chad	6/27/2023	12			
8	Bob	9/15/2023	15			
9	Chad	3/2/2023	7			
10	Chad	10/14/2023	2			
11	Bob	7/1/2023	3			
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						

### Example 1: Find Most Recent Date in Excel

We can type the following formula into cell F1 to find the most recent date in column B of the dataset:

**=MAX(B2:B11)**

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

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	<b>Employee</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Sales</b>		<b>Most Recent Date</b>	12/10/2023
2	Andy	1/4/2023	4			
3	Bob	1/19/2023	6			
4	Andy	4/15/2023	3			
5	Andy	12/10/2023	7			
6	Bob	3/9/2023	7			
7	Chad	6/27/2023	12			
8	Bob	9/15/2023	15			
9	Chad	3/2/2023	7			
10	Chad	10/14/2023	2			
11	Bob	7/1/2023	3			
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						

The formula returns 12/10/2023, which is the most recent date (i.e. "the latest date") in this dataset.

### Example 2: Find Most Recent Date Based on Criteria in Excel

We can type the following formula into cell F2 to find the most recent date for the employee named "Bob" in the dataset:

**=MAX(INDEX((F1=A2:A11)\*B2:B11,))**

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

F2     $\times$   $\checkmark$  *fx*    =MAX(INDEX((F1=A2:A11)\*B2:B11,))

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	<b>Employee</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Sales</b>		<b>Employee</b>	Bob
2	Andy	1/4/2023	4		<b>Most Recent Date</b>	9/15/2023
3	Bob	1/19/2023	6			
4	Andy	4/15/2023	3			
5	Andy	12/10/2023	7			
6	Bob	3/9/2023	7			
7	Chad	6/27/2023	12			
8	Bob	9/15/2023	15			
9	Chad	3/2/2023	7			
10	Chad	10/14/2023	2			
11	Bob	7/1/2023	3			
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						

The formula returns 9/15/2023, which is the most recent date for the employee named "Bob" in the dataset.

The following tutorials explain how to perform other common tasks in Excel: