

“What is the purpose and how to use the MIN function in Google Sheets?”

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RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). “What is the purpose and how to use the MIN function in Google Sheets?”. PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=160485>

The MIN function in Google Sheets is a mathematical function that is used to find the smallest value in a given range of cells. Its purpose is to quickly identify the minimum value in a set of data, making it useful for analyzing data and making calculations. To use the MIN function, simply select the cell where you want the result to be displayed, type "=MIN(" and then select the range of cells you want to evaluate. Press enter and the smallest value in the selected range will be returned. This function can also be used in combination with other functions to perform more complex calculations.

Google Sheets MIN Function

MIN Function

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

It is typed =MIN and gets a list of cells:

=MIN(value1,)

You can select cells one by one, but also ranges, or even multiple ranges.

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**.

Let's have a look at an example!

Min Function Example

Find the lowest total stats in the range C2:C21:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Name	Type 1	Total stats			
2	Mankey	Fighting	305			
3	Poliwrath	Water	510		MIN	
4	Victreebel	Grass	490			
5	Tentacool	Water	335			
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						

Select the cell G5Type =MINClick the **MIN** command

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	Name	Type 1	Total stats						
2	Mankey	Fighting	305						
3	Poliwrath	Water	510		MIN	=MIN			
4	Victreebel	Grass	490			MIN			
5	Tentacool	Water	335			Minimum value in a numeric dataset.			
6	Magnetron	Electric	465			MINA			
7	Dewgong	Water	475			MINUS			
8	Cloyster	Water	525			MINIFS			
9	Onix	Rock	385			MINUTE			
10	Dragonair	Dragon	420			MINVERSE			
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									

Specify a range C2:C21 for the Total stats valuesHit enter

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	Name	Type 1	Total stats						
2	Mankey	Fighting	305						
3	Poliwrath	Water	510		MIN	=MIN(C2:C21			
4	Victreebel	Grass	490						
5	Tentacool	Water	335						
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									

Now, the function returns the lowest value from the cells in the range:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Name	Type 1	Total stats				
2	Mankey	Fighting	305				
3	Poliwrath	Water	510		MIN	200	
4	Victreebel	Grass	490				
5	Tentacool	Water	335				
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							

Look at that! The function has successfully found the lowest value, 200. Magikarp has the lowest Total stats of the Pokemons in this list.

Let's add text to a cell in the range C2:C21 to see what happens. Type Kadabra into the cell C21:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Name	Type 1	Total stats				
2	Mankey	Fighting	305				
3	Poliwrath	Water	510		MIN	253	
4	Victreebel	Grass	490				
5	Tentacool	Water	335				
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	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 C2:C21.

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