What is the purpose of the Google Sheets AVERAGE function?

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The AVERAGE function in Google Sheets is used to calculate the mean value of a range of numbers. This function is commonly used to find the average or central tendency of a set of data, providing a quick and efficient way to summarize large amounts of numerical information. By using the AVERAGE function, users can easily determine the average value of a group of numbers, making it a useful tool for data analysis, budgeting, and other mathematical calculations.

Google Sheets AVERAGE Function

AVERAGE Function

The **AVERAGE** function is a premade function in Google Sheets, which calculates the average (arithmetic mean).

It is typed `=AVERAGE` and gets a list of cells:

=AVERAGE(**value1**,)

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

It adds up all the cell values and divides that sum by the total number of values.

Example:

The average of the values (2, 3, 4) is 3.

There are 3 values in total

The sum of the values is (2 + 3 + 4 = 9)

(9 / 3 = 3)

The average is 3

Note: There are multiple types of mean values. The most common type of mean is the arithmetic mean. You can learn more about the arithmetic mean here: Statistics Mean Chapter.

Note: The **AVERAGE** function ignores cells with text.

Average Function Example

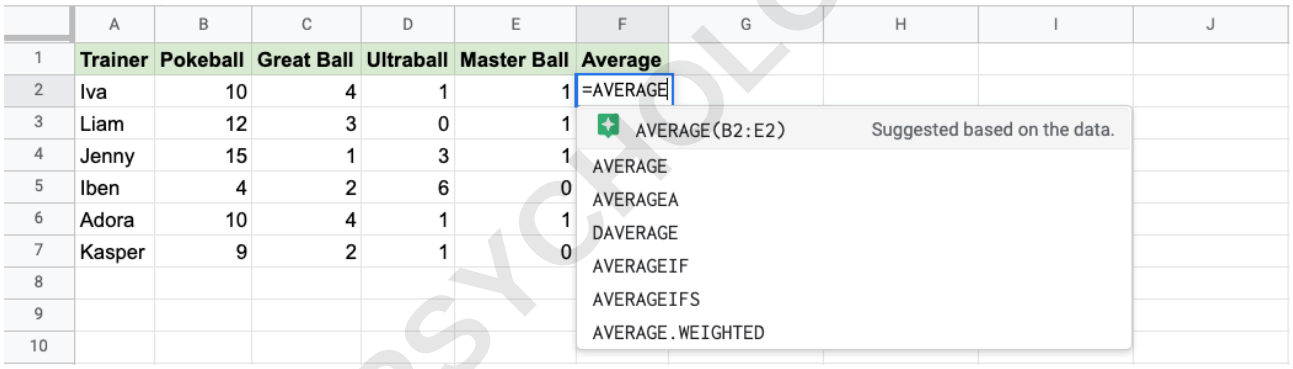
Let's have a look at an example where we help the Pokemon trainers to calculate the average of Pokeballs per trainer.

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	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	**Trainer**	**Pokeball**	**Great Ball**	**Ultraball**	**Master Ball**	**Average**	
2	Iva	10	4	1	1		
3	Liam	12	3	0	1		
4	Jenny	15	1	3	1		
5	Iben	4	2	6	0		
6	Adora	10	4	1	1		
7	Kasper	9	2	1	0		
8							

How to use the `=AVERAGE` function, step by step:

Select the cell `F2`Type `=AVERAGE`Click the **AVERAGE** command



Google Sheets will often give suggestions of how to complete your function based on the data in the spreadsheet.

In this case, the suggestion is precisely what we are looking for, the range `B2:E2`.

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	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Trainer	Pokeball	Great Ball	Ultraball	Master Ball	4 × age	
2	Iva	10	4	1	1	=AVERAGE(B2:E2)	
3	Liam	12	3	0	1		
4	Jenny	15	1	3	1		
5	Iben	4	2	6	0		
6	Adora	10	4	1	1		
7	Kasper	9	2	1	0		
8							

Click the suggestion, hit enter, and the function is complete!

The function can be repeated with the filling function for each row to calculate the average number of Pokeballs for all the Trainers:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Trainer	Pokeball	Great Ball	Ultraball	Master Ball	Average	
2	Iva	10	4	1	1	=AVERAGE(B2:E2)	
3	Liam	12	3	0	1	=AVERAGE(B3:E3)	
4	Jenny	15	1	3	1	=AVERAGE(B4:E4)	
5	Iben	4	2	6	0	=AVERAGE(B5:E5)	
6	Adora	10	4	1	1	3 × ERAGE(B6:E6)	
7	Kasper	9	2	1	?	=AVERAGE(B7:E7)	
8							

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Trainer	Pokeball	Great Ball	Ultraball	Master Ball	Average	
2	Iva	10	4	1	1	4	
3	Liam	12	3	0	1	4	
4	Jenny	15	1	3	1	5	
5	Iben	4	2	6	0	3	
6	Adora	10	4	1	1	4	
7	Kasper	9	2	1	0	3	
8							

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Good job! You have successfully calculated the average using the **AVERAGE** function.

Another Example

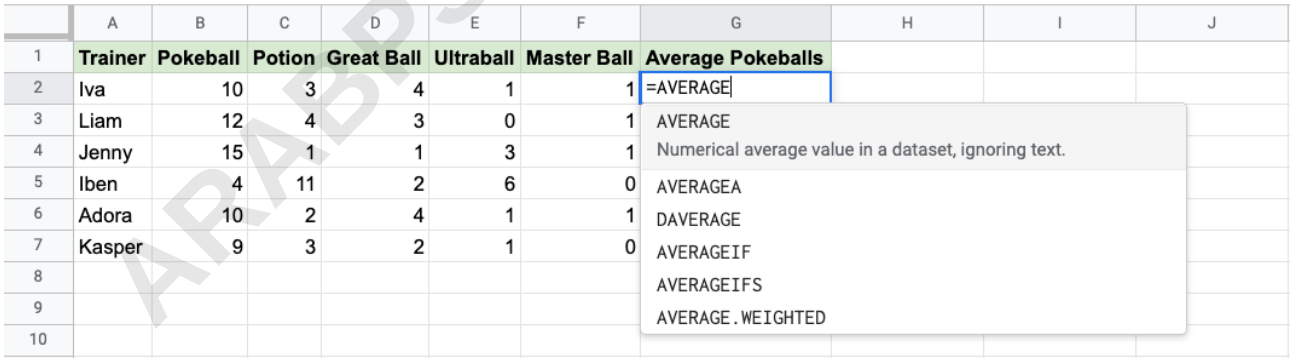
The suggestions are often very helpful for doing things quickly, but don't always suggest precisely what we want.

Let's have a look at a similar example, where the Pokeon trainers have another item in their inventory:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	**Trainer**	**Pokeball**	**Potion**	**Great Ball**	**Ultraball**	**Master Ball**	**Average Pokeballs**	
2	Iva	10	3	4	1	1		
3	Liam	12	4	3	0	1		
4	Jenny	15	1	1	3	1		
5	Iben	4	11	2	6	0		
6	Adora	10	2	4	1	1		
7	Kasper	9	3	2	1	0		
8								

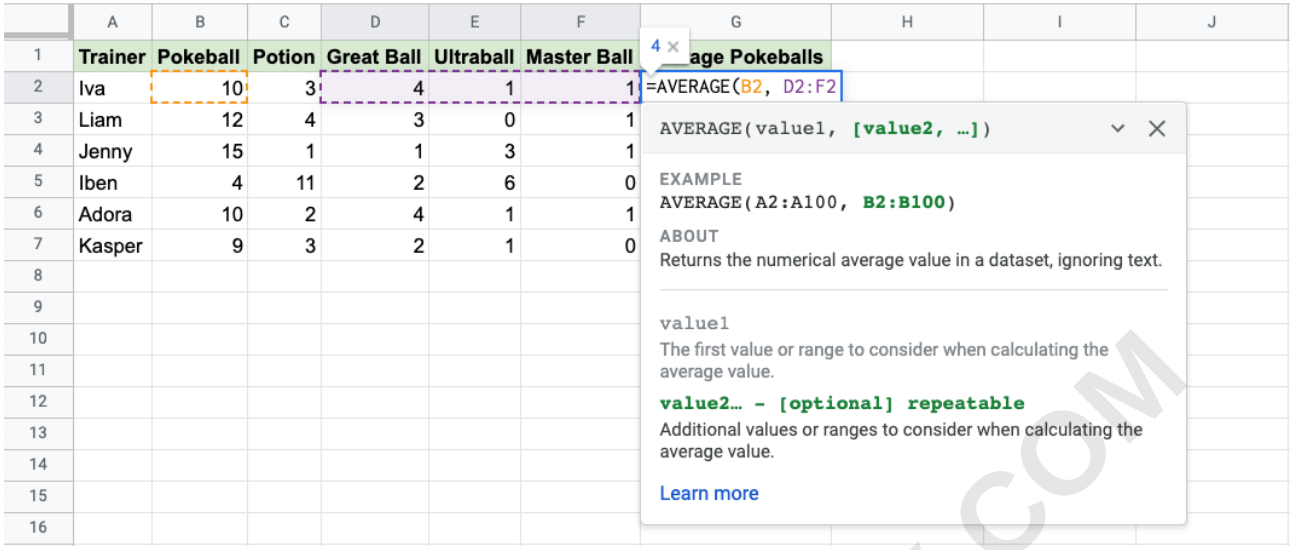
How to use the `=AVERAGE` function, step by step:

Select the cell `E2`Type `=AVERAGE`Click the **AVERAGE** command



Specify the cell `B2` for the PokeballsType `,`Specify the range `D2:F2` for the rest of the PokeballsHit enter

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The function now calculates the average of the cell `B2` together with the range `D2:F2`.

The function can be repeated with the filling function for each row to calculate the average number of Pokeballs for all the Trainers:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Trainer	Pokeball	Potion	Great Ball	Ultraball	Master Ball	Average Pokeballs	
2	Iva	10	3	4	1	1	=AVERAGE(B2, D2:F2)	
3	Liam	12	4	3	0	1	=AVERAGE(B3, D3:F3)	
4	Jenny	15	1	1	3	1	=AVERAGE(B4, D4:F4)	
5	Iben	4	11	2	6	0	=AVERAGE(B5, D5:F5)	
6	Adora	10	2	4	1	1	=AVERAGE(B6, D6:F6)	
7	Kasper	9	3	2	1		=AVERAGE(B7, D7:F7)	
8								

Now, we can see the average number of Pokeballs for each of the trainers:

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	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	**Trainer**	**Pokeball**	**Potion**	**Great Ball**	**Ultraball**	**Master Ball**	**Average Pokeballs**	
2	Iva	10	3	4	1	1	4	
3	Liam	12	4	3	0	1	4	
4	Jenny	15	1	1	3	1	5	
5	Iben	4	11	2	6	0	3	
6	Adora	10	2	4	1	1	4	
7	Kasper	9	3	2	1	0	3	
8								

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