

What is the purpose of the Google Sheets COUNTA function?

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RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *What is the purpose of the Google Sheets COUNTA function?*.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=160299>

The Google Sheets COUNTA function is used to count the total number of cells within a specified range that contain any type of data, including numbers, text, and empty cells. This function is primarily used to determine the total number of entries or values in a particular dataset, allowing users to easily track and analyze data. It is particularly useful in situations where the data may contain empty cells or a mix of different data types, as it provides an accurate count of all the cells with data. Overall, the purpose of the COUNTA function is to help users efficiently manage and organize their data in Google Sheets.

Google Sheets COUNTA Function

COUNTA Function

The **COUNTA** function is a premade function in Google Sheets, which counts cells that has values, both letters and numbers.

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

=COUNTA(**value1**,)

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

Counta Function Example

Apply the =COUNTA function to range D2:D21. Counting Pokemons by their names, which are letters only:

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

COUNTA function, step by step:

Select the cell A22Type =COUNTAClick the **COUNTA** command

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Name	Type 1	Type 2	Total stats	
2	Mankey	Fighting		305	
3	Poliwrath	Water	Fighting	510	
4	Victreebel	Grass	Poison	490	
5	Tentacool	Water	Poison	335	
6	Magnetron	Electric	Steel	465	
7	Dewgong	Water	Ice	475	
8	Cloyster	Water	Ice	525	
9	Onix	Rock	Ground	385	
10	Dragonair	Dragon		420	
11	Pidgeotto	Normal	Flying	349	
12	Rattata	Normal		253	
13	Beedrill	Bug	Poison	395	
14	Doduo	Normal	Flying	310	
15	Kingler	Water		475	
16	Nidoqueen	Poison	Ground	505	
17	Hitmonchan	Fighting		455	
18	Charmeleon	Fire		405	
19	Arbok	Poison		438	
20	COUNTA				
21	The number of values in a dataset.				
22	=COUNTA				
23					

Specify range A2:A21Hit enter

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Name	Type 1	Type 2	Total stats	
2	Mankey	Fighting		305	
3	Poliwrath	Water	Fighting	510	
4	Victreebel	Grass	Poison	490	
5	Tentacool	Water	Poison	335	
6	Magneton	Electric	Steel	465	
7	Dewgong	Water	Ice	475	
8	Cloyster	Water	Ice	525	
9	Onix	Rock	Ground	385	
10	COUNTA(value1, [value2, ...]) EXAMPLE COUNTA(A2:A100, B2:B100) ABOUT Returns the number of values in a dataset. value1 The first value or range to consider when counting. value2... - [optional] repeatable Additional values or ranges to consider when counting. Learn more				
11					
12					
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17					
18					
19					
20					
21					
22	=COUNTA(A2:A21				
23					

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Name	Type 1	Type 2	Total stats	
2	Mankey	Fighting		305	
3	Poliwrath	Water	Fighting	510	
4	Victreebel	Grass	Poison	490	
5	Tentacool	Water	Poison	335	
6	Magnetron	Electric	Steel	465	
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20	Gastly	Ghost	Poison	310	
21	Magikarp	Water		200	
22	20				
23					

That's it! The =COUNTA function successfully counted 20 cells with values in the range A2:A21.

Another Example (Numbers)

Apply the =COUNTA function to the range D2:D21, which only has cells with numbers.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Name	Type 1	Type 2	Total stats			
2	Mankey	Fighting		305			
3	Poliwrath	Water	Fighting	510			
4	Victreebel	Grass	Poison	490			
5	Tentacool	Water	Poison	335			
6	Magnetron	Electric	Steel	465			
7	Dewgong	Water	Ice	475			
8	Cloyster	Water	Ice	525			
9	Onix	Rock	Ground	385			
10	Dragonair	Dragon					
11	Pidgeotto	Normal	Flying				
12	Rattata	Normal					
13	Beedrill	Bug	Poison				
14	Doduo	Normal	Flying				
15	Kingler	Water					
16	Nidoqueen	Poison	Ground				
17	Hitmonchan	Fighting					
18	Charmeleon	Fire					
19	Arbok	Poison					
20	Gastly	Ghost	Poison				
21	Magikarp	Water					
22	20			=COUNTA(D2:D21)			
23							

COUNTA(**value1**, [value2, ...])**EXAMPLE**COUNTA(**A2:A100**, B2:B100)**ABOUT**

Returns the number of values in a dataset.

value1

The first value or range to consider when counting.

value2... - [optional] repeatable

Additional values or ranges to consider when counting.

[Learn more](#)

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Name	Type 1	Type 2	Total stats	
2	Mankey	Fighting		305	
3	Poliwrath	Water	Fighting	510	
4	Victreebel	Grass	Poison	490	
5	Tentacool	Water	Poison	335	
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19	Arbok	Poison		438	
20	Gastly	Ghost	Poison	310	
21	Magikarp	Water		200	
22	20			20	
23					

That is great! The COUNTA function counts cells in a range with values both numbers and letters.

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