

Basic Microsoft Excel Cheatsheet

By Ahnaf Chowdhury





Basic Microsoft Excel Cheatsheet

With Easy, Clear Explanations)

1. Basic Math Functions

=SUM(A1:A5)

Adds numbers from A1 to A5.

Handy when you want a total.

=AVERAGE(A1:A5)

Calculates the average of the numbers.

Think of it as "what's the typical value?"

=MIN(A1:A5)

Finds the smallest number in the group.

Useful to spot the lowest value.

=MAX(A1:A5)

Finds the biggest number.

Sreat for finding the highest score, price, etc.

Counts how many cells in the range have numbers.

Text cells are ignored.

=COUNTA(A1:A5)

Counts everything that's not blank — numbers, text, anything.

=ROUND(A1, 2)

Rounds the number in A1 to 2 decimal places.

Sood for clean financial reports.

=ABS(A1)

Gives the absolute value (removes minus sign).

Turns -10 into 10.

🔤 2. Text Functions

=CONCAT(A1, B1)

Joins A1 and B1 together.

Example: "John" + "Doe" = "JohnDoe"

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=TEXTJOIN(" ", TRUE, A1, B1)

Joins text with spaces (or any separator).

More flexible than CONCAT.

=**LEFT**(A1, 3)

Pulls the first 3 characters from the text in A1.

For example, "Apple" becomes "App"

=**RIGHT**(A1, 2)

Pulls the last 2 characters.

=**MID**(A1, 2, 3)

Starts at the 2nd character, grabs 3 letters.

From "Banana" it gives "ana"

=LEN(A1)

Counts how many characters are in A1 (including spaces).

=TRIM(A1)

Removes extra spaces before and after text.

Fixes messy copy-pasted text.

=UPPER(A1)

Changes text to ALL CAPITALS

=LOWER(A1)

Makes text all small letters

=PROPER(A1)

Capitalizes the first letter of each word

 \bigcirc "john smith" \rightarrow "John Smith"



=TODAY()

Shows today's date (updates automatically)

=NOW()

Shows today's date + current time

=DAY(A1)

Gets the day from a date

From 2025-04-18, it gives 18

=MONTH(A1)

Gives the month number

🔁 From 2025-04-18, it gives 4

=YEAR(A1)

Gives the year from a date

```
=DATEDIF(A1, B1, "d")
```

Counts days between two dates Data mpala

You can also use "m" for months, "y" for years

4. Logical Functions

=IF(A1 > 50, "Pass", "Fail")

If A1 is more than 50, show "Pass", otherwise show "Fail"

Used to make decisions inside a cell

```
=IFERROR(A1/B1, "Error")
```

If the formula causes an error (like dividing by 0), show "Error" instead.

Helps avoid confusing error messages

=**AND**(A1>0, B1>0)

Checks if both conditions are true.

Returns TRUE or FALSE

=**OR**(A1>0, B1>0)

Checks if at least one is true.

=**NOT**(A1>0)

Reverses TRUE or FALSE

If A1>0 is TRUE, NOT makes it FALSE

5. Lookup Functions

=VLOOKUP(lookup_value, table, column_number, FALSE)

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Finds a value vertically in the first column of a table.

Common in data tables. "FALSE" means exact match.

```
=HLOOKUP(...)
```

Like VLOOKUP, but looks horizontally (across the top row).

=INDEX(range, row, column)

Gets a value from a specific row and column inside a range.

More flexible than VLOOKUP

=MATCH(value, range, 0)

Tells you the position of a value in a list.

Use it with INDEX for dynamic lookups.

📊 6. Data Tools

=UNIQUE(range)

Pulls out only the distinct values from a list

Available in newer Excel versions

=SORT(range)

Sorts a list or table alphabetically or by numbers

=FILTER(range, condition)

Returns rows that match a condition

Example: FILTER(A2:B10, B2:B10="HR")

=**TRANSPOSE**(range)

Flips a table — rows become columns, and vice versa

📌 7. Cell References

Symbol	Meaning
A1	Relative reference (changes when copied)
\$A\$1	Absolute reference (stays the same)
A\$1 or \$A1	Mixed reference (only row or column stays fixed)

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Use \$ when you want part of your formula to stay fixed when dragging.



Function	What It Does
SUM	Adds numbers
AVERAGE	Finds the average
IF	Makes a decision
VLOOKUP	Finds data in a table
CONCAT	Joins text together
TODAY	Shows today's date
LEN	Counts characters
ROUND	Rounds numbers
UNIQUE	Shows only distinct values
INDEX+MATCH	Flexible data lookup

More Basic Excel Functions

=ISBLANK(A1)

Checks if a cell is empty.

Returns TRUE if A1 is blank, otherwise FALSE.

=ISNUMBER(A1)

Returns TRUE if A1 contains a number.

Returns FALSE for text, blank cells, or errors.

📌 Helps check if a column meant for numbers has any wrong data.

=ISTEXT(A1)

Returns TRUE if the content is text, not a number.

Helpful when verifying proper formatting.

=**MOD**(A1, 2)

Gives the remainder after dividing A1 by 2.

📌 Great for checking if a number is odd or even:

If MOD(A1, 2) = $0 \rightarrow$ Even

If MOD(A1, 2) = $1 \rightarrow \text{Odd}$

=RANDBETWEEN(1, 100)

Generates a random whole number between 1 and 100.

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Andy for testing, simulations, or mock data.

=RAND()

Returns a random decimal between 0 and 1.

=**REPT**("**†**", 5)

Repeats a character or word a specific number of times.

*** Example:** =REPT("*", 10) creates a simple star rating bar.

=SUBSTITUTE(text, old, new)

Replaces one word/character with another inside a text string.

📌 Example:

=SUBSTITUTE("Hello World", "World", "Bangladesh")

Gives: Hello Bangladesh

=TEXT(value, "format")

Converts a number/date into a specific format.

📌 Examples:

```
=TEXT(TODAY(), "dd-mm-yyyy")
=TEXT(0.25, "0.0%")
```

```
=CELL("address", A1)
```

Returns the full address of a cell (like \$A\$1).

=ROW(A1) and =COLUMN(A1)

Returns the row number or column number of a cell.

 $ROW(A1) \rightarrow 1$

COLUMN(B5) → 2

📌 Great for advanced formulas or layout control.

=**CHAR**(65)

Converts a number to a character (based on ASCII code).

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CHAR(65) gives A, CHAR(66) gives B

=CODE("A")

Opposite of CHAR(). It turns a character into its ASCII number.

CODE("A") gives 65