

Build Your Own Excel Course

Master Topic List

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Instructions

- Each topic shows the amount of time required.
- To select a topic, choose an option in the *Priority* column to indicate its importance to you (1 is the most important).
- Submit this form to us by email.

Beginner Topics

Your Priority	Topics
	Getting Started with Excel (15 min) The Excel screen Workbooks and sheets Customize the Quick Access Toolbar Using the Ribbon
	Data Entry (1 hour) Entering text/number/dates How Excel stores dates Deleting cell contents Editing cell entries Moving around a worksheet Selecting cells (shortcuts) Using Clear Using Undo and Redo
	Formulas & Functions (3 hours) Entering a basic formula Operators & order of operations Using Sum, Average, Count, CountA, CountBlank, Min and Max functions Today and Now Calculate using dates/times Relative vs Absolute References
	Using the Format Painter (10 min) Paint Once Continue Painting
	Number Formats (30 min) Number & Date formats Creating basic custom formats

Your Priority	Topics
	Cell Alignment Options (45 min) Left, center and right Vertical cell alignment Centering a heading Wrapping text / Rotating text Using indent to create space
	Columns & Rows (30 min) Column widths & row heights Hiding and unhiding Inserting and deleting
	Cut, Copy, Paste (20 min) Drag & Drop to move or copy Cut, Copy, & Paste (different in Excel) Using Paste Special
	Using Fill (45 min) Using Fill to copy formulas Automate entering months, days, a series of numbers, and more Fill options / Fill tricks Creating custom Fill lists Using Flash Fill
	Find and Replace (15 min) Finding or Replacing entries, formulas and formats
	Customize The Quick Access Toolbar (15 min)

Your Priority	Topics
	A Quick Look at Formatting (20 min) Fonts and sizes Bold, italic, underline Font colour & fill colour Applying borders Using the Format Painter Clearing Formats
	Files (10 min) Saving, opening and closing files Creating new files
	Page Layout & Printing (15 min) Portrait & landscape Scaling / Paper size Margins / Centre on page Print preview / Printing
	Zooming In and Out (5 min) Using the zoom bar & dialog box Zoom to selection
	Views (5 min) Normal, Page Layout and Page Break Preview Views
	AutoCorrect (15 min) Using built-in settings Using existing abbreviations Adding/Delete abbreviations

Intermediate Topics

Your Priority	Topics
	Setting up a Database (1 hour) What is a Database Fields & Records Features that Require a Database Valid Database Rules Setup Tips / Testing Fix a 'bad' database
	Sorting (1 hour) Single & Multiple level sorting Sort options / Sort warnings Creating Custom sorts Sorting by colour/icon Back to original sort order
	Filtering With AutoFilter (1 hour) Activating filter Using the search box / check marks Entering custom criteria Filter on cell values Reapplying a filter Clearing filters Copy/paste filtered data Using the Subtotal function
	Freeze Headings (10 min) Freezing panes to lock headings Remove a freeze <i>(Split and Freeze do the same thing)</i>
	Split Screen (10 min) Splitting the screen into 2 or 4 panes Remove a split <i>(Split and Freeze do the same thing)</i>
	Advanced Printing (1.5 hours) Creating headers and footers Using print titles The Page Setup options Using Page Breaks

Your Priority	Topics
	Conditional Formatting (1.5 hours) Highlight cell rules Top/bottom rules Data bars, color scales, icon sets Using manage rules / Clearing rules Using formulas in rules (requires knowledge of Absolutes)
	Multiple Sheets (1 hour) Navigating from sheet to sheet Sizing sheet display area Adding, deleting, renaming sheets Setting sheet tab colour Moving and copying sheets Hiding & unhiding sheets Setting defaults for all sheets Setting default number of sheets Protecting a Workbook
	Creating Windows (30 min) Creating & switching windows View multiple sheets/multiple files Arranging together on the screen Synchronous Scrolling Hiding windows / Closing all windows
	Cell Styles (30 min) Using styles Creating and editing cell styles Using cell styles in other workbooks
	Cell Comments/Notes in 365 (30 min) Adding comments to cells Editing & deleting comments Moving & sizing comments Viewing & printing comments Comment Colour / Adding Pictures
	Cell Comments (365 only) – 15 min Add, Reply and Delete Using @Mentions Showing / Hiding

Your Priority	Topics
	Data Validation - Part 1 (1 hour) Set Values Allowed in Range Create Drop-down Lists Information Messages Unacceptable Entry Messages Modifying Validation Settings
	Data Validation– Part 2 (1 hour) Dependent drop-down lists Future or past dates only Preventing duplicate entries Allow only values, or text Validation based on another cell value Allow weekdays only
	Charts – Part 1 (30 min) Create Bar/Line and Pie charts Selecting, moving & sizing charts Changing the chart type Transposing the data Quick chart layouts & chart styles The Chart buttons / Printing
	Charts – Part 2 (1 hour) Change data ranges / Adding Elements Selecting, moving & sizing elements Formatting chart elements Adding Sparklines
	Charts – Part 3 (1.5 hours) Creating Pie of Pie / Bar of Pie Creating Combo Charts (bar and line) Trendlines, Error Bars, Up/Down A Quick Look at Other Chart Types (e.g. Bubble, Gantt, Radar, Combined, Stock, Doughnut, etc.)
	Custom Number Formats (1 hour) Understanding format characters Positive, Negative, Zeros and Text Hiding data / Adding text with values Formats that Divide / Conditionals

Intermediate Topics

Your Priority	Topics
	Shapes & Objects (1 hour) Lines, arrows, boxes, circles, etc. Text boxes Arrange, align and rotate Group and ungroup Styles, fill and outline Moving, Sizing, Formatting Objects Add Pictures and Clip Art SmartArt Graphics
	Protecting Sheets & Workbooks (1 hour) Lock & unlock cells Hide in formula bar Activate / turn off protection Protect a Workbook & why Forget your password?
	Adding Passwords to Files (15 min)
	Using Range Names (1 hour) Why use range names Range name rules Different ways to create range names Using Range Names in new and existing formulas The Range Name Manager Deleting range names Implicit & Explicit Intersections

Your Priority	Topics
	Calculating Dates & Times (30 min) Entering dates and times properly Date/Time Serial Numbers Custom Formatting Formulas to calculate dates or times
	Displaying Formulas (15 min) Showing sheet formulas Show formulas in specific cells
	Concatenating (15 min) Combining cell contents Combining different data types (e.g. text with formulas, etc.) Concat and TextJoin (365/2019)
	Splitting Data (15 min) Using Flash Fill to split columns Using Text to Columns
	Auditing Formulas (30 min) Tracing formulas Tracing dependents and precedents Step into a formula Error checking
	Trouble Shooting / Tips (1 hour) Editing/Finding/Verifying Formulas Displaying formulas (sheet or cells) Using FormulaText Error indicators Using IFERROR
	Goal Seek (15 min) Have excel change a cell value to arrive at a desired result
	Solver (1 hour) <i>(A Better Goal Seek)</i> Adding Solver Add-in Setting objective/target Specifying variable cells Specifying constraints

Your Priority	Topics
	Array Formulas 2013-2019 (2 hours) <i>(this is an advanced topic that requires solid knowledge of formulas/functions)</i> What is an Array? Single & Multi-cell Arrays Array Constants Entering / Editing Array Formulas Sumproduct, Frequency, Transpose
	Dynamic Arrays 365 – Part 1 (1.5 hours) What is an Array? Old CSE Arrays vs DA Arrays How to Spill a Formula Editing / Deleting Spill Formulas Referencing a Dynamic Array Copy/Move The #SPILL! Error Implicit Intersection Compatibility with other Features Forward & Backward Compatibility Using @
	Dynamic Arrays 365 – Part 2 (2 hours) What is an Array Constant? Scalar vs Multi Arguments Using Array Constants in Scalar Arguments (e.g. in VLOOKUP, LARGE, COUNTIF, etc.) Dynamic Arrays with SUM, etc. SUMPRODUCT vs SUM Entering Criteria and understanding Boolean Logic IF with Dynamic Arrays TRANSPOSE & FREQUENCY Now Easy
	Dynamic Arrays 365 – Part 3 (1 hour) Interactive Pivot-Table Style Spill Reports with Dynamic Arrays Linked Dynamic Charts and Dynamic Data Validation Lists

Formulas Topics

Your Priority	Topics
	Absolute Cell References (30 min) Relative vs Absolute Full & Partial Absolute References
	Linking Formulas (1 hour) Linked to Other Sheets Linked to Other Files

Functions Topics

Your Priority	Topics
	<i>There are about 500 functions in Excel. We have included a small group of functions based on popularity, but other functions can be included upon request.</i>
	Using Functions (30 min) Using Insert Function The Function icons Understanding Function Syntax The Function List
	The IF Function (1.5 hours) Quick overview IF Arguments Skipping Arguments True and false Data Validation with IF IF without IF Nesting IF's Multiple conditions with AND/OR Conditional Formatting with IF IFS Function (Excel 365/2019)
	The VLOOKUP Function (1.5 hours) VLookup Arguments Vlookup vs. HLookup Using VLookup IFNA with VLookup Using Data Validation with VLookup The Match Argument #REF Error XLOOKUP (365)
	Using Index Match (1 hour) INDEX MATCH instead of VLOOKUP Using MATCH alone Using INDEX alone Using INDEX and MATCH together Using with Data Validation MATCH with VLOOKUP XMATCH (365)

Your Priority	Topics
	Conditional Functions (1 hour) SumIf / Sumifs CountIf / Countifs Averagelf / Averagelfs MinIf / Maxif (Excel 365/2019)
	Dynamic Array Functions (1 hour) Sort / SortBy Filter Unique Sequence RandArray <div style="text-align: right; background-color: #f0f0f0; padding: 2px;">Version 365 Only</div>
	More Dynamic Array Functions (1 hour) TextSplit VStack / HStack ToRow / ToCol WrapRows / WrapCols Take / Drop ChooseRows / ChooseCols Expand <div style="text-align: right; background-color: #f0f0f0; padding: 2px;">Version 365 Only</div>
	Math and Trig Functions (1 hour) Sum Product SumProduct Subtotal Round / RoundUp / RoundDown Rand / RandBetween
	Date and Time Functions (1 hour) <i>(requires knowledge of the Formulas topic: Calculating Dates & Times)</i> Today / Now Date / Time Value / DateValue Day / Days Month / EOMonth Year / YearFrac WeekDay / WorkDay / WeekNum NetWorkDays / Edate

Your Priority	Topics
	Statistical Functions (30 min) Count / CountA / CountBlank Large / Small Rank Max / Min Average / Median Mode
	Text Functions (1 hour) Left / Mid / Right Len / Search / Trim / Text / Clean Lower / Upper / Proper Value / NumberValue Substitute TextBefore / TextAfter (365 only)
	Information Functions (20 min) IsErr NA IsText / IsNumber / IsBlank Sheet / Sheets
	Financial Functions (45 min) <i>(requires knowledge of financial math)</i> NPER / IRR FV / PV / FVSchedule / NPV PMT / Nominal / Effect / IPMT DB / DDB
	Other Lookup/Logical Functions (1 hr) Choose / Offset Transpose Indirect FormulaText Column / Row Switch (365/2019)

Advanced Topics

Your Priority	Topics
	Advanced Filter (1 hour) AutoFilter vs. Advanced Filter The three ranges Simple and formula-based criteria Performing a filter Using OR conditions Using range names Copy unique records
	Creating Groups & Subtotals (1 hour) Using AutoOutline Manually creating groups Collapse and expand Hide/show outline symbols Adding subtotals Subtotal options Removing subtotals
	Data Consolidation (1 hour) Consolidate by position/category
	Creating Custom Views (30 min) Multiple print settings/save filters
	Hyperlinks (15 min)
	Data Tables (20 min)
	Scenarios (30 min) Create, save, display a scenario Options-edit, merge, summary, etc.
	Managing Duplicates (30 min) Finding duplicates Counting the number times a record is duplicated Removing duplicates
	Sharing Workbooks and Tracking Changes (1 hour) <i>(for non-OneDrive users)</i> Sharing workbooks on a network Multiple users in the same file Controlling which changes are saved

Your Priority	Topics
	Import & Fix Text Files (1 hour) Import .CSV, .TXT, .PRN The Text Import Wizard Fix Bad Dates and Bad Numbers Use Text to Columns to Fix Data Concatenate Data Transpose Use Text Functions to Fix Data
	Setting Program Defaults (1 hour) The Available Defaults Settings Setting Your Own Defaults for all New Workbooks and/or all New Sheets
	Customize the Ribbon (30 min) Hide/show tabs and icons Create your own tabs and groups Add/remove icons
	Templates (30 min) Using an existing file as a template Creating a template Using a template Templates and inserting sheets
	Create and Format a Table (1.5 hours) What is a Table How to Create a Table Dynamic vs Static Ranges Table Names Tables with Other Features (VLOOKUP, Data Validation, etc.) Navigating and Selecting Adding / Inserting Data Formulas Inside and Outside a Table Totals Row Auto Fill and Auto Freeze Headings Filtering in a Table / Using Slicers Using Table Styles Removing Duplicates Converting a Table back to Range

Your Priority	Topics
	PivotTables – Part 1 (2.5 hours) What is a PivotTable? Create one Adding Columns/Rows/Values/Filters Expand / Collapse Hide/Show/Modify Subtotals Hide/Show Grand Totals Moving & Removing Fields Inside vs Outside the PivotTable Formatting (Numbers, Fonts, Colours) Edit PivotTable Data / Using Undo Field Settings & PivotTable Options Refresh Data Sorting and Manual Sort Filtering using Label & Values Changing the Summary Function Percent, Running Totals, Ranking, etc. Changing the Report Layout
	PivotTables – Part 2 (1.5 hours) Creating Filter Pages Show Details / Drill Downs Grouping Dates & Numbers Creating Custom Groups The Pivot Cache Creating and Using Styles Printing Options / Defer Layout
	PivotTables – Part 3 (2 hours) Calculated Fields / Calculated Items Using Slicers & Timelines Creating PivotCharts Conditional Formatting in a PivotTable Setting PivotTable Defaults Understanding GetPivotData
	Pivot Tables – Part 4 (2 hours) Multiple Consolidation Ranges The Data Model Creating a Separate Cache Creating a Dashboard

Advanced Topics

Your Priority	Topics
	Introduction to Macros (3.5 hours) What is a Macro? Recording & Playing a Macro Relative Referencing Workbook vs Personal Workbook Buttons/Objects to Run Macros Add Macros to Quick Access/Ribbon A Quick Look at VBA Saving/Opening Files with Macros
	Getting Started in VBA (3.5 hours) Macros You Can't Record Macros Triggered by Events Macro Arguments Sub vs Function Module, Sheet or Workbook Variables With, End With Message Boxes IF, Else, Endif The Range Object Intersect Exit a Procedure Display and Calculation
	Introduction to Power Pivot (3.5 hours) Quick Review of Relationships/Data Model Relationships in Diagram view Snowflake vs Star Creating Hierarchies Introduction Dax Create a Calendar Table in Power Pivot Create Calendar Table in Excel Dynamic Calendars in Power Query

Your Priority	Topics
	Introduction to Power Query (3.5 hours) Connect to Excel or Other Data Load Queries into Excel / Edit Queries Merge Datasets / Use Group By Transform vs Add Column Remove, Duplicate, Format Extract, Merge, Split / Fill & Replace Values Change Case / Work with Dates Basic Calculations / Conditional Columns Data Types / Sort & Filter Working with Steps Remove Duplicates Data Statistics / Find & Fix Data Errors
	Creating a Dashboard 365 (3.5 hours) Using Form Controls Linking Formulas to Display the Data Interactive Charts with Form Controls Data Selection Form Controls Text Boxes with Linked Formulas Design/Format the Final Dashboard Hide and Lock Raw Data/Formulas