Easy Formulas

You can create a simple formula to add, subtract, multiply or divide values in your worksheet. Simple formulas always start with an equal sign (**=**), followed by constants that are numeric values and calculation operators such as plus (**+**), minus (**-**), asterisk(**\***), or forward slash (**/**) signs.

For example, when you enter the formula **=5+2\*3**, Excel multiplies the last two numbers and adds the first number to the result. Following the standard order of mathematical operations, multiplication is performed before addition.

For example, the following formula multiplies 2 by 3 and then adds 5 to that result to come up with the answer, 11.

**=2\*3+5**

**On the worksheet, click the cell in which you want to enter the formula.**

**Type the = (equal sign) followed by the constants and operators that you want to use in the calculation.**

**You can enter as many constants and operators in a formula as you need, up to 8192 characters.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| =A2+A3 | Adds the values in cells A2 and A3 | =A2+A3 |
| =A2-A3 | Subtracts the value in cell A2 from the value in A3 | =A2-A3 |
| =A2/A3 | Divides the value in cell A2 by the value in A3 | =A2/A3 |
| =A2\*A3 | Multiplies the value in cell A2 times the value in A3 | =A2\*A3 |
| =A2^A3 | Raises the value in cell A1 to the exponential value specified in A2 | =A2^A3 |
| **Formula** | **Description** | **Result** |
| =5+2 | Adds 5 and 2 | =5+2 |
| =5-2 | Subtracts 2 from 5 | =5-2 |
| =5/2 | Divides 5 by 2 | =5/2 |
| =5\*2 | Multiplies 5 times 2 | =5\*2 |
| =5^2 | Raises 5 to the 2nd power |  |

**Caret: "^" means "to the power of"  
  
EG: entering in say, A2: =5^2  
means to evaluate 5 to the power of 2  
i.e: =5x5=25  
  
Likewise =5^2 = 5x5=25**

**Colon: “:”**

**Here are some additional examples of formulas that you can enter in a worksheet.  
  
·       =A1+A2+A3    Adds the values in cells A1, A2, and A3.  
  
·       Colon: “:”  =SUM(A1:A10)    Uses the SUM function to return sum of the values in A1 through A10.  
  
·       =TODAY()    Returns the current date.  
  
·       =UPPER("hello")     Converts the text "hello" to "HELLO" by using the UPPER function.**