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## Vba today' s date format

Excel provides you several options for date formatting. In addition to the several built-in date formats that exist, you can create custom date formats. Even if the process of manually applying a date format is not very complicated, there are some circumstances where you may want to create macros that date formatting. This may be the case if, for example: You use a particular date format always and you want to be able to apply such a format without having to do everything manually; or You often format cells or cell ranges in a particular way, and the formatting rules you apply include date formatting. Regardless of your situation, if you are interested in understanding how you can use Visual Basic for applications for purposes of date formatting, you've found the right place. When working in Visual Basic for Applications, there are some different properties and functions you can use for purposes of formatting a date. The Range.NumberFormatLocal property, The Range.NumberFormat property, This particular Excel tutorial focuses on the last item in the list above (The Range.NumberFormat property). I can cover the Format function and Range.NumberFormatLocal properties in future blog posts. If you want to inform each time I publish new content to Power Spreadsheets, please make sure to sign up for our newsletter by entering your email address below. In addition to explaining the Range.NumberFormat property, I explain the different date format codes you can use and introduce 25 date formatting examples by using VBA. You can use this detailed table in the following to navigate to the section of this tutorial that interests you the most. Before I introduce the NumberFormat property in more details, let's start by taking a look at the sample file which accompany this Excel tutorial: Format Date by using VBA: Example for the purpose of this Excel tutorial. I use an Excel workbook that contains the full match schedule of the Brazil World Cup 2014. This VBA Date Format Tutorial is accompanied by an Excel workbook that contains the data and some versions of the macros I explain below. You can access free immediate use in this example book by subscribing to the Power Spreadsheets newsletter. Note that how the first column of the table contains dates: These are the dates that I formatted throughout this tutorial. However, since the focus of this macro is to format date by using VBA, we need a Sub. This image procedure shows the basic structure of the macro (named Format\_Dates) that I use to format these dates. The macro contains a single statement: Selection.NumberFormat = id/yyyy. Therefore, before I start showing example on how you can format date by using VBA, let's analyze the following statement. For these reasons, you simply need to understand... The Range.NumberFormat property and how to format an Excel date by using VBA as mentioned at the beginning of this Excel tutorial, you can generally The Range.NumberFormat property of the Date.Range.NumberFormat property sets a Variant value. This value represents the number format code of the relevant Range object. For these reasons, the Range object is generally a single cell or a range of cells. Strictly speaking, in addition to setting the NumberFormat property value, you can also return the property's current setting. As explained by Excel authority John Walkenbach in Excel VBA Program for Numies, the NumberFormat property is a read-write property. However, if you are reading this Excel tutorial, you are likely willing to modify the property, don't read it. Therefore, this guide focuses on how to change the NumberFormat property, not how to read it. You can, however, easily examine the number format in a cell or range of cells. I explain how you can read a property value in this tutorial. In these cases, if (i) you select a range of cells and (ii) all the cells don't share the same format, the Range.NumberFormat property returns Null. NumberFormat is just one of the many (nearly 100 per cent!) properties of the Range object. As explained in Excel Macros for Dummies, once you have selected a range of cells (as the sample Format\_Dates macro does), you can use any of the Range properties to manipulate the cells. This Excel tutorial is quite specific. The only property of the Range object that I cover in this blog post is NumberFormat. In fact, I only explain (in high detail) one of the applications in the NumberFormat property: in the Date format with VBA. I can cover other properties of the Range object, or other applications in the NumberFormat property, in future tutorial. If you want to receive an email every time I publish new material in Power Spreadsheets, please make sure to subscribe to our newsletter by entering your email address below. You can access free immediate use in this example book by subscribing to the Power Spreadsheets newsletter. Reference book of this Alexander tutorial, Michael (2015). Excel macros for numies. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons Inc. Walkenbach, John (2013). Excel VBA programs for numies. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons Inc.

Method #1: Click the dialog box launch at the bottom-right corner of the Number command group in the Home Ribbon tab. This #2: Go to the Home tab in the Ribbon, expand the Number Format drop-down list and choose More Number Formatting. Method #3: Use Ctrl + 1 keyboard shortcut. Regardless of the above methods you use, Excel displays the Format Cells dialog box. If you use the #1 or #2 method above, Excel displays the Number tab, as in the image above. This is the one you need in order to find out the date format codes. However, if you use the #3 method (keyboard shortcut), Excel can show you a table other than the Number tab (as shown above). In this case, simply go to the Number tab. Step #2: Select the Date category Since you are interested in date format code, select Date in the Category list box on the left of the Format Cells dialog box. Step #3: Select the Date format type containing the format code you want once you have selected the Date category, Excel displays the type of built-in date format inside the Type box on the right of the Format Cells dialog box. This allows you to choose from several different date formats. For example, in the image above, I select the option 14-Mar-12. Step #4: Select the Custom category once select the date format type you are interested in, click Custom in the Categories list box on the right of the Format Cells dialog. Step #5: Find the Date Format Code once you have completed the above 4 steps, Excel displays the corresponding date format code and the date format type you selected in above #3 step. The following format code displayed in the Type box appears on the upper-right section of the Format Cells dialog box. The date format code shown in the example above, is [S-en-US]d-mmm-yy. The format code corresponds to the option of 14-Mar-12 and the English (United States) locale that I select in the #3. Once you have this date format code, you can go back to your VBA code and use this as the argument for the Range.NumberFormat property. To see how this works in practice, let's go back to the World Cup calendar that I introduced above. If you want to apply the format shown above, the VBA code looks as follows: As I show below, you can achieve the same date format effect without the first part of the date format code which references the local settings. This means you can delete [S-highlights-US]. However, for the moment, I left it in. For purposes of this example, I modified the formatting of the dates which displayed in the sample table. Let's assume that, before applying this new version of the macro to Format\_Dates, all the dates have the long date format, as shown in the following screenshot: Before executing the macro in Format\_Dates, I select the cell that I want to format. In this case, I select the cell in the first row of the table. This match on June 12 of 2014, which is the date of the match between Brazil and Croatia. Once I execute the above version of the macro Format\_Dates, the following date format changes: The 5-step method to find the date format code described above can be useful in some situations. However, Excel date format codes follow some general rules. If you know them, you don't have to go through the whole process described above every single time you want to create a macro that date formats. Let's take a look at these general rules and some additional examples: Date Format Code in Excel and VBA: General guide to format date codes that you can use to format a date by using VBA displayed in the table below. As shown in the following sections, you can use the following codes to create different types of date format to use in your VBA code. Format code applies toFormat CodeDescriptionHow it looks at monthMonth practice displayed as numbers. It does not include a leading 0. In this case, the format code that you use as arguments for the NumberFormat property is M. The image shows the version of the sample Format\_Dates macro that does this: let's go back to the sample table with the schedule of the World Cup 2014. I select the second date, which is June 13 of 2014 and the match between Mexico and Cameroon. The following image shows the results after the date formatted by the macro Format\_Dates. Notice how only the month number (6, the corresponding June) appears. Notice, too, that the value in the Formula Bar will continue to be the same. The only thing that changes is the displayed date format in the cell itself. Option #2: Show the month as a number (and leading 0) this option is the same as the above one. More particularly, only the month appears; and the month appears as a number. However, in this particular case, is appeared with a 0 leader. In other words, if the relevant month is between January (month 01) and September (09 months), a 0% leader is added. For these reasons, the VBA code behind the Format\_Dates macro looks as follows: This particular macro is applied to the third date of the World Cup schedule 2014. The date is June 13 of 2014. The teams play them Spain and the Netherlands. Once the macro Format\_Dates is applied, the date looks as follows in the cell (where the formatting changes) and the Formula Bar (where the value remains the same): Option #3: Display the month as the Abbreviation 3-Letter If you choose to apply this option, the month name is displayed as a 3-letter abbreviation. In order to achieve this, the VBA code of the macro Format\_Dates is as follows: Let's continue with the same process of applying the new date formats to the match dates of the 2014 Brazil World Cup. In this case, the relevant date is June 13 of 2014. The match played is between Chile and Australia. The following image shows how the cell looks after the new format is applied. As in these cases before, the value of the date itself (as shown in the Formula Bar), does not change. Option #4: Display the full name of the month If you want to display the full name of the month corresponding to a date (not only its abbreviation), this version of the macro Format\_Dates is in help: In order to apply this format to a date in the sample 2014 Brazil World Cup, I select the corresponding cell. In this case, the date is June 14 of 2014 and match the match between Colombia and Greece. The results of applying the new version of the macro Format\_Dates are shown in the following screenshot: Show the First Letter of the fifth month in which you can show just the month when you are formatting a date by using VBA is showing (only) the first letter of the relevant month. In this case, Format\_Dates macro looks like this: This macro is applied to the date 14 June 2014. This date match match between Uruguay and Costa Rica. The results of executing the new macro are shown in this image: Format a date to show only the day number by using VBA as you can use VBA to format a date in a way that only the month appears, you can do the same for the day. In other words, you can use Visual Basic for Applications to format a date and have Excel show only the day. The following section 2 shows how you can modify the sample Format\_Dates macro so that only the day (number) appears when the date is formatted. Option #1: Show the day number without leading 0 If you want Excel to display the day number without a leading 0 while using VBA, you can use this version of the sample Format\_Dates macro: The date which this macro applies to the sample workbook is June 14 of 2014. In this case, the crucial match is that between England and Italy. Results to apply to Format\_Dates macro results in this image: #2 Option: Show the day number with leading 0 If you want to format a date in a way that Excel adds a leading 0 every time the day is only 1 digit long (1 to 9). This version of the Format\_Dates macro version achieves this: If I continue down 2014 Brazil World Cup to Match Schedule (as in this row), this version of the Format\_Dates macro would apply for the June 14, 2014 date. This date match matches between Ivory Coast and Japan. However, since this date (14) does not require a leading 0, the result of applying the new version of the Format\_Dates macro would be the same as that found above for the date of the match between England and Italy. To see how this date format works like every time the corresponding day is only one long digit, I go further down the sample table to one of the matches played at the beginning of July of 2014. More exactly, I apply the current version of the Format\_Dates macro from July 1 to 2014. Match which dates this match is what was played between Argentina and Switzerland. The following image shows the result of applying the macro Format\_Dates at date. Notice that how, Excel adds a leading 0 to the day number of the cell. Format a date to show only the weekday by using vba since the previous year shows how you can use VBA to format a date in a way that only the day number appears. You can also format a date in a way that only weekdays are displayed. The following 2 sections show 2 ways where you can apply this date format by using VBA. #1 Option: Displays the weekday as an Abbreviation 3-letter first letter in which you can format a date to show the weekday allows you to have that weekday shown as a 3-letter abbreviation. This version of the Format\_Dates macro achieves this: Let's go back to the match between Ivory Coast and Japan which I reference above and apply this new date format. The date of this match is June 14 of 2014. After executing the macro Format\_Dates, the date looks like: #2 Option: Show the All Weekdays second in which you can format a date to display the weekday by using VBA to make Excel show the full name of weekday. This version of the sample Format\_Dates macro formats a date in a way: Let's execute this macro for purposes of formatting the date of the match between Switzerland and Ecuador in the 2014 Brazil World Match schedule. This date, as shown in the image below, is June 15 of 2014. Running the Format\_Dates macro while this cell in particular causes this change to the date format: Format a date to show only the Year using VBA so far, you have seen how you can format a date by using VBA to show only the month, (ii) day numbers or (ii) weeks. In this section, I show you how to format a date by using VBA to show only the year. Let's take a look at the 2 options you have for the following reasons: #1: Show the last 2 digits of the year first way in which you can format a date to show only the year results in Excel shows only the last 2 digits of the relevant year. To achieve this date format, you can use this version of the version Format\_Dates: This date format is applied to June 15 date of 2014. This match follows the World Cup match between France and Honduras. The following image shows the results of executing the sample Format\_Dates macro while this active cell: #2 Option: Show the full Year path to the second which you can format a date to show only the year results in Excel showing the full year. If you want to format a date in a way by using VBA, the following version of the Format\_Dates macro achieves this result: apply this date format to the date of the match between Argentina and Bosnia and Herzegovina. This is June 15 of 2014. Once the macro Format\_Dates is executed, the results as shown in the following screenshot: Date format using VBA: Show several items in the date examples in the section above explain different ways in which you can format a date by using VBA to show a single item (month, day or year) to this particular date. Having the ability to format a date in a way that only a single item is displayed is useful in certain scenarios. In addition, once you know the format codes that apply to each of the individual items in a date, you can easily start combining them for purposes of creating more complex and advanced date formatting. In any case, in a lot of cases, you will need to format date in such a way that more than 1 element appears. In the following sections, I go to some date format which result in Excel displays more than 1 item of the relevant date. Even if I don't cover every single date format that you can possibly apply, the following examples give you an idea of the possibilities you have at your disposal and how you can apply them in your VBA code. All sections below follow the same form and show things 2: the version of the macro Format\_Dates that applied. The result of executing that macro for purposes of format 1 of the dates in a match in the sample workbook that accompanied this blog post. Date format using VBA: Show m/d/yyyy version of this macro format Format\_Dates a date in the form id/yyyy. The following image shows the result of applying this format to the date 16 June 2014. This date match match between Germany and Portugal. Date format using VBA: Show m/d to display a date in your form/d, you can use the following macro: When this macro is executed with the cell and the date of match between Iran and Nigeria (June 16 of 2014) is selected. The date format looks like: Date format using VBA: Show m/d/yyyy macro format following a date so that it appears in the form id/yy. The result of applying this format, using the version of the macro Format\_Dates above, is in the June 16 of 2014 (for the match between Ghana and the USA) shown as below: Date format using VBA: Show mm/dd/yyyy you can format a date so that it appears in the form mm/dd/yyyy using this version of macro in Format\_Dates: When this date format is applied to the date of the World Cup to match between Belgium and Algeria (June 17 of 2014), the result as shown in the following image: Date format using VBA: Show d-mmm-yy version of the Format\_Dates macro format following a date so that it appears in the form d-mmm-yy. The results of executing this macro while the date in the World Cup match between Brazil and Mexico is selected (June 17 of 2014) are shown in the next image: Date format using VBA: Show d-mmm-yy/yy the next version of the macro Format\_Dates make Excel date show date using the form mmm-yy. The next image shows the results of executing this macro while a cell and the date 19 of 2014 is active. This date match in the World Cup match between Colombia and Coast Ivory. Date format using VBA: mmmm-yyyy version of the sample Format\_Dates macro make Excel date show date using mmmm-yyyy format. To see how a date looks when this formatted version of the Format\_Dates macro, let's back to 2014 Brazil World Cup match the schedule the following screenshot shows how the June 19 date of 2014 (for the match between Uruguay and England) looks after this executed macro: Format date by using VBA: d-mmm-yyyy above, I showed the macro version of Format\_Dates which uses the format codes d-mmm-yy and dd-mmm-yy. The version of this macro appears in the image below results in a similar date format. The main difference between this version and those displayed above is that the below version shows the 4 digits of the year. I executed this macro while the cell with the date of the World Cup match between Japan and Greece (June 19 of 2014) selected. Date format is resulting in the image below: dd, mmm ddd, yyyy this version of the sample Format\_Dates macro make Excel date show using the long date format between the English (United States) locale setting. To see how this looks in practice, check out this image. This shows the date of the match between Italy and Costa Rica (June 20 of 2014) after the macro Format\_Dates has been executed: So far, this Excel tutorial includes 24 different examples of how you can use Visual Basic for applications for date format applications. The date formats introduced in the previous sections are relatively straightforward. These basic date formats include several of the most commonly used date formats in English-American. You can also use them as a basis to create other macro format dates for less common date formatting. These basic date formats, however, are not the only ones you can apply. More precisely, once you have a good knowledge of how to apply date format using VBA, you can start creating more complex constructions. To finish this blog I introduce one following date format macro: Date format using VBA: Add a carriage return. Compare these 2 screenshots to see the difference this statement makes in the date format. The first image shows what happens when macros in Format\_Dates\_Carriage\_Return executed without having the statement under analysis. The date format, which matches the match between Honduras and Ecuador, is June 20 of 2014. The image below shows the result of the Range.RowHeight property for purposes of doubling the row height. Date format corresponding to those of the match between Argentina and Iran (June 21 of 2014). Notice that this format is no longer what we want. More specifics, the month and year corresponding to the date formatting are displayed on the same line. The #5, which I explain below, fixed this. If the height of cells with date format you are modified is enough to fit all the elements/lines, you may not need to include this particular statement in your date-formatting macro. In other cases, you may need to change by which you multiply the current row height. In other words, instead of using the number 2 at the end of the statement (as I do in the sample macro), you may need to use a different number. The use of the Range.RowHeight property is optional and does not affect the date format of the selected cells. You can choose to increase it in your macros, or work with a different property. The reason why I use RowHeight in the sample Format\_Dates\_Carriage\_Return for illustration purposes only. In particular, it ensures that the cell that I format by using this macro shows the complete date. Let's take a look at the last and last view of the new introduced elements in the sample Format\_Dates\_Carriage\_Return macro: Element #5: Range.WrapText Properties Range.WrapText Properties allows you to determine whether Excel wraps the text in the relevant object. In the sample Format\_Dates\_Carriage\_Return macro, which relevant row object is the range of cells returned by the Application.Selection property. In Format\_Dates\_Carriage\_Return, the WrapText property is used for purposes of wrapping the text in its own cell. More precisely, the following statement sets the true property for all the cells in the range returned by the Selection property: WrapText = True The last image I show when explaining the Range.RowHeight property above shows both the month and the year on the same line. The following image lets you compare the results found when I execute: (i) the macro version that does not include the WrapText property (for the date of the match between Argentina and Iran) and (ii) the macro Row Conclusion that uses properties the WrapText (for the match between Germany and Ghana). The conclusion of this Excel tutorial explains the Range.NumberFormat property in large details and shows how you can use it for purposes of date format using VBA. As you have probably achieved, to successfully apply date format by using VBA generally boils down to know and understanding these 2 topics: Article #1: the Range.NumberFormat property. Item #2: Date format codes. Besides reading about these 2 articles, you have seen 25 different date format formats by using VBA. Such a long list of examples may seem a little exempt, and there are several similar between some of the date formats I apply. However, these 25 examples are proof of the flexibility you have when formatting date by using VBA. At the same time, a base is provided for you to create your own macros to apply different date formats. This VBA Date Format Tutorial is accompanied by an Excel workbook that contains the data and some versions of the macros I explain above. You can access free immediate use in this example book by subscribing to the Power Spreadsheets newsletter. Reference book of this Alexander tutorial, Michael (2015). Excel macros for numies. 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