



# EXCEL ERRORS CHEAT SHEET



Master Excel: <https://bit.ly/moth-courses>

## IFNA – Handle #N/A errors

Syntax: =IFNA(value, value\_if\_na)

|   | A | B       | C            | D            | E                 |
|---|---|---------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 1 |   |         |              |              |                   |
| 2 |   | Product | Actual Sales | Target Sales | Target Achieved % |
| 3 |   | A       | 500          | 1000         | 50%               |
| 4 |   | B       | 1000         | 2000         | 50%               |
| 5 |   | C       | 1200         | 3000         | 40%               |
| 6 |   | D       | 300          | #N/A         | #N/A              |

|    | A | B       | C            | D            | E                 |
|----|---|---------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 9  |   | Product | Actual Sales | Target Sales | Target Achieved % |
| 10 |   | A       | 500          | 1000         | 50%               |
| 11 |   | B       | 1000         | 2000         | 50%               |
| 12 |   | C       | 1200         | 3000         | 40%               |
| 13 |   | D       | 300          | #N/A         | Target Not Found  |

Returns a specified value for #N/A errors.

**Limitation:** Can't handle other errors.



Returns TRUE when any error exists and FALSE when no error exists. ISERROR is **not limited to just #N/A error**.

**Limitation:** Doesn't result in a numeric value.

## ISERROR – Detect any error and return TRUE or FALSE

Syntax: =ISERROR(value)

|   | A | B       | C            | D            | E                 |
|---|---|---------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 2 |   | Product | Actual Sales | Target Sales | Target Achieved % |
| 3 |   | A       | 500          | 1000         | 50%               |
| 4 |   | B       | 1000         | 2000         | 50%               |
| 5 |   | C       | 1200         | 3000         | 40%               |
| 6 |   | D       | 300          |              | #DIV/0!           |

|    | A | B       | C            | D            | E                 |
|----|---|---------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 8  |   | Product | Actual Sales | Target Sales | Target Achieved % |
| 9  |   | A       | 500          | 1000         | FALSE             |
| 10 |   | B       | 1000         | 2000         | FALSE             |
| 11 |   | C       | 1200         | 3000         | FALSE             |
| 12 |   | D       | 300          |              | TRUE              |

### Bonus Tip

IF + ISERROR results in numeric values instead of Boolean values.

**Formula:**  
=IF(ISERROR(C12/D12), "Target Not Found", C12/D12)

## IFERROR – Create polished reports

Syntax: =IFERROR(value, value\_if\_error)

|   | A | B       | C            | D            | E                 |
|---|---|---------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 2 |   | Product | Actual Sales | Target Sales | Target Achieved % |
| 3 |   | A       | 500          | 1000         | 50%               |
| 4 |   | B       | 1000         | 2000         | 50%               |
| 5 |   | C       | 1200         | 3000         | 40%               |
| 6 |   | D       | 300          |              | #DIV/0!           |

|    | A | B       | C            | D            | E                 |
|----|---|---------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 8  |   | Product | Actual Sales | Target Sales | Target Achieved % |
| 9  |   | A       | 500          | 1000         | 50%               |
| 10 |   | B       | 1000         | 2000         | 50%               |
| 11 |   | C       | 1200         | 3000         | 40%               |
| 12 |   | D       | 300          |              | Target Not Found  |



Returns a numeric value when no error exists and a specified value for **any error**.

**Limitation:** Returns only one value for all errors.



Returns a unique numeric value for each error

**Notes:** Returns #N/A when no error exists.

Also, doesn't return the desired calculated value.

## ERROR.TYPE – Return a specific numeric value for each error type

Syntax: =ERROR.TYPE(error\_val)

|   | A | B       | C            | D            | E                 |
|---|---|---------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 2 |   | Product | Actual Sales | Target Sales | Target Achieved % |
| 3 |   | A       | 500          | 1000         | 50%               |
| 4 |   | B       | 1000         | 2000         | 50%               |
| 5 |   | C       | 1200         | 3000         | 40%               |
| 6 |   | D       | 300          |              | #DIV/0!           |
| 7 |   | E       | 600          | #N/A         | #N/A              |

|    | A | B       | C            | D            | E                 |
|----|---|---------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 9  |   | Product | Actual Sales | Target Sales | Target Achieved % |
| 10 |   | A       | 500          | 1000         | #N/A              |
| 11 |   | B       | 1000         | 2000         | #N/A              |
| 12 |   | C       | 1200         | 3000         | #N/A              |
| 13 |   | D       | 300          |              | 2                 |
| 14 |   | E       | 600          | #N/A         | 7                 |

## Excel Errors, Error Types & Explanation

| Error         | Error Description                                                                                           | ERROR.TYPE Returns |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| #NULL!        | Occurs when you specify an intersection of two areas that do not intersect.                                 | 1                  |
| #DIV/0!       | Occurs when a number is divided by zero                                                                     | 2                  |
| #VALUE!       | Occurs when the wrong type of argument or operand is used in a formula.                                     | 3                  |
| #REF!         | Occurs when a cell reference is invalid                                                                     | 4                  |
| #NAME?        | Occurs when Excel doesn't recognize text in a formula, often due to misspelling or missing quotation marks. | 5                  |
| #NUM!         | Occurs when a formula or function contains invalid numeric values.                                          | 6                  |
| #N/A          | Occurs when a value is not available to a function or formula.                                              | 7                  |
| #GETTING_DATA | Occurs when Excel is waiting for an external data connection to return data.                                | 8                  |
| Anything else |                                                                                                             | #N/A               |

## Other Excel Errors & Explanation

| Error     | Error Description                                                                                  | Possible Fix                                                         |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| #CALC!    | Indicates a calculation error, often due to an invalid operation or unsupported formula.           | Ensure that all references and functions used are valid.             |
| #SPILL!   | Occurs when a formula trying to return multiple results cannot fit into the available space.       | Clear any cells blocking the spill range.                            |
| #BLOCKED! | Indicates that a function or operation is blocked, possibly due to privacy or security settings.   | Review Excel's privacy and security settings.                        |
| #BUSY!    | Occurs when Excel is temporarily busy with another task and cannot complete the current operation. | Wait for Excel to complete the current task.                         |
| #PYTHON!  | Indicates an error in a Python formula or script used within Excel.                                | Check the Python code for syntax errors or issues within the script. |
| #CONNECT! | Occurs when Excel cannot establish a connection to an external data source.                        | Verify the connection settings to the external data source.          |

## Debugging Errors: Evaluate Formula, Trace Precedents & Trace Dependents

1 Formulas Data Review

Logical Text Date & Time Location Function Library

Trace Precedents Trace Dependents Remove Arrows

2 Evaluate Formula

Formula Auditing

Evaluate Formula

Reference: ERROR.TYPE!\$E\$13

Evaluation: = ERROR.TYPE(#DIV/0!) 4

To show the result of the underlined expression, click Evaluate. The most recent result appears italicized.

3 Evaluate Step In Step Out Close

### Step-by-Step

1. Select a cell containing a formula
2. Formulas tab > Evaluate Formula
3. Click on the "Evaluate" button in the Evaluate Formula dialog box to evaluate the formula step-by-step
4. Check the interim steps in the evaluation box

1 Formulas Data Review

Trace Precedents Trace Dependents Remove Arrows

2 'Trace Precedents' shows arrows arising from the cells providing the data for the selected cell.

Similarly, 'Trace Dependents' shows arrows pointing to the cells depending on the selected cell.

|   | A | B       | C            | D            | E                 |
|---|---|---------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 2 |   | Product | Actual Sales | Target Sales | Target Achieved % |
| 3 |   | A       | 500          | 1000         | 50%               |
| 4 |   | B       | 1000         | 2000         | 50%               |
| 5 |   | C       | 1200         | 3000         | 40%               |
| 6 |   | D       | 300          |              | #DIV/0!           |