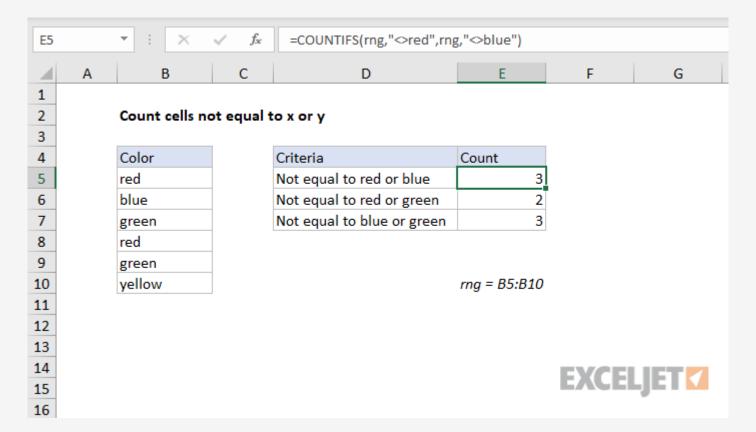
# Count cells not equal to x or y



#### Generic formula

```
= COUNTIFS(rng, "<>x", rng, "<>y")
```

### Summary

To count cells not equal to this or that, you can use the <u>COUNTIFS function</u> with multiple criteria. To count the number of cells that are **not equal** to "red" or "blue", the formula in E5 is:

```
= COUNTIFS(rng, "<>red", rng, "<>blue")
```

In this example "rng" is a <u>named range</u> that equals B5:B10.

## **Explanation**

The COUNTIFS function counts the number of cells in a range that meet one or more supplied criteria. All conditions must pass in order for a cell to be counted.

In the example shown, there is a list of colors in column B in a named range called **rng**. We want to count cells where the color *not* red or blue. To solve this problem, we need two separate conditions: (1) not equal to "red", and (2) not equal to "blue".

Criteria are supplied with range/criteria <u>pairs</u>, and can use <u>logical operators</u>. The key in this case is to use the "not equals" operator, which is <>:

```
rng,"<>red" // not equal to "red"
rng,"<>blue" // not equal to "blue"
```

To exclude other colors, add additional range/criteria pairs.

### Alternative with SUMPRODUCT

The <u>SUMPRODUCT function</u> can also count cells that meet multiple conditions. For the above example, the syntax for SUMPRODUCT is:

```
= SUMPRODUCT((rng <> "blue") * (rng <> "green"))
```