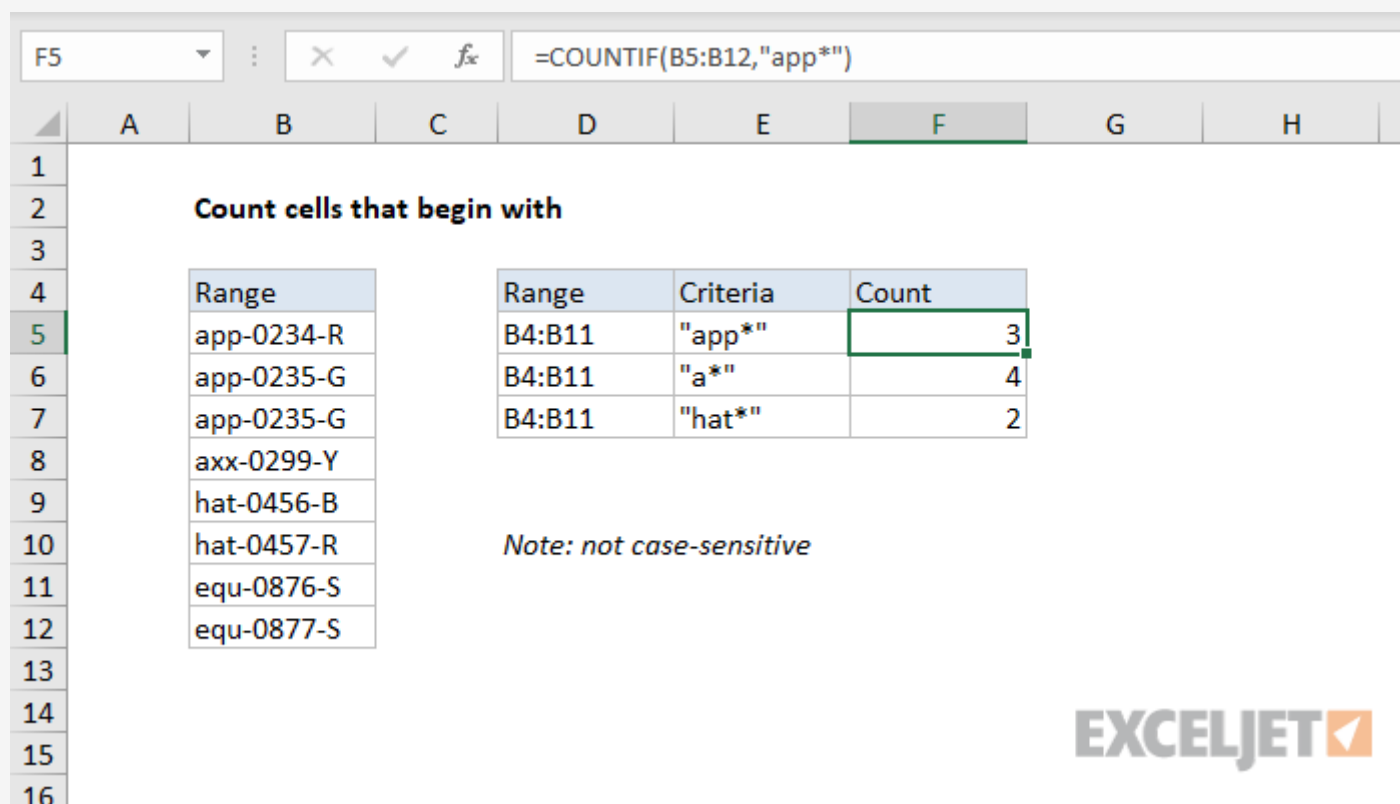


# Count cells that begin with



Excel spreadsheet showing the formula `=COUNTIF(B5:B12,"app*")` in cell F5. The spreadsheet displays a list of ranges and their corresponding counts for the criteria "app\*", "a\*", and "hat\*".

Range	Criteria	Count
B4:B11	"app*"	3
B4:B11	"a*"	4
B4:B11	"hat*"	2

Note: not case-sensitive

EXCELJET

## Generic formula

```
= COUNTIF(rng, "txt*")
```

## Summary

To count the number of cells that begin with certain text, you can use the [COUNTIF function](#). In the generic form of the formula (above) **rng** is a range of cells, **txt** represents the text that cells should begin with, and "\*" is a wildcard matching any number of characters. In the example shown, cell F5 contains this formula:

```
= COUNTIF(B5:B12, "app*")
```

## Explanation

COUNTIF counts the number of cells in the range that begin with txt by matching the content of each cell against the pattern "txt\*", which is supplied as the criteria. The "\*" symbol (the asterisk) is a [wildcard](#) in Excel that means "match any number of characters". The count of cells that match this pattern is returned as a number.