

# Count cells that are not blank

A screenshot of Microsoft Excel demonstrating the COUNTA function. The formula bar at the top shows =COUNTA(B5:B9). The spreadsheet has columns A through I and rows 1 through 16. In column B, rows 5 through 9 contain the values 'Apples', 'Pears', 'Peaches', and 'Plums'. In column D, row 5 contains the formula =COUNTA(B5:B9), which returns the value 4. Row 6 contains the formula =COUNTA(B5:B9), which returns the value 1. The cell D6 is highlighted with a green border. The cell D5 is also highlighted with a green border. The cell D6 contains the text 'Blank' in red, and the cell D5 contains the text 'Not blank' in brown. The EXCELJET logo is visible in the bottom right corner.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1									
2				Count cells that are not blank					
3									
4									
5		Range		Count	Notes				
6		Apples		4	Not blank				
7		Pears		1	Blank				
8									
9									
10									
11									
12									
13									
14									
15									
16									

## Generic formula

```
= COUNTA(range)
```

## Summary

To count cells that are not blank in a range, you can use the [COUNTA function](#). In the example shown, D5 contains this formula:

```
= COUNTA(B5:B9)
```

## Explanation

COUNTA is fully automatic. When given a range of cells, it returns a count of cells that contain numbers, text, logical values, and errors. Empty cells are ignored.

### With COUNTIF and COUNTIFS

To count non-blank cells with the [COUNTIF function](#), you can use a formula like this:

```
= COUNTIF(range, "<>")
```

This same approach can be extended with the [COUNTIFS function](#) like this:

```
= COUNTIFS(rng1, ">100", rng2, "<>")
```

Here we are counting cells when the value in **rng1** is greater than 100 **and** **rng2** is not blank.

See also: [50 examples of formula criteria](#).

### Count cells with at least one character

One problem with COUNTA is that it will also count [empty strings](#) returned by formulas (`= ""`). If you run into this problem, you can use a formula like this:

```
= SUMPRODUCT( -- (LEN(A1:A100) > 0))
```

Here, the [LEN function](#) returns a character count for each cell in the range, which is then compared to zero with the greater than operator (`>`). This expression returns TRUE for cells that contain at least 1 character, and FALSE for others. The [double-negative](#) (`--`) is used to coerce the TRUE/FALSE values to ones and zeros, and the [SUMPRODUCT function](#) returns the sum.

### Count blank cells

To count cells that *are blank*, you can use the [COUNTBLANK function](#) like so:

```
= COUNTBLANK(B4:B9)
```