Excel Easy

#1 Excel tutorial on the net

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Shade Alternate Rows G+ Follow 9.7k

This example shows you how to use conditional formatting to shade alternate rows. Shading every other row in a range makes it easier to read your data.

1. Select a range.

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Last Name	Sales	Country	Quarter	
2	Smith	$16,753.00	UK	Qtr 3	
3	Johnson	$14,808.00	USA	Qtr 4	
4	Williams	$10,644.00	UK	Qtr 2	
5	Jones	$1,390.00	USA	Qtr 3	
6	Brown	$4,865.00	USA	Qtr 4	
7	Williams	$12,438.00	UK	Qtr 1	
8	Johnson	$9,339.00	UK	Qtr 2	
9	Smith	$18,919.00	USA	Qtr 3	
10	Jones	$9,213.00	USA	Qtr 4	
11	Jones	$7,433.00	UK	Qtr 1	
12	Brown	$3,255.00	USA	Qtr 2	
13	Williams	$14,867.00	USA	Qtr 3	
14	Williams	$19,302.00	UK	Qtr 4	
15	Smith	$9,698.00	USA	Qtr 1	
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Chapter

Conditional Formatting

Learn more, it's easy

Manage Rules

Data Bars

Color Scales

Icon Sets

New Rule

Find Duplicates

Shade Alternate Rows

Compare Two Lists
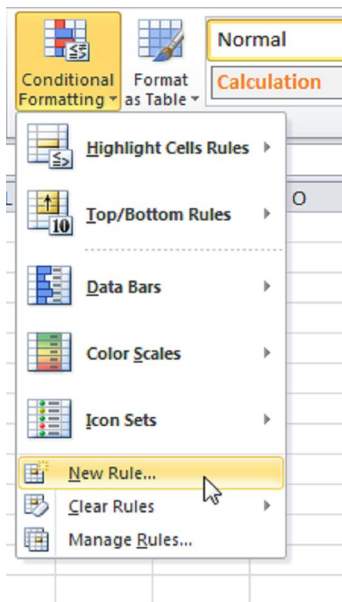
Conflicting Rules

Checklist

Download Excel File

shade-alternate-rows.xls

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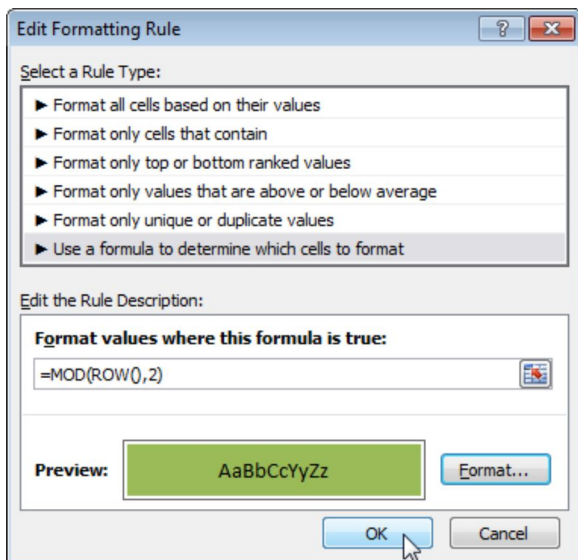
2. On the Home tab, click Conditional Formatting, New Rule...

3. Click on 'Use a formula to determine which cells to format'.

4. Enter the formula =MOD(ROW(),2)

5. Select a formatting style and click OK.

Result.

Explanation: the MOD function gives the remainder of a division. The ROW() function returns the row number. For

example, for the seventh row, MOD(7,2) equals 1. 7 is divided by 2 (3 times) to give a remainder of 1. For the eight row, MOD(8,2) equals 0. 8 is divided by 2 (exactly 4 times) to give a remainder of 0. As a result, all odd rows return 1 (TRUE) and will be shaded.

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Learn more about conditional formatting, use the side menu >>

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