

## HelpSheet: IFERROR Function

### Introduction

### Background

Many of the Functions contained in Excel are only partially used. Consequently their effect is diluted and the reports which use them are not as powerful as they should be.

Hit The Ground Sprinting are producing a series of videos which, when used in conjunction with a Helpsheet such as this, will fully explore not only individual Excel Functions but will also examine how different Functions can be combined for even more effective reporting and the introduction of End User interactivity.

If you have not read the Helpsheet How Single Functions Work we suggest you do so before commencing this Helpsheet, as the theory behind how Functions work will help your understanding of the process.

### Introduction

This helpsheet should be used in conjunction with the IFERROR video produced by Hit The Ground Sprinting details of which can be found at [www.hitthegroundsprinting.com](http://www.hitthegroundsprinting.com)

### Function Purpose

The Function allows another value to be substituted, such as a blank, if an error occurs.

### Video Commentary

Watch the Video, read the Helpsheet, Watch the Video again and do examples.

In some results it is annoying to find that '#DIV/0!' appears instead of a value. This can be seen in Cells 'F6' and 'F12'

The error is caused by trying to divide cells 'E6' by 'D6' and 'E12' by 'D12'. Both pairs of cells being zeros.

Will show you how to replace this with something else.

The IFERROR Function has an explanation of 'Returns value\_if\_error if expression is an error and the value of the expression itself otherwise'

This means that the value if an error is returned is the value we specify, otherwise the correct value is returned

Name	Food	Stock	Sold	% Sold
Andrew	Apples	4	1	25.00%
Belinda	Apples	0	0	#DIV/0!
Colin	Apples	2	1	50.00%
Denise	Apples	1	1	100.00%
Andrew	Bananas	8	4	50.00%
Andrew	Pears	5	5	100.00%
Colin	Pears	5	4	80.00%
Belinda	Plums	0	0	#DIV/0!
Denise	Plums	5	1	20.00%
Andrew	Apples	1	1	100.00%
<b>Totals</b>		31	18	

=iferror  
IFERROR Returns value\_if\_error if expression is an error and the value of the expression itself otherwise.

If we type in '=iferror(' we can see that the Function requires two entries.

Name	Food	Stock	Sold	% Sold
Andrew	Apples	4	1	25.00%
Belinda	Apples	0	0	#DIV/0!
Colin	Apples	2	1	50.00%
Denise	Apples	1	1	100.00%
Andrew	Bananas	8	4	50.00%
Andrew	Pears	5	5	100.00%
Colin	Pears	5	4	80.00%
Belinda	Plums	0	0	#DIV/0!
Denise	Plums	5	1	20.00%
Andrew	Apples	1	1	100.00%
<b>Totals</b>		31	18	

=iferror(  
IFERROR(value, value\_if\_error)

'value' (which is in **bold**, indicating it is the part of the Function requiring entry).

'value\_if\_error' (which is the value which will be substituted for '#DIV/0!' if an error occurs)

Continuing with the Function we get (for the 'value' part) '=iferror(e6/d6'

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	L	M	
1													
2		Hiding Errors Demonstration						<a href="http://www.hitthegroundsprinting.com">www.hitthegroundsprinting.com</a>					
3													
4		<b>Name</b>	<b>Food</b>	<b>Stock</b>	<b>Sold</b>	<b>% Sold</b>							
5		Andrew	Apples	4	1	25.00%							
6		Belinda	Apples	0	0	#DIV/0!							
7		Colin	Apples	2	1	50.00%							
8		Denise	Apples	1	1	100.00%							
9		Andrew	Bananas	8	4	50.00%							
10		Andrew	Pears	5	5	100.00%							
11		Colin	Pears	5	4	80.00%							
12		Belinda	Plums	0	0	#DIV/0!							
13		Denise	Plums	5	1	20.00%							
14		Andrew	Apples	1	1	100.00%							
15		<b>Totals</b>		31	18								
16													

```
=iferror(e6/d6
```

IFERROR(value, value\_if\_error)

'e6' in the Function turns blue, as do the borders of cell 'E6', indicating they are linked, and similarly 'd6' and the borders of cell 'D6' turn green.

A comma is added next to move to the next part of the Function.

When the comma is entered 'value\_if\_error' becomes **bold**.

A '0' is added to the 'value\_if\_error' section and a closing bracket after that.

The whole Function should look like this!

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	L	M	
1													
2		Hiding Errors Demonstration						<a href="http://www.hitthegroundsprinting.com">www.hitthegroundsprinting.com</a>					
3													
4		<b>Name</b>	<b>Food</b>	<b>Stock</b>	<b>Sold</b>	<b>% Sold</b>							
5		Andrew	Apples	4	1	25.00%							
6		Belinda	Apples	0	0	#DIV/0!							
7		Colin	Apples	2	1	50.00%							
8		Denise	Apples	1	1	100.00%							
9		Andrew	Bananas	8	4	50.00%							
10		Andrew	Pears	5	5	100.00%							
11		Colin	Pears	5	4	80.00%							
12		Belinda	Plums	0	0	#DIV/0!							
13		Denise	Plums	5	1	20.00%							
14		Andrew	Apples	1	1	100.00%							
15		<b>Totals</b>		31	18								

```
=iferror(e6/d6,0)
```

This and other Helpsheets can be found at [www.hitthegroundsprinting.com](http://www.hitthegroundsprinting.com)

Press enter the value of 0% comes up as the result (the cell has been formatted for percentages).

The example concludes by dividing cell 'E12' by cell 'D12' but putting in 'N/A' (enclosing 'N/A' in quotation marks, "").

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	L	M	
1													
2		Hiding Errors Demonstration					<a href="http://www.hitthegroundsprinting.com">www.hitthegroundsprinting.com</a>						
3													
4		<b>Name</b>	<b>Food</b>	<b>Stock</b>	<b>Sold</b>	<b>% Sold</b>							
5		Andrew	Apples	4	1	25.00%							
6		Belinda	Apples	0	0	#DIV/0!		0.00%					
7		Colin	Apples	2	1	50.00%							
8		Denise	Apples	1	1	100.00%							
9		Andrew	Bananas	8	4	50.00%							
10		Andrew	Pears	5	5	100.00%							
11		Colin	Pears	5	4	80.00%							
12		Belinda	Plums	0	0	#DIV/0!		<code>=iferror(e12/d12,"N/A")</code>					
13		Denise	Plums	5	1	20.00%							
14		Andrew	Apples	1	1	100.00%							
15		<b>Totals</b>		<b>31</b>	<b>18</b>								
16													

Pressing 'Enter' will return 'N/A'. It is possible to return a blank by putting in quotation marks with nothing between them, "".

As practice makes perfect apply the above at every practical opportunity

### Finally

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