

Excel DROP Function

The DROP function returns a subset of an array by removing rows and columns. It's a powerful tool for data manipulation in Excel 365.




by **Excel Training London**







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Purpose and Syntax

 Purpose
Remove portion of an array

 Return Value
The remaining array

 Syntax
=DROP(array,[rows],[col])

Function Arguments



Array

The source array or range (required)



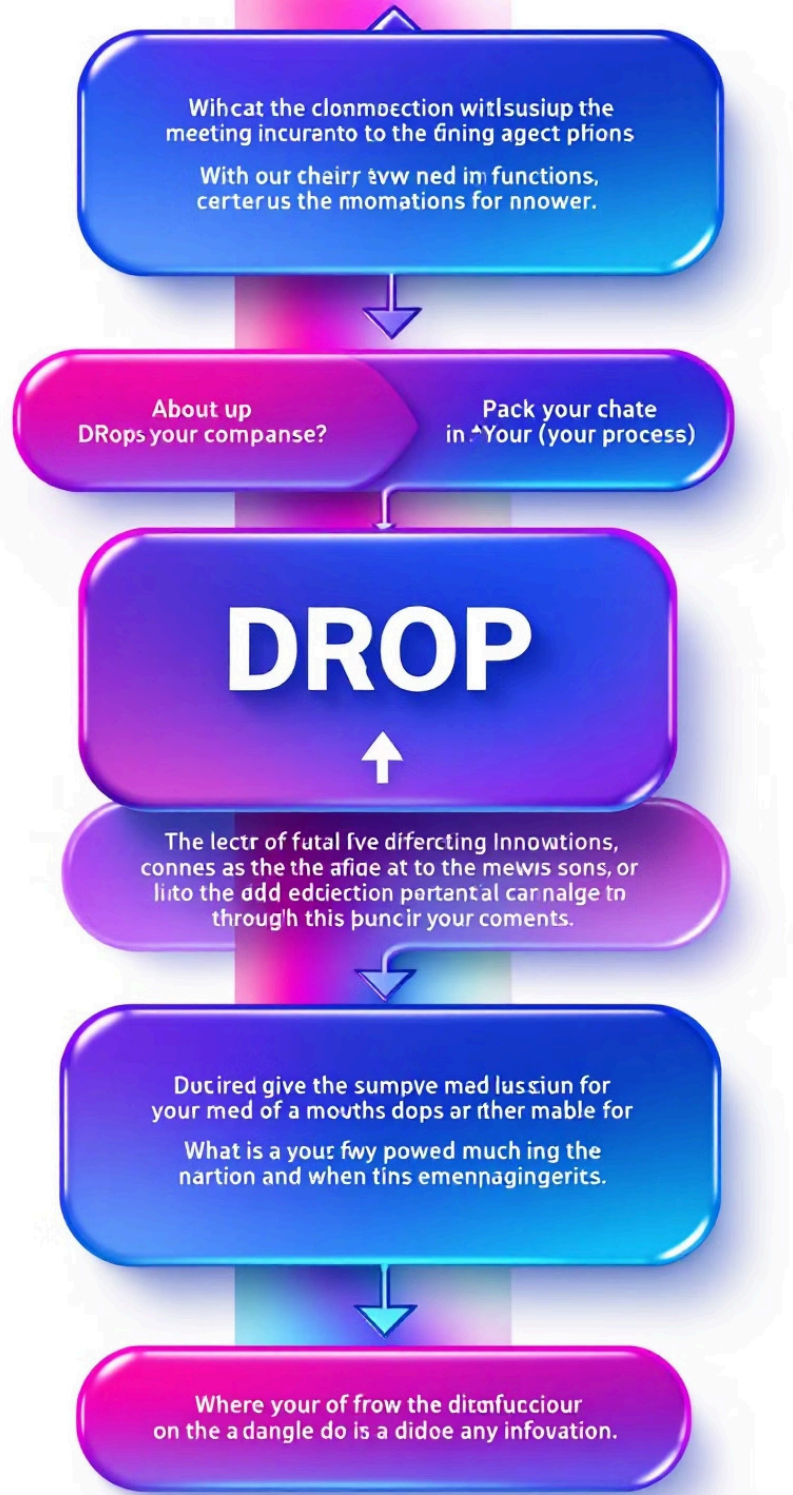
Rows

Number of rows to drop (optional)



Columns

Number of columns to drop (optional)



How DROP Works



Select Array

Choose the source data range or array

Specify Rows/Columns

Indicate how many rows/columns to remove

Remove Data

DROP removes specified rows/columns from array

Return Result

Function returns the remaining subset of data

Dropping from Start vs End

Positive Numbers

Remove from start/top of array

Negative Numbers

Remove from end/bottom of array

Basic Usage Examples

```
=DROP(array,3)
```

Drop first 3 rows

```
=DROP(array,,3)
```

Drop first 3 columns

```
=DROP(array,3,2)
```

Drop first 3 rows and 2 columns

DROP

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EXAMPLES

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DROP DROP function is
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Dropping from Start

1 Example 1

=DROP(B3:D11,6) drops first 6 rows

2 Example 2

=DROP(B3:D11,5,1) drops first 5 rows and column 1

3 Default Behavior

Omitting rows or columns returns all rows/columns



Dropping from End

1

Example 1

=DROP(B3:D11,-6) removes last 6 rows

2

Example 2

=DROP(B3:D11,-5,-1) removes last 5 rows and last column

3

Result

Function returns remaining array after dropping specified rows/columns

DROP vs TAKE

DROP Function

Removes specific rows or columns from an array

=DROP(array,1) removes first row

TAKE Function

Extracts specific rows or columns from an array

=TAKE(array,1) gets first row



#VALUE!

Important Notes

Optional Arguments

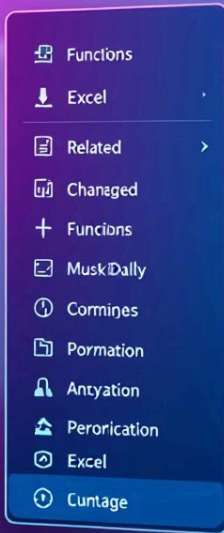
Rows and columns are optional, but at least one must be provided

Zero Values

If rows or columns is zero, DROP returns all rows/columns

Error Handling

Returns #VALUE! error if rows/columns exceed total in array



Related Functions



TAKE

Extracts a subset of an array



EXPAND

Adds rows and columns to an array



CHOOSEROWS/COLS

Returns specific rows or columns from an array

Key Takeaways

