

Age Calculation

How old are you? Subtracting your birth date from today's date results in the number of days between the two dates. Since there are 365 days in a year, you might think you can just divided the number of days by 365 to get the correct answer. Well it will be close, but not correct. Every 4 years is a leap year (we will not discuss the end of century issues) so it works better to divide by 365.25. However, even that is not totally accurate.

Note: Excel can only do date arithmetic on date from 1/1/1900 on. Prior dates are not converted to a date code (Julian date).

	A	B
1	Today	6/4/2008
2	DOB	11/13/1907

Notice we used the TODAY function to arrive at the current date. Subtract the DOB from Today to get the number of days difference.

B4		fx =B3/365.25			
	A	B	C	D	E
1	Today	6/4/2008			
2	DOB	11/13/1907			
3	Days	36729			
4	Years	100.558522			

Instead, let's try the DATEDIF function.

B2		fx =DATEDIF(B1,NOW(),"y")				
	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	DOB	11/13/1907				
2	Years	100				

The first argument is the starting date, the second the ending date, and the third the desired results. Y=years. M=months. D=days. This function is NOT found in the function list in Excel 2007.