

# How to count characters in Excel

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To count characters in Excel we need the help of the LEN function. The LEN function helps you count the number of characters including spaces in a given phrase. Normally, the LEN function is not used alone, it will combine with other functions based on certain purposes. To better understand this issue, **TipsMake.Vn** will present in the following article.



## 1. Usage and usage of LEN function

The LEN function helps the user to count the number of parameter characters that you include in the function. The LEN function will count spaces as spaces and return the result as a **Numble** data number .

The LEN function formula is:

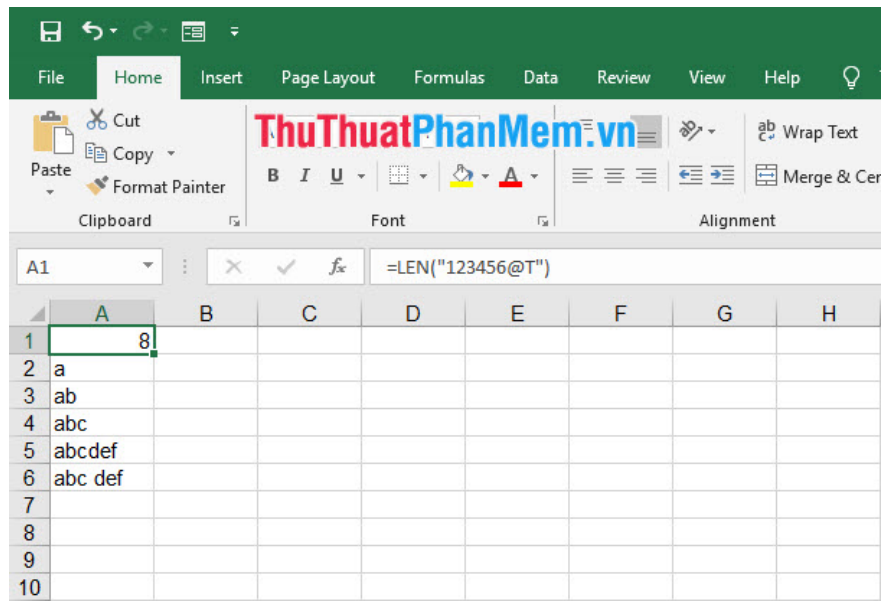
**= LEN (characters to count)**

In particular, the **characters to be counted** can be direct characters or a parameter cell containing the characters you need to count.

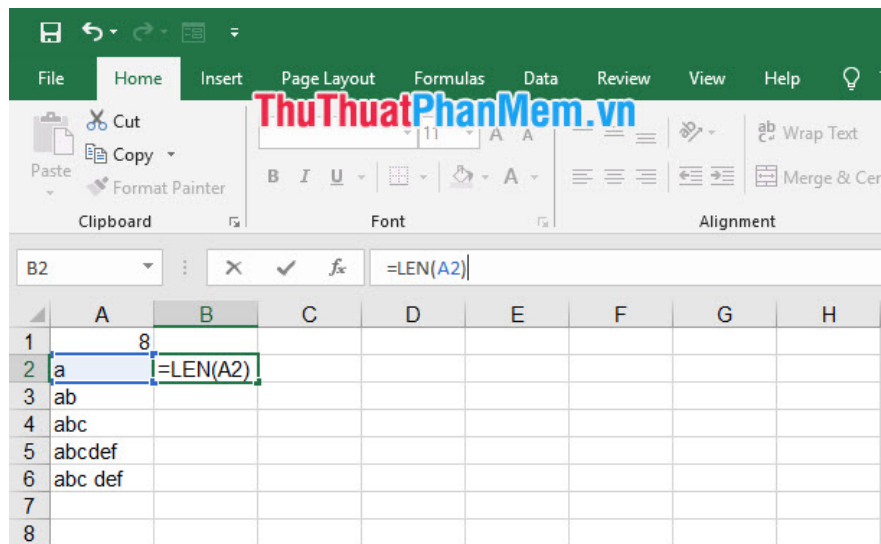
Small examples so you can better understand the use and usage of the LEN character counting function.

Looking at the image below, you can see that TipsMake used the LEN function to count the number of characters in the string **123456 @ T** and the result of the LEN character counting function was 8.

If you pay attention, you can see our character string is enclosed in quotation marks. We need to do this so that Excel understands that it is a string and not a specific parameter or number.

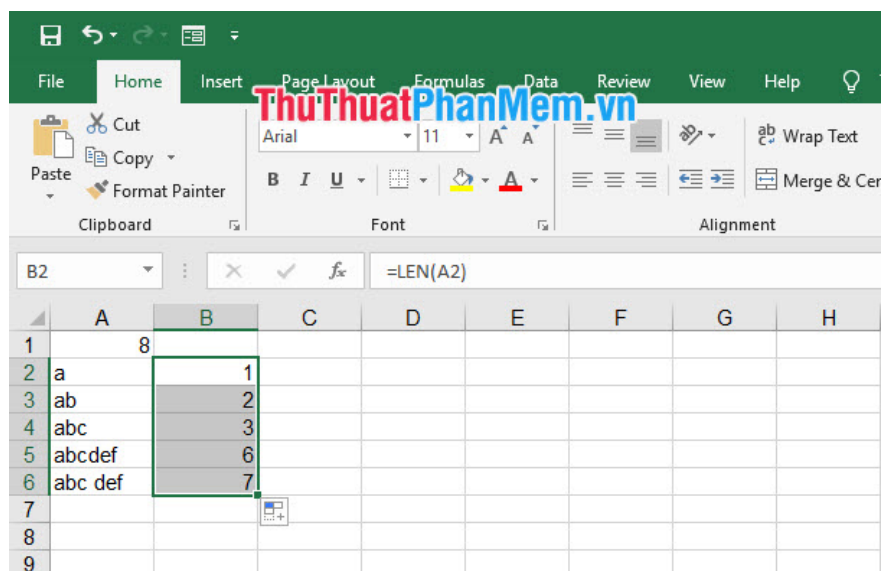


If you use the LEN function with a specific parameter cell, there is no need to put the quotation marks as above, you just need to follow the formula to fill the parameter cell into the function's brackets.



Easily copy the LEN character count formula to the lines below so you can perform the same function as the first line.

You can see that the LEN function even counts spaces, one space is counted once.



## 2. Combine with other functions to apply in practice

The LEN function is often used quite a lot with LEFT, RIGHT and MID characters.

The RIGHT function has a number of parameters, so joining the LEN function is also a small necessity in Excel.

Let's take a look at the following example of the article. With the MSSV line (Student ID), the combination of student registration numbers and abbreviations of the student is studying. Because we have the formula of the LEFT function:

**= LEFT (String of original characters; number of characters to be retrieved)**

Inside:

**The original** character string is the **original** string for you to extract and retrieve the consecutive characters you need.

**The number of characters you will retrieve** is the number of characters you will retrieve from left to right.

According to the example and the rules set out, the abbreviation of the student is studying only two characters, so we can take the **number of characters that will be retrieved** by the total number of MSSV characters and subtract 2.

	A	B	C	D	E
1		DANH SÁCH SINH VIÊN K14 THAM GIA TẾT SV			
2	STT	Họ và tên	Ngày sinh	MSSV	Số báo danh
3	1	Nguyễn Thị Anh	06/03/1990	08001DM	LEN(D3)-2
4	2	Nguyễn Ngọc Bách	20/12/1990	0800003DM	
5	3	Triệu Thị Kim Dung	01/11/1991	080004DM	
6	4	Nguyễn Văn Đức	18/02/1990	0800006DM	
7	5	Trần Minh Đức	30/09/1990	080007DM	
8	6	Nguyễn Thị Thu Hà	11/03/1990	0800008DM	
9	7	Đào Thanh Hằng	05/05/1990	0800116TH	
10	8	Phan Đức Hiếu	17/10/1990	08010DM	
11	9	Nguyễn Hoàng	10/09/1987	0800012DM	
12	10	Nguyễn Huy Hoàng	05/01/1990	0800013DM	
13	11	Nguyễn Thị Hồng	12/08/1990	08000014DM	
14	12	Trần Thị Hồng	20/10/1990	0800015DM	
15	13	Đào Thị Hương	23/05/1989	08006DM	
16	14	Phạm Thu Hương	06/06/1990	0800017DM	
17	15	Vũ Thị Lan	14/07/1988	08018DM	

From there we have the formula for this case:

**= LEFT (D3; LEN (D3) -2)**

You can then continue to copy the formula that takes this LEFT string down below without fear of the discrepancy between the number of characters of the **Enumeration Number** .

	A	B	C	D	E
1		DANH SÁCH SINH VIÊN K14 THAM GIA TẾT SV			
2	STT	Họ và tên	Ngày sinh	MSSV	Số báo danh
3	1	Nguyễn Thị Anh	06/03/1990	08001DM	08001
4	2	Nguyễn Ngọc Bách	20/12/1990	0800003DM	0800003
5	3	Triệu Thị Kim Dung	01/11/1991	080004DM	080004
6	4	Nguyễn Văn Đức	18/02/1990	0800006DM	0800006
7	5	Trần Minh Đức	30/09/1990	080007DM	080007
8	6	Nguyễn Thị Thu Hà	11/03/1990	0800008DM	0800008
9	7	Đào Thanh Hằng	05/05/1990	0800116TH	0800116
10	8	Phan Đức Hiếu	17/10/1990	08010DM	08010
11	9	Nguyễn Hoàng	10/09/1987	0800012DM	0800012
12	10	Nguyễn Huy Hoàng	05/01/1990	0800013DM	0800013
13	11	Nguyễn Thị Hồng	12/08/1990	08000014DM	08000014
14	12	Trần Thị Hồng	20/10/1990	0800015DM	0800015
15	13	Đào Thị Hương	23/05/1989	08006DM	08006
16	14	Phạm Thu Hương	06/06/1990	0800017DM	0800017
17	15	Vũ Thị Lan	14/07/1988	08018DM	08018

Thank you for following the article on how to count characters in Excel by **TipsMake.Vn** us. Hope you understand the usage and usage of this character counting function and apply it flexibly to your data sheet.

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