Why is MS Excel So Popular by Adam

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As defined by Wikipedia, â€œMicrosoft Excel is a commercial spreadsheet application written and distributed by Microsoft for Microsoft Office and MAC operating software. It is an electronic spreadsheet program that can be used for storing, organizing and manipulating data. It features calculation, graphing tools, pivot tables and a macro programming language called Visual Basic for Application or VBA, a very widely applied spreadsheet for these platforms.â€•

As Microsoft is constantly updating its products, the latest versions of Microsoft Excel are 2010 for Windows 2011 and for Mac

Why is MS Excel so popular?

One can work with massive amounts of data in Office Excel, which supports expandable spreadsheets that can be up to 1 million rows by 16,000 columns. In addition to the bigger grid, Office Excel 2007 supports multi-core processor platforms for faster calculation of formula-intense spreadsheets. One of Excel's most useful features is that it allows users to create custom formulas to perform calculations on their data. Excel also contains built-in formulas called functions that make it easy to perform common calculations on data. Excel offers a wide range of functions like

Add-in and Automation functions

Cube functions

Database functions

Date and time functions

Engineering functions

Financial functions

Information functions

Logical functions

Lookup and reference functions

Math and trigonometry functions

Statistical functions

Text functions

Best Features

â€¢ Tables and Charts

The simplicity of generating graphs, for example, allows even inexperienced users to create colorful diagrams of selected data in a spreadsheet. You can switch between various kinds of charts,

including pie, column, bar and scatter, with a few clicks of the mouse. One can also format tables and charts in Excel as a simple process.

â€¢ Compatibility and Standardization

Excel has become a standard worldwide in business. For example, should the need arise to share information stored in an Excel workbook, forwarding the Excel file frequently resolves any issues with sharing the data, since the majority of businesses using such software use Excel. Additionally, Excel works seamlessly with other products in the Microsoft Office suite.

â€¢ Accuracy

It offers accuracy when performing calculations, as the software performs calculations you might otherwise do manually. Excel spreadsheets integrate with other products in the Microsoft Office suite. This allows a spreadsheet to be easily integrated into a Word document or a PowerPoint presentation while maintaining accuracy in both simple and complex calculations.

â€¢ Pivot Tables

Pivot tables allow you to reorganize data in a workbook to create a summarized view of the contents. You can also easily manipulate the data and change the emphasis of the pivot table. For instance, initially you may create a pivot table of your company's sales data organized by location. The tool lets you change the emphasis very easily to sort and summarize the same data emphasizing region instead of location.

MS Excel Certification

For those aspiring for jobs related to MS Excel, Microsoft also runs a certification. A Microsoft Certified Applications Specialist (MCAS) certification is for a field of specialization on becoming an expert in Microsoft applications like MS Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Access and Outlook.

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