

Re: Find missing sequential numbers

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Excel/microsoft.public.excel.newusers/2006-03/msg00249.html>

- *From:* "Biff" <biffinpitt@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 9 Mar 2006 17:18:16 -0500
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I hope you understand that I like your approach,
but I want to make sure it has broader applications.

Yeah, it is limited as I stated!

Here's how *I* would approach your example since 198 is constant:

```
=INDEX(ROW($766:$774),SMALL(IF(--RIGHT(A$1:A$9,3)<>ROW($766:$774),ROW(A$1:A$9)),ROWS($1:1)))
```

returns:

768
772

The subject of this thread leads to all kinds of "ugliness"!

What if the invoice numbers were preceded by the year:

2006-198774

Or, were the last 4 digits of the string:

1987742006

Or contained some alpha characters:

198A999-2006
198A1000-2006

I think creating a "generic" solution for every possible situation would be near impossible so any solution has to be crafted for the specific situation. At least, that's how I approach things. I believe that at some point "robustness", which some consider to be the "holy grail", leads to overkill!

Biff

Re: Find missing sequential numbers

"Ron Coderre" <ronSKIPTHIScoderre@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:33838C3F-7357-41AC-8D1A-3EF5BC37D2B8@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Biff:

I hope you understand that I like your approach, but I want to make sure
it
has broader applications.

Example:

A1:A9 contains invoice numbers:

198766

198774

198767

198773

198769

198771

198769

198771

198770

Which ones are missing?

As it stands, your original formula would try to list from 1 through
198765
as missing, stopping at 65,656 of course.

After more play, I came up with this array formula:

B1:

=INDEX(ROW(\$A\$1:INDEX(A:A,COUNT(A:A))),SMALL(IF(COUNTIF(A\$1:A\$9,ROW(\$1:\$9)+MIN(A:A

(copied down)

It returned:

198768

198772

Note: I also had to tweak my formula to make it work. It ended up a
few
characters shorter, but I'd much rather have the missing values list in
ascending order. Consequently, I prefer the amended "Biff formula".

Your thoughts?

Regards,

Ron

XL2002, WinXP-Pro

"Biff" wrote:

Re: Find missing sequential numbers

Hi Ron!

It works for me.

Since the sequence you're testing is 1:19 you just need to change the ROW() range to match that sequence:

=INDEX(ROW(\$1:\$19),SMALL(IF(COUNTIF(A\$1:A\$9,ROW(\$1:\$19))=0,ROW(\$1:\$19)),ROWS(\$

Biff

"Ron Coderre" <ronSKIPTHIScoderre@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:66EFA2B6-2E71-419B-B00A-9B0DE97C04AF@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Biff:

Always eager to adopt a better solution, I experimented with the formula you posted and I ran into an issue.

I entered the below series in cells A1:A9

5
6
9
10
15
16
17
18
19

..and the formula only identified missing items: 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 8, ignoring 11, 12, 13 and 14.

Evidently, it only works as long as the maximum number in the sequence isn't larger than the maximum referenced row number.

This amended version got it back on track:

=INDEX(ROW(\$A\$1:INDEX(A:A,MAX(A:A))),SMALL(IF(COUNTIF(A\$1:A\$9,ROW(\$A

Regards,
Ron

Re: Find missing sequential numbers

XL2002, WinXP-Pro

"Biff" wrote:

Here's another one: (array entered)

=INDEX(ROW(\$1:\$9),SMALL(IF(COUNTIF(A\$1:A\$7,ROW(\$1:\$9))=0,ROW(\$1:\$

Copy down until you #NUM!.

This one is limited to number sequences
from 1 to 65536. (in Excel 12
that
will jump up to 1048576 !)

Biff

"DTTODGG"

<DTTODGG@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote in message

news:28706E9E-2624-4BD0-92BE-FB1A826148CF@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Hello, I'm looking for a way
to quickly find what
numbers are
missing
in
column B. I can sort them
ascending, but how do I find
if there are
missing
numbers?

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 9

I need to know 4 and 8 are
missing.

Thank you.

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