

## Re: Finding Min Cell values excluding zero in alternate columns

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Excel/microsoft.public.excel.worksheet.functions/2006-07/msg00345.html>

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- *From:* "Biff" <[biffinpitt@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:biffinpitt@xxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Wed, 5 Jul 2006 00:17:35 -0400
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=MIN(IF(MOD(COLUMN(A1:O1),2),IF(A1:O1>0,A1:O1)))

The columns are numbered from 1 to 256. Column A = 1, column B = 2, column C = 3, etc.

Using the MOD function with a divisor of 2, all odd numbered columns will return a mod of 1 and all the even numbered columns will return a mod of 0. When these mod results are evaluated by the IF function the mods of 1 are evaluated as TRUE and the mods of 0 are evaluated as FALSE.

So, this expression will return an array of 1's and 0's:

IF(MOD(COLUMN(A1:O1),2)

This expression which is testing the values in the range to be greater than 0 will return an array of TRUES and FALSEs:

IF(A1:O1>0

Where both arrays evaluate to TRUE the corresponding value from the range array, A1:O1, is passed to the MIN function.

Here's what it would look like using a smaller sample:

A1.....B1.....C1.....D1.....E1  
65.....53.....-10.....55.....4

IF(MOD(COLUMN(A1),2) = 1  
IF(MOD(COLUMN(B1),2) = 0  
IF(MOD(COLUMN(C1),2) = 1  
IF(MOD(COLUMN(D1),2) = 0  
IF(MOD(COLUMN(E1),2) = 1

IF(A1>0 = TRUE  
IF(B1>0 = TRUE  
IF(C1>0 = FALSE

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IF(D1>0 = TRUE  
IF(E1>0 = TRUE

IF(1,IF(TRUE = A1 = 65  
IF(0,IF(TRUE = B1 = FALSE  
IF(1,IF(FALSE = C1 = FALSE  
IF(0,IF(TRUE = D1 = FALSE  
IF(1,IF(TRUE = E1 = 4

=MIN({65,FALSE,FALSE,FALSE,4}) = 4

Biff

"Elizabeth" <Elizabeth@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
news:907DF8C3-A1CA-432F-8850-CBB1765E8DAB@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Biff:

I've been puzzling over your suggestion for days. It works, but I don't understand it. Would you mind telling me what it is doing? I am fairly new to arrays. I would appreciate your help. Thank you!  
Elizabeth

"Biff" wrote:

Hi!

Try this:

Entered as an array using the key combo of CTRL,SHIFT,ENTER:

=MIN(IF(MOD(COLUMN(A1:O1),2),IF(A1:O1>0,A1:O1)))

Biff

"MichaelC" <MichaelC@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
news:9BF784AA-C401-44AF-9F93-913171652DB2@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

I have an array that is 1 row high by 16 columns wide.  
Each cell may contain a positive value, or a zero.

I need a formula to find the "Minimum value that is greater than zero"

in  
columns 1,3,5,7,9,11,13 and 15.

=MIN(A1,C1,E1,G1,I1,K1,M1,O1) will always return the zero value while I need the minimum value that is greater than zero.  
If I use nested IF functions to exclude zeroes I run foul of the

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max of

7

allowed.

I would greatly appreciate any help and thank you in advance

for any

offered.

MichaelC