

Re: Returning multiple indices for a lookup

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Excel/microsoft.public.excel.worksheet.functions/2007-06/msg02430.html>

- *From:* Thomas Toth <someone@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 28 Jun 2007 21:17:59 +0200
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JMB wrote:

If your data is in A1:B7 (row 1 is a header), cell F2 = John, try this in G2:

```
=IF(COLUMNS($G2:G2)<=COUNTIF($A$2:$A$7,$F2),SMALL(IF($A$2:$A$7=$F2,$B$2:$B$7),COLUMNS($G2:G2)),IF(COLUMNS($G2:G2)>COUNTIF($A$2:$A$7,$F2),SMALL(IF($A$2:$A$7=$F2,$B$2:$B$7),COUNTIF($A$2:$A$7,$F2)),SMALL(IF($A$2:$A$7=$F2,$B$2:$B$7),COLUMNS($G2:G2)))
```

array entered (Cntrl+Shift+Enter). Then copy across and down.

Looking back at your post – since you have a counter set up (lets say in cell G1), the formula becomes:

```
=IF(G$1<=COUNTIF($A$2:$A$7,$F2),SMALL(IF($A$2:$A$7=$F2,$B$2:$B$7),G$1),SMALL(IF($A$2:$A$7=$F2,$B$2:$B$7),COUNTIF($A$2:$A$7,$F2)))
```

array entered – copied across and down.

Thomas wrote:

Hi,

I have a table which contains a name in the first column and an article-number in the second column. One person can have multiple articles but the article numbers are unique.

I am now trying to generate a table showing which person has which articles, sorted per name whereby the name is given for each line (is already sorted as needed). In the output I also have a 'counter' going across for easier readability. I'll try and give an example:

Table1 (exists):

Name	Article
John	1234
John	2345
James	3456
Jim	4567
John	5678
James	6789

Table2 (needed):

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1 2 3
John 1234 2345 5678
James 3456 6789
Jim 4567

I know I can find a specific name and corresponding article number in the table using VLOOKUP but this will only return a single article, I assume the last one.

How can I get VLOOKUP (or match or index) to return multiple indices? Then I could tell it to return me the article at the 1st, 2nd, 3rd,... position.

It should all be implemented in a dynamic worksheet way, that is without VBA. Once I update/change table1 and then press F9 it should update table2.

Any help is appreciated.

Thanks,
Tom

Hi,

Thanks a lot for your help guys, it worked just right. I now have the table I need.

Unfortunately I just realised that my article number can also contain letters. Therefore, the SMALL function is not working.

As a solution I am thinking to get the cell reference instead of the content, get the rows of the reference using SMALL and then use that index to get the content.

So, the idea is there but I am not able to put it into a function that will work.

Could anyone help me to get the same function working but with alphanumerical article numbers? Of course it can be done differently than my simple idea. I'm sure there are more sophisticated solutions.

Thanks for all the help,
Thomas

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