

Re: find and replace Excel 2007

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Excel/microsoft.public.excel.worksheet.functions/2009-04/msg00266.html>

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 - *Date:* Wed, 01 Apr 2009 22:13:46 -0500
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Just some guesses...

Edit|replace (or ctrl-h) is limited to the usedrange. So if your data doesn't go down far enough—or not far enough to the right, then excel may not find anything to change.

You can check the used range by hitting ctrl-end. If that takes you past what you need, then this isn't the problem.

But if it doesn't take you far enough down and to the right, you can extend the used range by typing something in that bottom right cell (and finish the entry with an enter). Then hit the delete key to clear the contents of that cell. Test to see if it worked by hitting ctrl-end.

My other guess is that you have something in those cells. It could be space characters or even those non-breaking HTML codes (char(160)'s).

If you use a formula like:

=len(a1)

(where A1 is one of the offending cells)

do you see 0?

I saved this from a previous post. You may find it useful:

Chip Pearson has a very nice addin that will help determine what that character(s) is:

<http://www.cpearson.com/excel/CellView.aspx>

Depending on what that character is, you may be able to use alt-#### (from the number keypad) to enter the character into the Other box in the text to columns wizard dialog.

In fact, you may be able to select the character (in the formula bar), and copy it. Then use ctrl-v to paste into that text to columns Other box.

You may be able to use Edit|Replace to change the character—Some characters can be entered by holding the alt-key and typing the hex number on the numeric keypad. For example, alt-0010 (or ctrl-j) can be used for linefeeds. But I've

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never been able to get alt-0013 to work for carriage returns.

Another alternative is to fix it via a formula:

```
=substitute(a1,char(##),"")
```

Replace ## with the ASCII value you see in Chip's addin.

Or you could use a macro (after using Chip's CellView addin):

```
Option Explicit  
Sub cleanEmUp()
```

```
Dim myBadChars As Variant  
Dim myGoodChars As Variant  
Dim iCtr As Long
```

```
myBadChars = Array(Chr(##)) '←--What showed up in CellView?
```

```
myGoodChars = Array("")
```

```
If UBound(myGoodChars) <> UBound(myBadChars) Then  
MsgBox "Design error!"  
Exit Sub  
End If
```

```
For iCtr = LBound(myBadChars) To UBound(myBadChars)  
ActiveSheet.Cells.Replace What:=myBadChars(iCtr), _  
Replacement:=myGoodChars(iCtr), _  
LookAt:=xlPart, SearchOrder:=xlByRows, _  
MatchCase:=False  
Next iCtr
```

```
End Sub
```

If you're new to macros:

Debra Dalglish has some notes how to implement macros here:

<http://www.contextures.com/xlvba01.html>

David McRitchie has an intro to macros:

<http://www.mvps.org/dmcritchie/excel/getstarted.htm>

Ron de Bruin's intro to macros:

<http://www.rondebruin.nl/code.htm>

(General, Regular and Standard modules all describe the same thing.)

Lynne wrote:

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I get a message saying "Excel can not find any data to replace." I have never had this problem occur in past years but this is the first year of using 2007 for this calculation. I am selecting a range Col. D to P. and a varying number of rows. It will only make the replace in the first two columns. i.e. 16 replacements were made when the range held about 60 or 70 blank cells. When I try to select any columns past these, I get the message above. I can't select individual columns or ranges. This is occurring on several different workbooks. Any other ideas would be much appreciated.

"Sheeloo" wrote:

I don't think there is any difference between 2003 and 2007 as far as this behavior is concerned...

You must have at least one non-blank cell in the range for your method to work.... If all are blanks then you can simply type 0 and press CTRL-ENTER after selecting the range...

-Sheeloo

Pl. click 'Yes' if this was helpful...

"Lynne" wrote:

In 2003 I used to be able to select a range that contained blank cells and use find and replace to change the blanks to 0 for an array formula to work. Now 2007 says it can't find any matching data if I leave the find field blank. Any ideas? There are alot of empty cells that need a 0 value!

Thanks

Dave Peterson
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