



Class: MSc – Semester 1

Subject : Application of IT – Basics of Excel

Chapter: Unit 1 Chapter 7 (part 1)

Chapter Name: Generating Functions Conditional Formatting

Conditional Formatting

Let's say you have a worksheet with thousands of rows of data. It would be extremely difficult to see patterns and trends just from examining the raw information.

Similar to charts and spark lines, **conditional formatting** provides another way to visualize data and make worksheets easier to understand.

Conditional Formatting

Conditional formatting allows you to automatically apply formatting—such as **colors**, **icons**, and **data bars**—to one or more cells based on the **cell value**. To do this, you'll need to create a **conditional formatting rule**.


For example, a conditional formatting rule might be: **If the value is less than \$2000, color the cell red**. By applying this rule, you'd be able to quickly see which cells contain values less than \$2000

	A	B	C	D	E
2	Salesperson	May	June	July	August
3	Albertson, Kathy	\$3,799.00	\$557.00	\$3,863.00	\$1,117.00
4	Allenson, Carol	\$18,930.00	\$1,042.00	\$9,355.00	\$1,100.00
5	Altman, Zoey	\$5,725.00	\$3,072.00	\$6,702.00	\$2,116.00
6	Bittiman, William	\$1,344.00	\$3,755.00	\$4,415.00	\$1,089.00
7	Brennan, Michael	\$8,296.00	\$3,152.00	\$11,601.00	\$1,122.00
8	Carlson, David	\$3,945.00	\$4,056.00	\$3,726.00	\$1,135.00
9	Collman, Harry	\$8,337.00	\$4,906.00	\$9,007.00	\$2,113.00
10	Counts, Elizabeth	\$3,742.00	\$521.00	\$4,505.00	\$1,024.00
11	David, Chloe	\$7,605.00	\$3,428.00	\$3,973.00	\$1,716.00

To Create Conditional Formatting Rule:

In our example, we have a worksheet containing sales data, and we'd like to see which salespeople are meeting their monthly sales goals. The sales goal is \$4000 per month, so we'll create a conditional formatting rule for any cells containing a value higher than 4000.

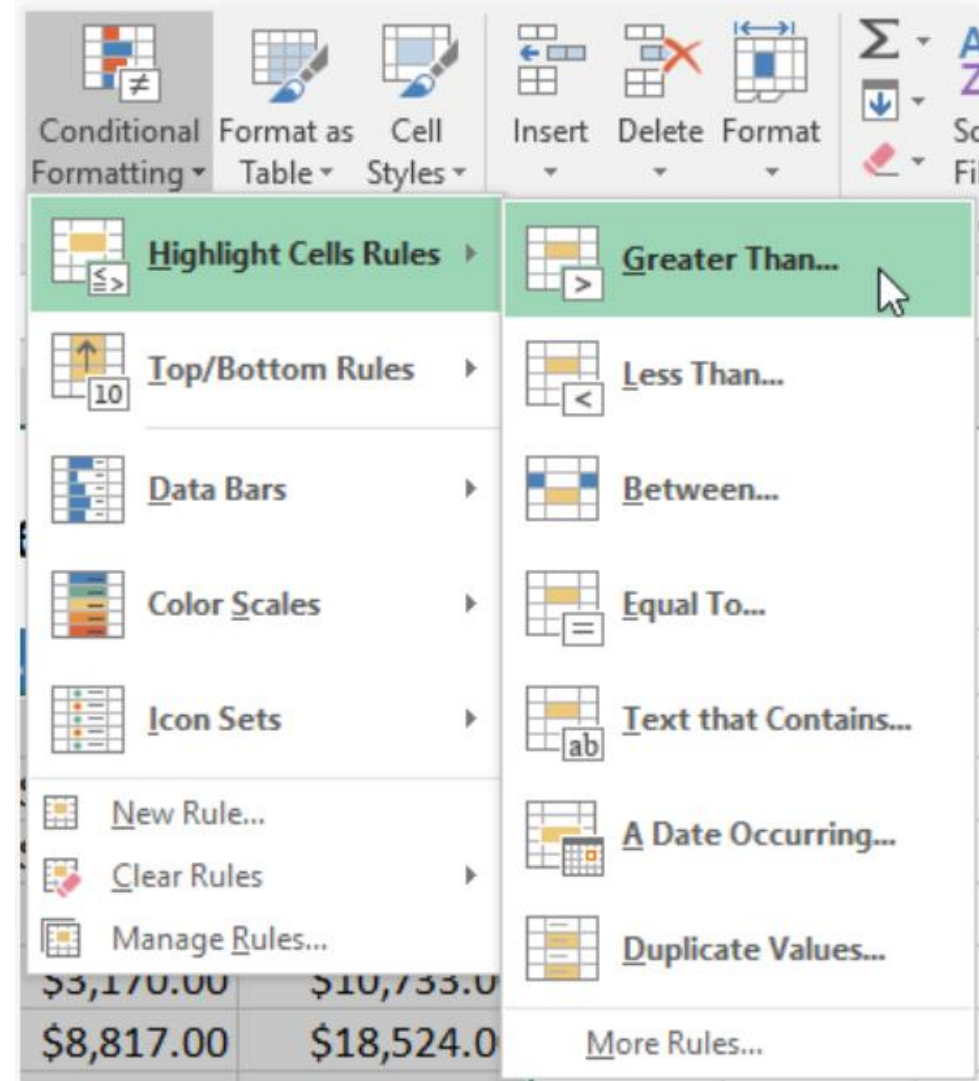
Step 1 - Select the **desired cells** for the conditional formatting rule.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1		Westbrook Parker Sales Data					
2	Salesperson	May	June	July	August	September	October
3	Albertson, Kathy	\$3,799.00	\$557.00	\$3,863.00	\$1,117.00	\$8,237.00	\$8,690.00
4	Allenson, Carol	\$18,930.00	\$1,042.00	\$9,355.00	\$1,100.00	\$10,185.00	\$18,749.00
5	Altman, Zoey	\$5,725.00	\$3,072.00	\$6,702.00	\$2,116.00	\$13,452.00	\$8,046.00
6	Bittiman, William	\$1,344.00	\$3,755.00	\$4,415.00	\$1,089.00	\$4,404.00	\$20,114.00
7	Brennan, Michael	\$8,296.00	\$3,152.00	\$11,601.00	\$1,122.00	\$3,170.00	\$10,733.00
8	Carlson, David	\$3,945.00	\$4,056.00	\$3,726.00	\$1,135.00	\$8,817.00	\$18,524.00
9	Collman, Harry	\$8,337.00	\$4,906.00	\$9,007.00	\$2,113.00	\$13,090.00	\$13,953.00
10	Counts, Elizabeth	\$3,742.00	\$521.00	\$4,505.00	\$1,024.00	\$3,528.00	\$15,275.00
11	David, Chloe	\$7,605.00	\$3,428.00	\$3,973.00	\$1,716.00	\$4,839.00	\$13,085.00
12	Davis, William	\$5,304.00	\$1,562.00	\$2,945.00	\$1,176.00	\$9,642.00	\$13,714.00
13	Dumlao, Richard	\$9,333.00	\$2,779.00	\$7,549.00	\$1,101.00	\$5,850.00	\$15,065.00
14	Farmer, Kim	\$1,103.00	\$3,470.00	\$3,862.00	\$1,040.00	\$10,024.00	\$18,389.00
15	Ferguson, Elizabeth	\$1,333.00	\$1,913.00	\$4,596.00	\$1,126.00	\$5,503.00	\$10,686.00
16	Flores, Tia	\$12,398.00	\$2,883.00	\$2,142.00	\$2,014.00	\$13,547.00	\$21,983.00
17	Ford, Victor	\$3,251.00	\$4,931.00	\$8,283.00	\$1,054.00	\$9,543.00	\$11,967.00
18	Hodges, Melissa	\$4,624.00	\$4,798.00	\$8,420.00	\$1,389.00	\$10,468.00	\$12,677.00
19	Jameson, Robinson	\$2,552.00	\$4,459.00	\$2,248.00	\$1,058.00	\$6,267.00	\$14,982.00
20	Kellerman, Frances	\$4,281.00	\$4,172.00	\$11,074.00	\$1,282.00	\$2,365.00	\$9,385.00

To Create Conditional Formatting Rule:

Step 2 - From the **Home** tab, click the **Conditional Formatting** command. A drop-down menu will appear.

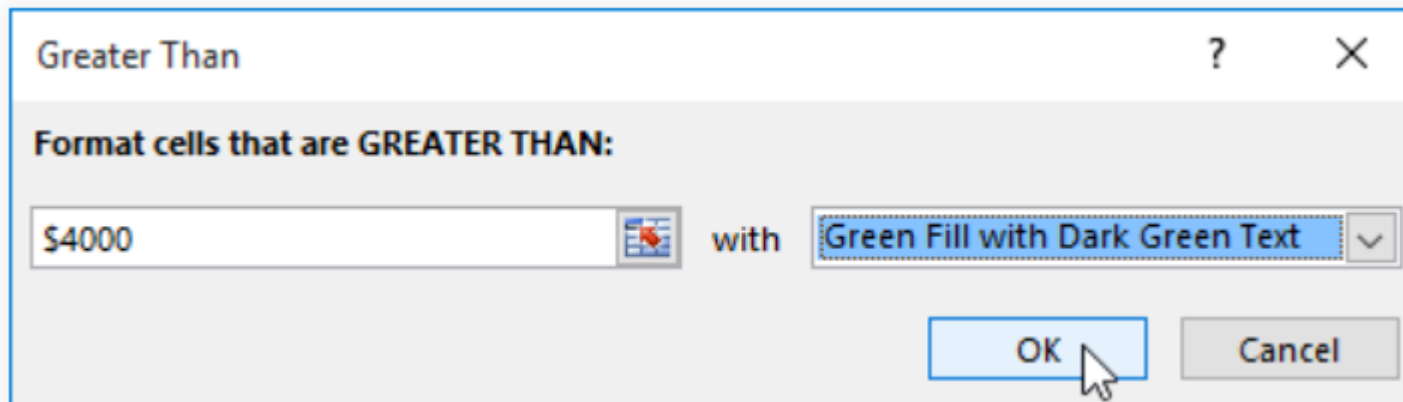
Step 3 – Hover the mouse over the desired **conditional formatting type**, then select the **desired rule** from the menu that appears. In our example, we want to **highlight cells** that are **greater than** \$4000.



To Create Conditional Formatting Rule:


Step 4 - A dialog box will appear. Enter the **desired value(s)** into the blank field. In our example, we'll enter 4000 as our value.

Step 5 - Select a **formatting style** from the drop-down menu. In our example, we'll choose **Green Fill with Dark Green Text**, then click **OK**.



To Create Conditional Formatting Rule:

The conditional formatting will be applied to the selected cells. In our example, it's easy to see which salespeople reached the \$4000 sales goal for each month

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	 Westbrook Parker Sales Data						
2	Salesperson	May	June	July	August	September	October
3	Albertson, Kathy	\$3,799.00	\$557.00	\$3,863.00	\$1,117.00	\$8,237.00	\$8,690.00
4	Allenson, Carol	\$18,930.00	\$1,042.00	\$9,355.00	\$1,100.00	\$10,185.00	\$18,749.00
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19	Jameson, Robinson	\$2,552.00	\$4,459.00	\$2,248.00	\$1,058.00	\$6,267.00	\$14,982.00
20	Kellerman, Frances	\$4,281.00	\$4,172.00	\$11,074.00	\$1,282.00	\$2,365.00	\$9,380.00

Conditional Formatting Presets

Excel has several predefined styles—or **presets**—you can use to quickly apply conditional formatting to your data. They are grouped into three categories:

- **Data Bars** are horizontal bars added to each cell, much like a **bar graph**.

\$3,863.00	\$1,117.00	\$8,237.00	\$8,690.00
\$9,355.00	\$1,100.00	\$10,185.00	\$18,749.00
\$6,702.00	\$2,116.00	\$13,452.00	\$8,046.00
\$4,415.00	\$1,089.00	\$4,404.00	\$20,114.00

- **Color Scales** change the color of each cell based on its value. Each color scale uses a **two- or three-color gradient**. For example, in the **Green-Yellow-Red** color scale, the **highest** values are green, the **average** values are yellow, and the **lowest** values are red.

\$3,863.00	\$1,117.00	\$8,237.00	\$8,690.00
\$9,355.00	\$1,100.00	\$10,185.00	\$18,749.00
\$6,702.00	\$2,116.00	\$13,452.00	\$8,046.00
\$4,415.00	\$1,089.00	\$4,404.00	\$20,114.00

Conditional Formatting Presets

- **Icon Sets** add a specific icon to each cell based on its value.

▼ \$3,863.00	▼ \$1,117.00	▬ \$8,237.00	▬ \$8,690.00
▬ \$9,355.00	▼ \$1,100.00	▬ \$10,185.00	▲ \$18,749.00
▼ \$6,702.00	▼ \$2,116.00	▬ \$13,452.00	▬ \$8,046.00
▼ \$4,415.00	▼ \$1,089.00	▼ \$4,404.00	▲ \$20,114.00

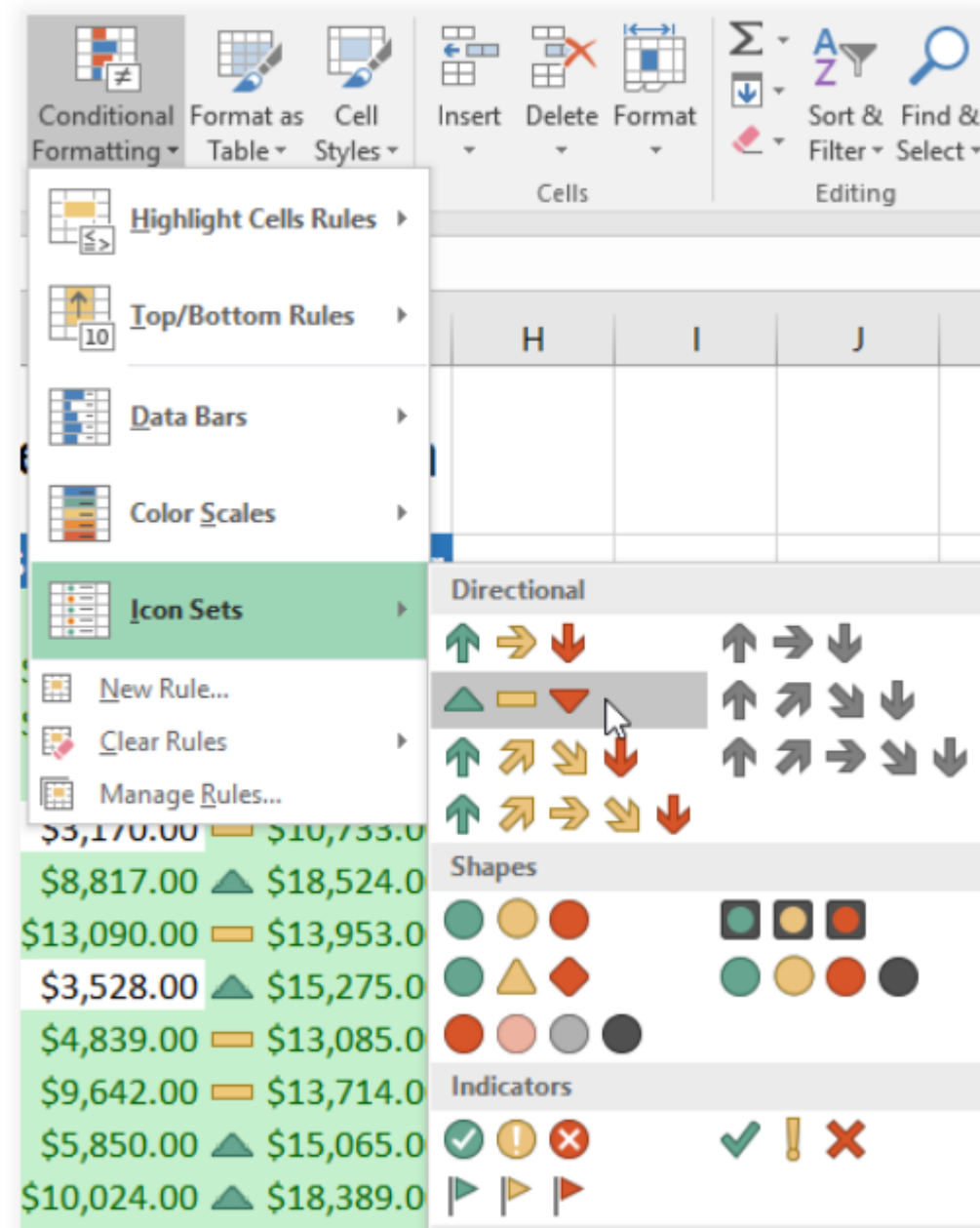
To use Conditional Formatting Presets:

Step 1 - Select the **desired cells** for the conditional formatting rule.

Step 2 - Click the **Conditional Formatting** command. A drop-down menu will appear.

Step 3 - Hover the mouse over the **desired preset**, then choose a **preset style** from the menu that appears.

Step 4 - The conditional formatting will be applied to the selected cells.



Removing Conditional Formatting

Step 1 - Click the **Conditional Formatting** command. A drop-down menu will appear.

Step 2 - Hover the mouse over **Clear Rules**, and choose which rules you want to clear. In our example, we'll select **Clear Rules from Entire Sheet** to remove all conditional formatting from the worksheet.

Step 3 - The conditional formatting will be removed.

*Step 4 - Click **Manage Rules** to edit or delete **individual** rules. This is especially useful if you've applied **multiple rules** to a worksheet.

