## Number formatting

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- Open a workbook called Number formatting. Click on cell C2.

- Click on the down arrow next to the Number Format control.

- You will see a drop down menu from which you can select the format. In this case select Number.

- This tells Excel that the data contained within this cell should always now be treated as a number, rather than say text or a date.


## Decimal point display

- Click on cell C4.

| 4 | A | B | C |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 |  |  |  |
| 2 |  | Format this cell to use number formatting conventions | 194593.12 |
| 3 |  |  |  |
| 4 |  | Format this number to display no decimal places. | 194593.1235 |
| 5 |  | Format this number to display 1 decimal place | 194594.1235 |
| 6 |  | Format this number to display 2 decimal place | 194595.1235 |

- Click on the Decrease Decimal icon a few times, so that no decimal places are displayed.

- The cell contents should now look like this.

Format this number to display no decimal places.
194593

- Set the contents of cell $\mathbf{C} 5$ to display $\mathbf{1}$ decimal point.

| A | B | C |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  | Format this cell to use number formatting conventions | 194593.12 |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |
| 4 |  | Format this number to display no decimal places. | 194593 |  |
| 5 |  | Format this number to display 1 decimal place | 194594.1 |  |
| 6 |  | Format this number to display 2 decimal place | 194595.1235 |  |
| 7 |  |  |  |  |

- Set the contents of cell C6 to display 2 decimal points.

| 4 | A | B | C | D |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  | Format this cell to use number formatting conventions | 194593.12 |  |
| 3 |  |  | 194593 |  |
| 4 |  | Format this number to display no decimal places. | 194594.1 |  |
| 5 |  | Format this number to display 1 decimal place | 194595.12 |  |
| 6 |  | Format this number to display 2 decimal place |  |  |
| 7 |  |  |  |  |

TIP: To increase the number of decimal points dis played, click on the Increase Decimal icon.

## Applying and removing comma style formatting (to indicate thousands)

- Click on cell C8.

| A | A | C |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: |
| 1 |  |  |  |
| 2 |  | Format this cell to use number formatting conventions | 194593.12 |
| 3 |  |  |  |
| 4 |  | Format this number to display no decimal places. | 194593 |
| 5 |  | Format this number to display 1 decimal place | 194594.1 |
| 6 |  | Format this number to display 2 decimal place | 194595.12 |
| 7 |  |  |  |
| 8 |  | Format this number to display comers | 1945968573 |
| 9 |  |  |  |

- Click on the Comma Style icon (within the Number group under the Home tab) to format the number using commas.

- Your number should now look like this.

1,945,968,573.00

NOTE: To remove comma style formatting, click on the down arrow next to the Number format icon (within the Number section of the Home tab).


- Select the General or Number format option, as illustrated.

- The cell contents will now be displayed without comma style formatting.


## Currency symbol

- Select cell C10.

| 4 | A | B | C |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| 1 |  |  |  |
| 2 |  | Format this cell to use number formatting conventions | 194593.12 |
| 3 |  |  |  |
| 4 |  | Format this number to display no decimal places. | 194593 |
| 5 |  | Format this number to display 1 decimal place | 194594.1 |
| 6 |  | Format this number to display 2 decimal place | 194595.12 |
| 7 |  | Format this number to display comers |  |
| 8 |  |  | 1945968573.00 |
| 9 |  | Format this number to display a UK pound sign | 234.98 |
| 10 |  | Format this number to display a dollar sign | 234.98 |
| 11 |  |  |  |

- Format it to display the British Pound symbol. To do this click on the down arrow next to the Currency icon.

- From the list displayed, select the $£$ option.

- Select cell C11 and format it to display the Do llar symbol.
- Select cell C12 and format it to display the Euro symbol. Your data will now look like this.

| $£$ | 234.98 |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\$$ | 234.98 |
| $€$ | 234.98 |

## Date styles

- Click on cell B17 and type in the text 'The date today is'.
- Click on cell C17 and type in today's date. When you press the Enter key you may find that the style of the date changes automatically.
- Right click over cell C17 and from the popup menu displayed select the Format Cells command.

- This will display the Format Cells dialog box.

- If necessary, within the Category section of the dialog box, select the Date category.

- Select the required format from the Type section of the dialog box.

- Click on the OK button to apply the date format. Experiment with applying different types of date format to the cell.


## Percentages

- Click on the cell C15.

| 4 | A | B | C |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | ---: |
| 1 |  |  |  |
| 2 |  | Format this cell to use number formatting conventions | 194593.12 |
| 3 |  |  |  |
| 4 |  | Format this number to display no decimal places. | 194593 |
| 5 |  | Format this number to display 1 decimal place | 194594.1 |
| 6 |  | Format this number to display 2 decimal place | 194595.12 |
| 7 |  | Format this number to display comers |  |
| 8 |  |  | 1945968573.00 |
| 9 |  | Format this number to display a UK pound sign | £ |
| 10 |  | Format this number to display a dollar sign | 234.98 |
| 11 |  |  | 234.98 |
| 12 |  | Format this number to display a euro sign | 234.98 |
| 13 |  |  |  |
| 14 |  |  |  |
| 15 |  | Format this number to display a percentage sign |  |
| 16 |  |  |  |

- To change this number from 17 to $17 \%$, type in $17 \%$ and press the Enter key. You will then see the contents displayed as illustrated below.
$\square$
- Save your changes and close the workbook.


## Applying Percentage formatting to a cell or range

- You can format numbers within a works heet using the percentage format. You need to be careful however how you use this formatting, as you can get some unexpected results if used incorrectly.
- Open a workbook called Percentage formatting. This worksheet contains two sets of data, neither of which make sense at present. We need to tell Excel to treat the contents of cells $\mathbf{C 4}$ and $\mathbf{G 4}$ as cells containing percentages.
- Click on cell C4 to select it.

| 4 | A | B | c | D | E | F | G |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  | Full price | 55 |  |  | Full price | 55 |
| 4 |  | Percentage discount | 10 |  |  | Percentage discount |  |
| 5 |  | Value of discount | 550 |  |  | Value of discount | 0 |
| 6 |  | Sale price after discount | -495 |  |  | Sale price after discount | 55 |

- To apply percentage formatting to this cell, click on the Home tab and from within the Number group, click on the Percentage icon.

- You will see the following, which is not quite the result you may have expected.


As you have just seen, if a cell contains numbers, BEFORE you apply percentage formatting to the cell, then the numbers in the cell are multiplied by 100.

- Click on cell G4.

| 4 | A | B | c | D | E | F | G |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  | Full price | 55 |  |  | Full price | 55 |
| 4 |  | Percentage discount | 1000\% |  |  | Percentage discount |  |
| 5 |  | Value of discount | 550 |  |  | Value of discount | 0 |
| 6 |  | Sale price after discount | -495 |  |  | Sale price after discount | 55 |

- To apply percentage formatting to this cell, click on the Home tab and from within the Number section, click on the Percentage icon. The cell is empty so you will not see any change. However if you enter the number 10, to cell G4 you will see the following.

| 4 | A | B | C | D | E | F | G |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  | Full price | 55 |  |  | Full price | 55 |
| 4 |  | Percentage discount | 1000\% |  |  | Percentage discount | 10\% |
| 5 |  | Value of discount | 550 |  |  | Value of discount | 5.5 |
| 6 |  | Sale price after discount | -495 |  |  | Sale price after discount | 49.5 |
| 7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

As you have just seen, numbers that are typed into the cells after you apply the percentage formatting are treated differently to cells already containing data.

- Save your changes and close the workbook.

