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FORMULAS IN MS EXCEL

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1. Definition of Formulas in MS Excel

A Formula in Microsoft Excel is an arithmetic or logical operation, Excel gives its result immediately after finishing typing it and pressing the Enter key. A formula always begins with the equal sign (=)

To write the formulas, the following operations can be used: + - * /

2. Types of Formulas in MS Excel

There are two types of formulas:

2.1 Simple Formula: We can create it by doing the following steps:

1. Select the cell that we want to enter the formula in
2. Type the equal sign =
3. Type the numbers and the operators, for example: $=5*3+4$
4. Press Enter. The result of the calculation appears in the cell with the formula

2.2 Formulas using cells references: The reference of a cell is its name which is the combination of the name of the column and the number of the row.

➤ **Example:** $=A4*C2$ is the multiplication of the cell A4 by the cell C2

3. Order of operations (operator precedence)

If we combine several operators in a single formula, Excel performs the operations in the following order:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Parenthesis () | 2. Exponentiation ^ |
| 3. Multiplication and division * / | 4. Addition and subtraction + - |

Example: The Formula: $=5+(11-3)/2$

- Between the parenthesis: $11 - 3 = 8$
- The division: $8 / 2 = 4$
- The Addition: $5 + 4 = 9$
- The result is: **9**

Remark: If a formula contains operators with the same precedence (for example, if a formula contains both a multiplication and division operators) Excel evaluates the operators from left to right.