#### COLUMN

[Syntax](Syntax.docx):

COLUMN ( [ [reference](reference.docx) ] )

Description: Finds the number of the column(s) corresponding to [reference](reference.docx).

Arguments:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Type | Description |
| [reference](reference.docx) | [reference](reference.docx) | A [reference](reference.docx) to a single [cell](cell.docx) or to a range of contiguous cells. If omitted, the behavior is as if [reference](reference.docx) referred to the [cell](cell.docx) containing the formula. |

Return Type and Value: number – If [reference](reference.docx) refers to a single [cell](cell.docx) or to a single column of cells, the corresponding column is returned. If [reference](reference.docx) refers to a range of cells involving multiple columns, a [horizontal](horizontal.docx) array of the corresponding columns as numbers is returned.

However, if the range of cells referred to by [reference](reference.docx) is not contiguous, #REF! is returned.

[Example:  
  
COLUMN() results in 4, when the [cell](cell.docx) containing the [formula](formula.docx) is in column 4  
COLUMN(E17:E19) results in 5  
COLUMN(E16:F17) results in a [horizontal](horizontal.docx) array containing 5and 6, respectively  
  
end example]