Module 45: MATCH Function

45.1 MATCH Function

You can use the MATCH function in Excel to search for a specific value in a range of cells.

It will return the position of the value within the range, rather than the value itself.

For example, if you use the range B1:B5 and it contains the numbers 17, 22, 21, 19 and 23 you can use the formula =MATCH(21,B1:B5,0) and the number 3 will be returned as 21 is the third item in that list.

The formula is written as: **=MATCH(lookup_value, lookup_array, [match_type])**

lookup_value - This is the value you wish to search for. This can be any value, text, numeric or a logical value. You may even use a cell reference.

lookup_array - The range of cells to search.

match_type - This is an optional argument. You can use the numbers -1, 0 or 1 to specify how Excel matches the value. As a default this is set to one.

The match types are:

- Match_type 1 - This will match the largest value that is less than or equal to the lookup value you have set.

- Match_type 0 - This will find the first value that is equal to your specified value

- Match_type -1 - This will find the smallest value that is greater than or equal to the lookup value you have set.

45.2 Match Formula

MATCH Function – 1m 37s

45.3 Task

Estimated Time: 10 minutes
Download the worksheet that accompanies this video by clicking below. Once downloaded, follow the video above and you will see how to use the MATCH Function.
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Option #2: Worksheet without formula
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