



# Excel by Example: A Microsoft Excel Cookbook for Electronics Engineers

*By Aubrey Kagan*

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## **Excel by Example: A Microsoft Excel Cookbook for Electronics Engineers**

By Aubrey Kagan

The spreadsheet has become a ubiquitous engineering tool, and Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software package. Over the years, Excel has become such a complex program that most engineers understand and use only a tiny part of its power and features. This book is aimed at electronics engineers and technicians in particular, showing them how to best use Excel's features for computations, circuit modeling, graphing, and data analysis as applied to electronics design. Separate chapters cover lookup tables and file I/O, using macros, graphing, controls, using Analysis Toolpak for statistical analysis, databases, and linking into Excel from other sources, such as data from a serial port. The book is basically an engineering cookbook, with each chapter providing tutorial information along with several Excel "recipes" of interest to electronics engineers. The accompanying CD-ROM features ready-to-run, customizable Excel worksheets derived from the book examples, which will be useful tools to add to any electronics engineer's spreadsheet toolbox.

Engineers are looking for any and all means to increase their efficiency and add to their "bag of design tricks." Just about every electronics engineer uses Excel but most feel that the program has many more features to offer, if they only knew what they were! The Excel documentation is voluminous and electronics engineers don't have the time to read it all and sift through looking for those features that are directly applicable to their jobs and figure out how to use them. This book does that task for them-pulls out those features that they need to know about and shows them how to make use of them in specific design examples that they can then tailor to their own design needs.

\*This is the **ONLY** book to deal with Excel specifically in the electronics field

\*Distills voluminous and time-consuming Excel documentation down to nitty-gritty explanations of those features that are directly applicable to the electronics engineer's daily job duties

\*The accompanying CD-ROM provides ready-to-use, fully-customizable worksheets from the book's examples

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### **Editorial Review**

#### **Review**

"Excel by Example...shows you how you can use the ubiquitous spreadsheet application to model and analyze parts of your design...can help you become more efficient in many of the small-scale aspects of design. These aspects can take a suprisingly large amount of your time and yield many benefits when you work efficiently. The author has written for Circuit Cellar, and he must know his subject..." - EDN August 2004

"This is an excellent resource for electronics engineers (and enthusiasts), and a great guide to the use of spreadsheet programs to high-end applications. Very well written and presented." - PC Update Online, Major Keary

"Anyone involved with engineering applications will find useful information in this book ... Kagan presents complete examples that show how commands work together. The author provides examples that include a voltage-to-current converter, a mean-time-between-failures (MTBF) calculator, and a voltage-regulator circuit calculator. The examples are not static. In the MTBF example, you can create "what-if" conditions that let you apply variables to see how they affect an outcome." - Jon Titus, Design News, May 15, 2006

#### **About the Author**

Aubrey Kagan is a registered professional engineer with 24 years of experience in electronics design, specializing in industrial controls. He has a BSEE from the Technion, Israel Institute of Technology, and an MBA from the University of Witwatersrand (South Africa). He has designed projects that have operated two miles underground in a mine to 600 miles above the earth in the International Space Station. He is currently a senior design engineer for Weidmuller Canada. He has written a series of tutorial articles for Circuit Cellar magazine on using Excel capabilities specifically for electronics applications, as well as numerous other technical articles.

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Other Excel tutorials cover a range of applications, most of which are not related to electronics. This book covers all the most common uses of Excel in electronics engineering in one handy and concise volume. The CD-ROM with all the Excell worksheets taht electronics engineers can use directly is a valuable design tool.

### **Users Review**

#### **From reader reviews:**

##### **Joan Myers:**

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**Jose Johnson:**

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