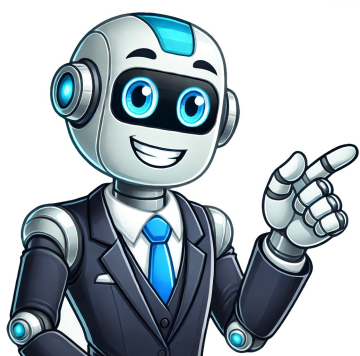


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Update 04/21/2023: Windy.GoogleTranslate is now a paid package and requires a license to use. Click here to visit the package purchase and info page. You might know that Google Sheets has a GOOGLETRANSLATE function that you can use for translating texts between languages. Microsoft Excel, on the other hand, doesn't natively have such a function. In this post, I'll show you how to add the GOOGLETRANSLATE function to Excel. Since Excel doesn't have this function built it, I decided to make one (for fun and profit). Being that my company is called Windy Range Software, I called the function Windy.GoogleTranslate. Before going into the process of installing it, let me first show you what it can do. Translating text to German (auto detected source language - English) You can invoke it from a formula in a cell, just like any other function in Excel: =Windy.GoogleTranslate(B4, "de", "en") The above formula will translate the text in cell B4 from English ("en") to German ("de"). The function has two mandatory parameters and one optional parameter: texts: an array of one or more texts to translate;targetLanguage: the 2-letter code of the target language (list of codes);sourceLanguage [optional]: the 2-letter code of the source language Note that the second parameter is the target language, and the third parameter is the source language (not the other way around as you might have expected). This is because passing in the target language parameter is mandatory but passing in the source language parameter is optional - if you omit it, it will be auto-detected by the Google Translate API. For example: =Windy.GoogleTranslate(B4, "de") Auto detecting the source language works well for longer texts but it can be a guessing game for shorter texts (e.g., two short words). Some short phrases are valid in multiple languages, so it's usually a good idea to specify the source language if you know it. In spreadsheets, we tend to work with data in bulk, so it might often be the case that we need to translate many cells instead of just one. Windy.GoogleTranslate performs translation by invoking the Google Translate API. To avoid the performance penalty of sending many HTTP requests to google servers, you can pass in an array of values to translate. The function will send all of them in bulk to the server and return an equally sized array containing translated texts. Translating multiple cells from Spanish to various target languages The function uses the dynamic arrays functionality of Excel 365 to return a table of results that spills to take up the required amount of space. In older versions of Excel, you can still make use of the function, but you'll have to manually select the area that will hold the results and enter the formula using the Ctrl+Shift+Enter command. The translation of a word or phrase from one language into another is not something that's going to change over time (at least not very often). This makes the result of the translation a good candidate for caching. Caching the result can save bandwidth, time, and costs, which is why the Windy.GoogleTranslate function caches results automatically. This is done at the session level, meaning that restarting Excel will clear the cache. Sometimes you might be dealing with text without knowing which language it's written in. To determine which language a text is written in, use the Windy.GoogleDetectLanguage function. You can invoke it in Excel like so: =Windy.GoogleDetectLanguage("Some text in English") The returned result for the above formula will be "en". Alternatively, if you'd like to detect the source language for many cells at once, you can pass in an array of texts and the function will return an array of results of equal size. Detecting languages of multiple texts Ok, now for the boring part - installing and configuring the function. Installation is done in two steps. Step 1: Install the QueryStorm runtime. This is a free 4MB add-on for Excel that adds the ability to install various useful extensions to Excel. Basically, an app store for Excel. Promoting my product QueryStorm is a good part of why I build and share functions like these, so please check it out.) Step 2: Open the Extensions dialog from the ribbon in Excel, find the function in the "online" tab, and install it. Installing the Windy.GoogleTranslate package Once that's done, the function is immediately visible in Excel. However, it's not yet ready for use. To use it, you must first: Activate it via a license key Supply it with a Google Translate API key. When you attempt to use one of these functions, you will be prompted to enter a license, unless you have already entered one before. To obtain a license key, visit our store to buy a monthly or yearly subscription for the Windy.GoogleTranslate package. All subscriptions start with a 3-day (for monthly subscriptions) or 7-day (for annual subscriptions) free trial period. Once you have activated a subscription, you will immediately get a license key which you can enter into the license prompt: If you try to use the function without setting up an API key, you will see the following prompt asking you to provide an API key that will let the newly added functions talk to the Google Translate API on your behalf: Let's see how to set up access with the API key... The Windy.GoogleTranslate function internally uses the Google Translate API. The API has a free quota (currently 500,000 characters per month, i.e. about half of a book) but if you need to translate more characters than this, you'll need to use a paid plan. To use the API you need a google account and an API key that allows accessing the Google Translate API on your behalf. Here's how to create one... Sign into Google Cloud Console with your Google accountSearch for "Translation API" and click the "Cloud Translation API" option Finding the "Google Translation API" in the Google Cloud Console Click "Enable" (you might need to add billing information to proceed, but you can limit the API to never go over the free tier). Enabling the "Google Translation API" Click the "Credentials" tab, then the "Create credentials" button and choose "API Key" Creating an API key for accessing Google Translate This will create your API Key Example of created API key Once you have your API key, go to the "QueryStorm" tab in Excel, click "Configure" and paste it into the "Google API Key" in the "Windy.GoogleTranslate" tab Configuring Windy.GoogleTranslate with the created API key That's it. The Windy.GoogleTranslate function is now ready for use. Note that the API Key should be treated as a password i.e. it should be kept secret and should not be shared around as it could be used by others to run translations at your expense. Limiting the API key to a certain amount of use can also be done in the google cloud console. Adding a translate function to Excel is fairly easy. The only semi-hard part is the initial setup which involves creating a Google Translate API key. This is something you only have to do once, though, and it's really not that difficult either. After the initial setup, you can easily translate texts in Excel from any language to any other without much hassle. Personally, I think this is neat functionality to have in Excel. But what do you think? Feel free to share your thoughts in the comments. This article will walk you through how to use the translator dialog box from the Review tab to translate cells in Excel. Step 1. Making Data Set with Different Languages Let's create a table with each cell containing text from different languages such as Spanish, Bengali, Hindi, Chinese, Korean, Arabic, and Japanese. For reference, you can put the language in a separate column. Read More: How to Translate Language in Excel Formula Step 2. Utilizing Translate Toolbar In Excel, there is no built-in function that translates text. However, Excel does come with a Google Translate-like window that can manually translate pieces of text. Here's how to use it: Go to the Review tab. Choose the Translate option from the Language group. A Translator dialog box will open on the right-hand side. Click to the right of the "From" option to change the input language. Do the same with the "To" option for the output language. You can click on a cell to autofill the "From" box. The Excel translator can detect most languages, so you can leave Auto-detect on the top and put English on the bottom. Read More: How to Translate Multiple Cells in Excel Step 3. Selecting Cells to Translate Select the text in different languages and see the translation on the bottom of the translator box. Read More: How to Translate English to Hindi in Excel Step 4. Filling in the Table While the translate bar works with many languages and can autofill its input section, it can't be used in a function. You will need to manually copy and paste the contents in the desired location: Open the Translate toolbar. Click on B5 to translate it to English. Copy and paste the content from the translator output to D5. After you paste, click on the Copy options and select "Match Destination Formatting." Repeat the above for B6 through B11. Notes If you can't find any Translator toolbar in your Excel, then go to the Insert tab first. Choose the Get Add-ins option. If you can't find it, go to File and select Get Add-ins there. Type Translator in the Store search bar. Find an add-on you want to use. Click on Add next to its name. Finally, you will see the Translator here in the below image when you go to the Review tab first. Some translators allow you to directly translate functions to another language, which enable you to use Excel that is installed in a different language. Download Practice Workbook You may download the following Excel workbook for better understanding and practice it by yourself. Google Translate Formula.xlsx Conclusion Since there's no singular Google Translate function in Excel, manually translating cells or functions is the next best thing. We sincerely hope you enjoyed this article. If you want to learn more about translating on Excel, go to Exceldeemy for top tips. If you have any questions, comments, or recommendations, kindly leave them in the comment section below. Related Articles > select Get Add-ins. Go to Productivity >> enter Functions Translator in the Search box >> add Functions Translator. The Formula Translator add-in will be displayed in the Home tab. Select Translator in Functions Translator. In Functions Translator, select Preferences. Choose the languages >> close the Preferences tab. Click Translator and enter a formula in the 1st box. Click the down arrow. The translated result is displayed in the 2nd box. If you enter a formula in the 2nd box and click the upward arrow, you will get the translated result in the 1st box. Method 3 - Using Google Translate to Translate an Excel File Go to Google Translate >> select Documents >> click Browse your computer. Select your file >> click Open. Select the language you want the file to be translated into. Here, Spanish. Click Translate. Google Translate will return the translated file. Download it. Read More: Translate Language Using Excel Formula Read More: Google Translate Formula in Excel Things to Remember The translator in Excel is meant for personal use and may not produce perfect translations. If you're searching for a specific Excel function, you can look it up in the Function Translator's dictionary. Function Translator only translates functions. Frequently Asked Questions 1. Can I customize or improve the translations provided by Excel? Ans: The Excel translation feature doesn't offer customization or improvement options. 2. How can I ensure consistency and quality when translating data in Excel? Ans: It's recommended to review and verify translations. Translate in Excel: Knowledge Hub