



Hello Miriam

And just like that, another year has passed! And how busy it was with all the many new features and improvements the Microsoft Excel team presented us with.

From what I see, Excel will keep expanding and being the most amazing productivity tool in the world.

I am always excited to bring you the news about what is happening in the Excel world, and I want to thank you for accompanying me throughout this year.

I will keep this newsletter as short as possible to let you enjoy the last moments of 2023, and I look forward to bringing you the news in 2024.

Cheers!

[This newsletter issue and its previous ones are also available at [solveandexcel.ca/excel\\_news/](https://solveandexcel.ca/excel_news/) ]

### TAKING ADVANTAGE OF YEAR-END'S QUIET TIME

🔥 For those of you who choose the quiet time of this season to invest in learning, a reminder that some of the lessons in my training program are available for **free**.

🚀 If you decide to dive into learning more to step into 2024 with upscaled skills, take advantage of **25% OFF** with coupon code **XMAS25** here:


<https://snapreportschamp.com/course>

(valid until January 2, 2024)

### GUEST PRESENTER

📅 January 11, 2024 - 6:30 PM EST - **Dynamic Dependent Dropdown Lists** will be the topic of my presentation to the *Women in Financial Modelling* Meetup Group organized by Danielle Stein Fairhurst. [Register here](#).

📅 February 6 - 8, 2024 - **Global Excel Summit 2024**

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Are you coming? You can still [grab a promotional price of 23% OFF](#) for the next edition in February 2024 by applying coupon code **BYE2023** on checkout.

The Global Excel Summit is the biggest and best event in the Excel industry, offering fabulous opportunities for learning and doing business.

I will be presenting for the 4th year in a row and am looking forward to seeing you there.

## EXCEL IMPROVEMENTS AND NEW FEATURES

2023 was the year Excel became an eSports with dedicated space on TV and an Exciting World Championship featured in some of the most relevant media channels.

Many new features and improvements were added to this wonderful tool, including some of the long-time most requested like Python, image in cell, autocomplete data validation and checkboxes.

[Here](#), you can find a summary of what was new for Excel in 2023.

[A new way to debug formulas in Excel](#) - Another exciting feature to experiment with and keep an eye on is the Excel Labs add-in. It contains several areas to explore, one of them being the Advanced Formula Editor (AFE) that offers live formula debugging as you type it, detailed formula evaluation steps, a preview of the grid when hovering over a reference in the formula, LAMBDA debugging, and the amazing and overlooked "Sheet-defined function" feature that creates a formula for you if you indicate a range with the several helper calculations to reach the final value. You must check this one out.

2023 was also the year of AI. Copilot is one of Microsoft's proposals for companies to improve their teams' productivity with AI. In [this video](#), David Benaim shares his view of how Copilot is working with Excel so far.

## EXCEL EVENTS

### MS Excel Toronto Meetup Group

#### NEXT

**Jan 17** - [New Excel features of 2023 | David Benaim](#)

Thursday, January 18, 2024 | 6:30PM to 8:00PM EST | Online Event  
Online Event - REGISTRATION IS FREE

**New Excel features of 2023**

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**David Benaim**  
Microsoft MVP | Trainer | YouTuber | Consultant

MVP Microsoft Most Valuable Professional

Excel keeps innovating with 2023 being no exception. This year we got images inside cells, autocomplete dropdown lists, a date picker, python inside Excel, GROUPBY and PIVOTBY as formulas and lots more. Excel MVP David will run through all the updates released clearly explaining which channel has access to which features, as well as an overview of what has been announced to be coming next.

#### PAST

**Dec 6** - [Level up your insights with Conditional formatting |Tom Hinkle](#)

In this session, Tom Hinkle started with the fundamentals of conditional formatting and what some of the more basic capabilities are. From there, he taught us some very interesting and original techniques to enhance data analysis with conditional formatting. It was a fun session!

Wednesday, December 6, 2023 | 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM EST  
Online Event - REGISTRATION IS FREE

**Level up your insights with Conditional formatting**

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**Tom Hinkle**  
Microsoft MVP

MVP Microsoft® Most Valuable Professional

## Other Events

The Training Camp and Microsoft Excel World Championship Finals were a success worldwide, being mentioned in [The Wall Street Journal](#), [The Guardian](#), [The Times](#), and 30 more news outlets.

The Microsoft Excel World Championship Finals went viral social media with many people expressing their surprise about the excitement and great energy demonstrated by the Excel community at the event.

Overall, 27 speakers led the masterclasses and panel discussions on more than 23 topics, sharing their valuable insights and experiences with everyone willing to learn. In total, the attendees enjoyed 32 hours of invaluable content. You can [watch the recoding of the championship finals here](#).

## CONTENT YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

[Anti Joins And Query Folding In Power Query In Excel And Power BI](#) – another interesting finding by Criss Webb about what can impact Power Query performance.

And that's it for this year!

If you are done with watching Christmas movies for this season and have some spare time this last week of the year, there are plenty of options to binge-watch Excel as indicated above: from the Excel Snap Reports training content to the collection of the MS Excel Toronto Meetup group sessions or the Excel Championship finals, there is something for every Excel Lover. 😊

Above all, I wish you and your family to be blessed in the New Year.

Enjoy the tiny bit of 2023 that is left, and I'll see you soon with more exciting news in 2024.



**Celia Alves** - Microsoft Excel MVP

*Creator of Excel Awesomeness for Professionals and Companies*

*Your Trainer at the [Excel Snap Reports](#) Community*



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