Microsoft 2013 2013 ALL-IN-ONE

DUMMES

8BOOKS IN 1

- Excel Basics
- Worksheet Design
- Formulas and Functions
- Worksheet Collaboration and Review
- Charts and Graphics
- Data Management
- Data Analysis
- Macros and VBA



Greg Harvey, PhD



by Greg Harvey



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About the Author

Greg Harvey has authored tons of computer books, the most recent being *Excel 2013 For Dummies*. He started out training business users on how to use IBM personal computers and their attendant computer software in the rough-and-tumble days of DOS, WordStar, and Lotus 1-2-3 in the mid-80s of the last century. After working for a number of independent training firms, he went on to teach semester-long courses in spreadsheet and database management software at Golden Gate University in San Francisco.

His love of teaching has translated into an equal love of writing. *For Dummies* books are, of course, his all-time favorites to write because they enable him to write to his favorite audience, the beginner. They also enable him to use humor (a key element to success in the training room) and, most delightful of all, to express an opinion or two about the subject matter at hand.

Dedication

To all the students in my different computer classes who taught me so much about what's really important and what's not when it comes to using computer software.

Author's Acknowledgments

I am always so grateful to the many people who work so hard to bring my book projects into being, and this one is no exception. If anything, I am even more thankful for their talents, given the size and complexity of an All-in-One.

This time, special thanks are in order to Andy Cummings and Katie Feltman for giving me this opportunity to write (and write and write) about Excel in this great All-in-One format. Next, I want to express great thanks to my project editor, Kim Darosett. Thanks also go to Russ Mullen for the great technical edit, to Sheree Montgomery for coordinating the book's production, and to everybody at Wiley Publishing.

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Introduction

Excel 2013 All-in-One For Dummies brings together plain and simple information on using all aspects of the latest-and-greatest version of Microsoft Excel. It's designed to be of help no matter how much or how little experience you have with the program. As the preeminent spreadsheet and data analysis software for all sorts of computing devices running Windows 7 or 8 (desktops, laptops, tablet PCs and even smartphones), Excel 2013 offers its users seemingly unlimited capabilities too often masked in technical jargon and obscured by explanations only a software engineer could love. On top of that, many of the publications that purport to give you the lowdown on using Excel are quite clear on how to use particular features without giving you a clue as to why you would want to go to all the trouble.

The truth is that understanding how to use the abundance of features offered by Excel 2013 is only half the battle, at best. The other half of the battle is to understand how these features can benefit you in your work; in other words, "what's in it for you." I have endeavored to cover both the "how to" and "so what" aspects in all my discussions of Excel features, being as clear as possible and using as little tech-speak as possible.

Fortunately, Excel 2013 is well worth the effort to get to know because it's definitely one of the best data-processing and analysis tools that has ever come along. Its new Quick Analysis tool, Apps for Office, Flash Fill, and Recommended Charts and PivotTables, along with the tried-and-true Live Preview feature and tons of ready-made galleries, make this version of the program the easiest to use ever. In short, Excel 2013 is a blast to

use when you know what you're doing, and my great hope is that this "fun" aspect of using the program comes through on every page (or, at least, every other page).

About This Book

As the name states, *Excel 2013 All-in-One For Dummies* is a reference. (Whether you keep it on your desk or use it to prop up your desk is your business.) This means that although the chapters in each book are laid out in a logical order, each stands on its own ready for you to dig into the information at any point.

As much as possible, I have endeavored to make the topics within each book and chapter stand on their own. When there's just no way around relying on some information that's discussed elsewhere, I include a cross-reference that gives you the chapter and verse (actually the book and chapter) for where you can find that related information if you're of a mind to.

Use the full Table of Contents and Index to look up the topic of the hour and find out exactly where it is in this compilation of Excel information. You'll find that although most topics are introduced in a conversational manner, I don't waste much time cutting to the chase by laying down the main principles at work (usually in bulleted form) followed by the hard reality of how you do the deed (as numbered steps).

Foolish Assumptions

I'm only going to make one foolish assumption about you, and that is that you have some need to use Microsoft Excel 2013 in your work or studies. If pushed,