

### 3. COUNTA

Formula: =COUNTA(A1:A10)

Counts the number of non-empty cells in a range. It will count cells that have numbers and/or any other characters in them.

The COUNTA Formula works with all data types.

It counts the number of non-empty cells no matter the data type.

### 4. LEN

Formula: =LEN(A1)

The LEN formula counts the number of characters in a cell. Be careful though! This includes spaces.

|   | A            | B | C              | D        |
|---|--------------|---|----------------|----------|
| 1 | I love Excel |   | Formula Result | 12       |
| 2 | IloveExcel   |   | Formula        | =LEN(A1) |
| 3 |              |   |                |          |
| 4 |              |   | Formula Result | 10       |
| 5 |              |   | Formula        | =LEN(A2) |

Notice the difference in the formula results: 10 characters without spaces in between the words, 12 with spaces between the words.

### 5. TRIM

Formula: =TRIM(A1)

Gets rid of any space in a cell, except for single spaces between words. I've found this formula to be extremely useful because I've often run into situations where you pull data from a database and for some reason extra spaces are put in behind or in front of legitimate data. This can wreak havoc if you are trying to compare using IF statements or VLOOKUP's.

|   | A            | B | C                            | D            |
|---|--------------|---|------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | I Love Excel |   | Formula Result               | I Love Excel |
| 2 |              |   | Formula                      | =TRIM(A1)    |
| 3 |              |   |                              |              |
| 4 |              |   | Character Count With Trim    | 12           |
| 5 |              |   | Character Count Without Trim | 13           |