



EXCEL (INTERMEDIATE): How to calculate an Average of cells – ignoring zeroes

In the table below, the average displayed is based on each student taking the test.

If someone didn't take the test - and their mark cell was either left blank or a zero was entered – it would affect the average. Which is fine – if you want the absentee mark to affect the average.

But what if you don't?

Then you need to use AVERAGEIF instead.

Instead of =AVERAGE(B2:B14), you would need to use:

=AVERAGEIF(B4:B14,"<>0")

=AVERAGEIF(Range,Criteria) ← in this case, our criteria ("<>0") means "not equal to zero"

Student	Mark		Average:	74.8
Joe	56			
Barb	78			
Evan	98			
Jim	76			
Toomi	56			
Rick	77			
Brenda	90			
Therese	81			
Josh	53			
Eric	92			
Ralph	66			