

Installing the modifications to a GEDxlate generated spreadsheet

To create the birth yr/mo/day, death yr/mo/day, and age columns in a spreadsheet generated by GEDxlate, use the following steps with MS Excel. To make the changes, you will first have to download the changes from http://concordia-memories.org/files/GEDxlate_additions.xls.

1. Load the spreadsheet created by GEDxlate and the GEDxlate_additions.xls file into two separate windows of the same Excel instantiation.
 - a. After loading the first file, click on the “File” pull-down menu.
 - b. Click on “Open...” and select the second file.To simplify the switching between windows, you might want to tile the windows.
 - a. Select ‘Arrange...’ from the ‘Windows’ pull-down menu
 - b. Select ‘Horizontal’, and click OK.
2. Copy the seven labels and formulas under them from the top two rows in the GEDxlate_additions worksheet. (The second row contains the formulas and #REF! may be displayed because the cells they reference are not present.) The simple way to do this is as follows.
 - a. Click in the GEDxlate_additions window.
 - b. Click on the cell below the first label (Byr).
 - c. Drag down to the next cell below it in that column.
 - d. Drag across that row to the last cell (below Age). Two rows of seven cells should be highlighted.
 - e. Press the Ctrl and C keys simultaneously to copy the selected cells.
3. Paste them at the end of the header row in the main spreadsheet.
 - a. Switch to the main spreadsheet by clicking in that window. Make sure there is a blank row below the column headers so you don’t lose any data when pasting the additions.
 - b. Click on a cell to the right of the last cell in the original header row.
 - c. Click the Ctrl and V keys simultaneously to paste the cells.
 - d. Press the Esc key to close the copy function.
4. The main spreadsheet may contain a variable number of columns depending on the options that were selected when it was generated. Names must be assigned so that the formulas can locate the correct columns.
 - a. Select the entire spreadsheet (click in the empty box in upper left corner).
 - b. Click on the 'Insert' pull-down menu.
 - c. Select 'Name'.
 - d. Then select 'Create'.
 - e. Check the box labeled 'Top row' and click OK.Make sure that the entire spreadsheet is still selected and enable labels in formulas of the new spreadsheet as follows:
 - f. Click on the 'Tools' pull-down menu.
 - g. Select 'Options'.
 - h. Click on the 'Calculation' tab.
 - i. Check the box labeled 'Accept labels in formulas' and click OK.

- 5 Replicate the seven cells containing the added formulas in all rows below them in the expanded worksheet.
 - a. Click on the first formula in the cell just below Byr..
 - b. Drag to the last cell in that row just below Age.
 - c. Press Ctrl and C simultaneously to copy the seven highlighted cells.
 - d. Click on the leftmost cell just below the highlighted cells.
 - e. Scroll down to the bottom of the worksheet.
 - f. With the Shift key held down, click on the rightmost cell of the block, i.e. in the Age column. (Seven columns should be highlighted.)
 - g. Press Ctrl and V simultaneously to paste the formulas in those cells.
 - h. Press the Esc key to terminate the copy operation.

The added columns in the new spreadsheet should now contain data!

[Note. You might want to delete any unneeded columns. For example, if none of the people had three or more spouses, you can delete all of the columns for family number 3. However, you might want to keep the various xxx_ID columns. If you are looking at an individual and want more information about a spouse or parent, these numbers allow you to search for that individual.]

Rules used to create the added data:

The before (BEF), about (ABT), after (AFT), and between (BET) features permitted in a GEDCOM file are handled in the month field as follows:

If the date includes BEF, the month is set to -1.

If the date includes ABT, the month is set to 0.

If the date includes AFT, the month is set to 13.

(These ensure that the dates will be sorted in approximate order when sorting on yr/mo/day.)

If the date includes BET, the latter year is used.

If there is a dual year notation (involving the OS to NS calendar switchover), the earlier year is used.

The age calculation is approximate, i.e. within one year (possibly greater for the approximate dates).

Any approximations other than BET xxxx AND xxxx, BEF, ABT, or AFT will cause errors!

[Note. These instructions and rules are included on the Notes sheet of the GEDxlate_additions.xls file. They were written for MS Windows Excel 2003 and some steps may vary for other versions.]