

Create a Complex Formula

A **complex formula** is one that uses more than one arithmetic operator. You might, for example, need to create a formula that uses addition and multiplication. In formulas containing more than one arithmetic operator, Excel uses the standard **order of precedence** rules to determine which operation to perform first. You can change the order of precedence in a formula by using parentheses around the part you want to calculate first. For example, the formula $=4+2*5$ equals 14, because the order of precedence dictates that multiplication is performed before addition. However, the formula $=(4+2)*5$ equals 30, because the parentheses cause $4+2$ to be calculated first. **CASE** ▶ You want to create a formula that calculates a 20% increase in tour expenses.



1. Start Excel, open the file **EX B-1.xlsx** from the location where you store your Data Files, then save it as **EX B-Tour Expense Analysis**
2. Select the range **B4:B11**, click the **Quick Analysis tool** , then click the **Totals tab**
The Totals tab in the Quick Analysis tool displays commonly used functions, as seen in **FIGURE B-1**.
3. Click the **AutoSum button**  in the **Quick Analysis tool**
The newly calculated value displays in cell B12 and has a darker appearance than the figures in the selected range.
4. Click cell **B12**, then drag the **fill handle** to cell **E12**
The formula in cell B12 is copied to cells C12:E12. The copied cells have the same dark appearance as that of cell B12.
- ▶ 5. Click cell **B14**, type **=**, click cell **B12**, then type **+**
In this first part of the formula, you are using a reference to the total expenses for Quarter 1.
6. Click cell **B12**, then type ***.2**
The second part of this formula adds a 20% increase ($B12*.2$) to the original value of the cell (the total expenses for Quarter 1).
7. Click the **Enter button** on the formula bar
The result, 41789.556, appears in cell B14.
8. Press **[Tab]**, type **=**, click cell **C12**, type **+**, click cell **C12**, type ***.2**, then click
The result, 41352.912, appears in cell C14.
- ▶ 9. Drag the fill handle from cell **C14** to cell **E14**
The calculated values appear in the selected range, as shown in **FIGURE B-2**. Dragging the fill handle on a cell copies the cell's contents or continues a series of data (such as Quarter 1, Quarter 2, etc.) into adjacent cells. This option is called **Auto Fill**.
10. Save your work

FIGURE B-1: Totals tab in the Quick Analysis tool

The screenshot shows the Excel interface with the Quick Analysis tool applied to a data range. The tool's 'Totals' tab is active, showing options like Sum, Average, Count, % Total, Running Total, and another Sum. A red arrow points to the 'Totals' tab, and another points to the 'Quick Analysis tool' icon. A third arrow points to the 'Mode indicator' at the bottom of the tool. The background data is as follows:

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total
Australia	5976.2	6073.82	7107.66	6524.19	
Britain	3510.99	3921.46	4337.4	4558.11	
Canada	4287.76	4371.98	4570.21	4100.06	
France	4032.1	4489.74	4579.06	4653.92	
Germany	5082.77	2994.56	3561.12	3712.5	
India	1468.25	2510.3	2665.04	2890.95	
Japan	3271.5	3556.14	8240.35	3721.69	
U.S.A.	7195.06	6542.76	8240.36	7018.91	
Total					

FIGURE B-2: Complex formulas in worksheet

The screenshot shows the same Excel worksheet as Figure B-1, but with additional data and formulas. Cell C14 contains the formula $=C12+C12*0.2$, which has been copied to cells D14 and E14. The status bar at the bottom shows: AVERAGE: 45976.916, COUNT: 3, SUM: 137930.746. The data is as follows:

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total
Australia	5976.2	6073.82	7107.66	6524.19	
Britain	3510.99	3921.46	4337.4	4558.11	
Canada	4287.76	4371.98	4570.21	4100.06	
France	4032.1	4489.74	4579.06	4653.92	
Germany	5082.77	2994.56	3561.12	3712.5	
India	1468.25	2510.3	2665.04	2890.95	
Japan	3271.5	3556.14	8240.35	3721.69	
U.S.A.	7195.06	6542.76	8240.36	7018.91	
Total	34824.63	34460.76	43301.2	37180.33	
20% rise	41789.556	41352.912	51961.44	44616.396	
Average					
Maximum					
Minimum					