

Download Stock Quotes to Excel

<http://spreadsheetml.com/finance/freedownloadstockquotes.shtml>

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1. Automating the download of Stock Quotes

This document will show you how to automate the download of the Stock Quotes. We will be using a simple programming language called Visual Basic for Applications (VBA). If you will like to find out more about VBA, you will be interested to know that spreadsheetml.com offers a VBA course on our website. Otherwise, please be assured that we will be going through the steps, one at a time to allow you to construct the models without prior knowledge of VBA.

Launch Excel and create a new workbook. Call this workbook AutomatedDownloadData.xls.

In Microsoft Excel 2003: Go to Tools->Macro->Visual Basic Editor

In Microsoft Excel 2007: Go to Developer->Visual Basic

Right click on VBAProject (your Excel Filename) and select Insert->Module. A default Module1 will be inserted. Click on Module1 and paste the VBA code below on the right hand side of the Visual Basic Editor. The following VBA code allows you to download data from Yahoo Finance using a specified Stock symbol, Start Date and End Date.

```
Sub GetStock(ByVal stockSymbol As String, ByVal StartDate As Date, ByVal EndDate As Date)

    Dim DownloadURL As String
    Dim StartMonth, StartDay, StartYear, EndMonth, EndDay, EndYear As String
    StartMonth = Format(Month(StartDate)-1, "00")
    StartDay = Format(Day(StartDate), "00")
    StartYear = Format(Year(StartDate), "00")

    EndMonth = Format(Month(EndDate)-1, "00")
    EndDay = Format(Day(EndDate), "00")
    EndYear = Format(Year(EndDate), "00")
    DownloadURL = "URL;http://table.finance.yahoo.com/table.csv?s=" + stockSymbol + "&a=" +
    StartMonth + "&b=" + StartDay + "&c=" + StartYear + "&d=" + EndMonth + "&e=" + EndDay +
    "&f=" + EndYear + "&g=d&ignore=.csv"

    With ActiveSheet.QueryTables.Add(Connection:=DownloadURL, Destination:=Range("$A$1"))
        .FieldNames = True
        .RowNumbers = False
        .FillAdjacentFormulas = False
        .PreserveFormatting = True
        .RefreshOnFileOpen = False
        .BackgroundQuery = True
        .RefreshStyle = xlInsertDeleteCells
        .SavePassword = False
        .SaveData = True
        .AdjustColumnWidth = True
        .RefreshPeriod = 0
        .WebSelectionType = xlSpecifiedTables
        .WebFormatting = xlWebFormattingNone
        .WebTables = "20"
        .WebPreFormattedTextToColumns = True
        .WebConsecutiveDelimitersAsOne = True
        .WebSingleBlockTextImport = False
        .WebDisableDateRecognition = False
        .WebDisableRedirections = False
        .Refresh BackgroundQuery:=False
    End With
```

```

ActiveWindow.SmallScroll Down:=-12
Columns("A:A").TextToColumns Destination:=Range("A1"), DataType:=xlDelimited, _
TextQualifier:=xlDoubleQuote, ConsecutiveDelimiter:=False, Tab:=True, _
Semicolon:=False, Comma:=True, Space:=False, Other:=False, FieldInfo _
:=Array(Array(1, 1), Array(2, 1), Array(3, 1), Array(4, 1), Array(5, 1), Array(6, 1), _
Array(7, 1))
Columns("A:F").EntireColumn.AutoFit
End Sub

Sub Download()
Call GetStock("YHOO", "02/01/2007", "09/05/2008")
End Sub

```

Click on Save and then File->Close to return to Microsoft Excel. In Excel, try out the downloading of data by going to

Excel 2003: Go to Tools->Macro->Macros..., select the Download macro and click run
Excel 2007: Go to Developer->Macros, select the Download macro and click run.

and press the Enter key. This will initiate a download of Stock Prices from Yahoo! Finance.

What we have written is a subroutine that downloads stock data automatically and can be executed by Excel. It takes "stockSymbol", "StartDate" and "EndDate" as parameters.

In the whole block of code above, the most important line is the following.

```

With ActiveSheet.QueryTables.Add(Connection:=DownloadURL, Destination:=Range("$A$1"))

```

It basically says that we will be downloading data from DownloadURL and placing the result into the cell A1. The DownloadURL is constructed based on the parameters explained below.

<http://table.finance.yahoo.com/table.csv?s=YHOO&a=01&b=01&c=2007&d=08&e=05&f=2008&g=d&ignore=.csv>

- "s=YHOO" means to download the stock prices of Yahoo. YHOO is the stock symbol of Yahoo.
- "a=01&b=01&c=2007" specifies the start date in Month, Day, Year. You might have noticed that the month is subtracted with 1, which is the format required by Yahoo.
- "d=08&e=05&f=2008" specifies the end date in Month, Day, Year. You might have noticed that the month is subtracted with 1, which is the format required by Yahoo.

Save this workbook and you can use it to download stock data for the various technical indicators. You can also find the implementation of this example in the workbook DownloadStockQuotes.xls.