

Choosing models in Copilot in Excel

Start with Auto. Compare when the work calls for it.
Check the result every time.

YOUR STARTING POINT

Most tasks: Auto

Formula explanations, quick summaries, and straightforward workbook work.

Complex work: compare

Try an available model intended for deeper reasoning. Check whether it improves the result.

The model is one part of the picture

The model interprets your request and helps plan the work. Useful results also need a clear question, relevant sources, business definitions, and Excel tools.

A different model cannot supply your missing definition of revenue or an undocumented cause of a sales decline.

Compare models on your actual work

Pick three recurring tasks you can check. Use the same prompt and sources, identical starting workbook copies, and fresh conversations. Score each result on:

Correctness - numbers and formulas

Evidence - traceable claims and sources

Usability - correction and rewriting needed

Time - including review and repair

Record the model and date; repeat a promising test.

Agreement between models is not proof. Check the underlying evidence.

PAID FEATURE, WITH ACCESS CONDITIONS

Excel editing model switcher: commercial Microsoft 365 Copilot or Microsoft 365 Premium. Available models depend on access and admin settings. Grok is a Frontier preview with regional limits. [1, 2]

Rolling out Copilot to your team?

Let's talk about hands-on Excel training, practical model comparisons, and a shared process for checking results.

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