



Excel Sales Forecasting For Dummies

By Conrad Carlberg

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When they first told you that forecasting sales would be part of your job, did you feel just the tiniest bit of panic? Did you momentarily consider consulting the Yellow Pages for listings of “Psychics” or “Tea Leaf Readers”? Well, fear not. *Excel Sales Forecasting For Dummies* can help you predict the future without incense or a crystal ball.

Excel Sales Forecasting For Dummies shows you how to use the number one workbook program, Microsoft Excel, to predict trends and future sales based on something not quite so ethereal—numbers. You use data about the past to forecast the future. Excel provides all sorts of tools to help you do that, and this book shows you how to use them.

From recognizing why forecasting is a good idea to making sense of exponential smoothing, *Excel Sales Forecasting For Dummies* has you covered. If you have a basic grasp of how to use Excel, you’ll be ready to discover how to

- Select and use the right forecasting method for your business
- Choose and arrange data in lists, then manage that data with pivot tables
- Filter lists and turn them into charts that illustrate what’s going on
- Find relationships in your data
- Use Excel’s Analysis Toolpak feature to create forecasts automatically, or venture into advanced forecasts using worksheet functions
- Gain more control over your forecasting and target specific types of predictions
- Use moving averages and predict seasonal sales

Written by Conrad Carlberg, a nationally recognized expert on Excel who also has experience in sales and marketing, this friendly guide gets you up and running quickly and easily. You’ll soon be setting up a baseline you can chart and label, summarizing data with pivot tables, making forecasts based on regression, understanding correlation, and discovering how smoothing lets us profit from our mistakes. You’ll find your confidence in your ability to make sales predictions has soared right off the chart.

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

Here's the fun and easy way® to predict the future!

Organize sales data, chart a baseline, forecast trends, and more with Excel

Do you succumb to sweaty palms the moment someone mentions sales predictions? This book is loaded with confidence-boosters! It shows you how to use the many tools Excel provides to arrange your past data, set up lists and pivot tables, use Excel's Analysis ToolPak, and become a forecaster par excellence — even if you're math-challenged.

Discover how to

- Choose the right forecasting method
- Find relationships in your data
- Filter lists or turn them into charts
- Summarize data with pivot tables
- Use moving averages
- Predict seasonal sales

About the Author

Conrad Carlberg is the author of more than ten books about Microsoft Excel. As a multi-time recipient of Microsoft's MVP designation for Excel, he is a nationally recognized expert on that application.

Carlberg's Ph.D. in statistics involves work in forecasting, as does his work in telecommunications and the health-care industry. He used the techniques in this book to reduce a crushing \$24 million inventory owned by a Baby Bell to under \$10 million in 18 months. The carrying costs for \$24 million in equipment are significant. The point: This forecasting stuff works.

As preparation for starting his consultancy, Carlberg spent two years as a sales engineer for a *Fortune* 500 company.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Blanche Watson:

Beside this Excel Sales Forecasting For Dummies in your phone, it can give you a way to get nearer to the new knowledge or facts. The information and the knowledge you may got here is fresh through the oven so don't possibly be worry if you feel like an older people live in narrow community. It is good thing to have Excel Sales Forecasting For Dummies because this book offers for you readable information. Do you occasionally have book but you rarely get what it's about. Oh come on, that would not happen if you have this in your hand. The Enjoyable arrangement here cannot be questionable, such as treasuring beautiful island. Use you still want to miss the item? Find this book and read it from at this point!

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Natalie Renz:

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