

Using Excel for Business Analysis, + Website: A Guide to Financial Modelling Fundamentals

By Danielle Stein Fairhurst

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A clear, concise, and easy-to-use guide to financial modelling suitable for practitioners at every level

Using a fundamental approach to financial modelling that's accessible to both new and experienced professionals, *Using Excel for Business Analysis: A Guide to Financial Modelling Fundamentals + Website* offers practical guidance for anyone looking to build financial models for business proposals, to evaluate opportunities, or to craft financial reports. Comprehensive in nature, the book covers the principles and best practices of financial modelling, including the Excel tools, formulas, and functions to master, and the techniques and strategies necessary to eliminate errors.

As well as explaining the essentials of financial modelling, *Using Excel for Business Analysis* is packed with exercises and case studies to help you practice and test your comprehension, and includes additional resources online.

- Provides comprehensive coverage of the principles and best practices of financial modeling, including planning, how to structure a model, layout, the anatomy of a good model, rebuilding an inherited model, and much more
- Demonstrates the technical Excel tools and techniques needed to build a good model successfully
- Outlines the skills you need to learn in order to be a good financial modeller, such as technical, design, and business and industry knowledge
- Illustrates successful best practice modeling techniques such as linking, formula consistency, formatting, and labeling
- Describes strategies for reducing errors and how to build error checks and other methods to ensure accurate and robust models

A practical guide for professionals, including those who do not come from a financial background, *Using Excel for Business Analysis* is a fundamentals-rich approach to financial modeling.

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Editorial Review

From the Inside Flap

Financial modelling is an essential tool for managing risk, planning projects, preparing business proposals, evaluating opportunities, and much more. But despite its importance, many professionals struggle to understand exactly what "financial modelling" really is. Put simply, it's a complex type of spreadsheet, not much different from the ones you create in Excel all the time. In *Using Excel for Business Analysis: A Guide to Financial Modelling Fundamentals + Website*, financial modelling expert Danielle Stein Fairhurst explains exactly how to utilise Excel for modelling, walking you through the principles, best practices, and tools that you need to understand in order to use this widely available software for business analysis.

Comprehensive yet accessible, the book is designed for professionals of all backgrounds and levels of experience looking to become familiar with financial modelling, introducing and explaining how to structure a model, the anatomy of a good model, rebuilding an inherited model, and much more. Covering Excel-based financial modelling tools and explaining, in detail, how to use the program to perform model display and model review, stress-testing, and other important topics, *Using Excel for Business Analysis* describes key strategies for minimising errors and presents other techniques for ensuring accurate and robust models.

Packed with indispensable coverage of both the essential concepts behind financial modelling and the practicalities of performing complex analysis, the book presents information in a clear, concise, step-by-step manner that makes it easy to use. Exercises and case studies are included throughout the text to help you practice and test your comprehension.

Containing everything you need to know in order to master the tools, formulas, and functions that allow for successful modelling, *Using Excel for Business Analysis* also provides readers with access to a companion website containing additional resources for a more immersive experience, making it the only book you need to understand and work with financial models.

From the Back Cover

Praise for *Using Excel for Business Analysis*

"Danielle brilliantly manages the balance between business relevance and the necessary technical explanations expected from a book such as this. Her ability to walk in the shoes of the reader and deliver concise practical wisdom is unsurpassed. I highly recommend this book to anyone working with numbers, be it a Chief Financial Officer talking to the board or a Business Analyst starting their career. With Danielle's advice you can transform your career from successful to exceptional."
—Garth Holloway, Managing Director, SixFootFour Consulting

"Danielle's expertise and experience shines through in a very readable book, introducing the key concepts and considerations inherent in financial modelling. From novice to advanced modeller alike, readers are presented with many useful tips, tools, techniques, and pragmatic examples to refer to time and time again. Readily digestible, this book plugs a gaping academic hole that illustrates the risks and rewards of taking a spreadsheet by the throat and converting it into a robust, transparent, and flexible decision-making device. It will help you to 'Excel '."

—Liam Bastick, Managing Director, SumProduct, and Excel MVP

"Excel is a powerful and underestimated tool in many business environments. Whilst there are a number of books on the market that help explain the countless functions and features of the product, there are few if any that clearly articulate and teach the analyst how to unlock the power of Excel as an analysis and modelling tool for critical business decisions. Filled with easy to follow examples and based on many years of practical experience and education, Danielle Stein Fairhurst's book *Using Excel for Business Analysis: A Guide to Financial Modelling Fundamentals* has finally bridged that gap with a step-by-step approach to building models that address important real-world business questions."
—Michael Morgan, Country Manager (Australia), Intergen Business Solutions

About the Author

DANIELLE STEIN FAIRHURST is the Principal of Plum Solutions, a Sydney-based consultancy specialising in financial modelling and analysis. With many years' experience as a financial analyst, she helps her clients create meaningful financial models. She has hands-on experience in a number of industry sectors, including telecommunications, information systems, manufacturing, and financial services. Stein Fairhurst is regularly engaged as a speaker, course facilitator, financial modelling consultant, and analyst around the world, and has taught management accounting subjects at Sydney University.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

James Lapham:

Nowadays reading books are more than want or need but also work as a life style. This reading routine give you lot of advantages. The benefits you got of course the knowledge the actual information inside the book this improve your knowledge and information. The info you get based on what kind of guide you read, if you want drive more knowledge just go with schooling books but if you want feel happy read one having theme for entertaining like comic or novel. The particular Using Excel for Business Analysis, + Website: A Guide to Financial Modelling Fundamentals is kind of publication which is giving the reader unforeseen experience.

Dolores Crook:

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Robert Fox:

The book untitled Using Excel for Business Analysis, + Website: A Guide to Financial Modelling

Fundamentals contain a lot of information on that. The writer explains the woman idea with easy means. The language is very straightforward all the people, so do not necessarily worry, you can easy to read it. The book was compiled by famous author. The author provides you in the new era of literary works. It is possible to read this book because you can read on your smart phone, or gadget, so you can read the book inside anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can open their official web-site and also order it. Have a nice examine.

Kristin Sayler:

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