



What To Do When "Numbers" Won't Compute

The problem: One column of numbers can be summed, but another one can't

The solution: Convert the "fake" numbers into real numbers

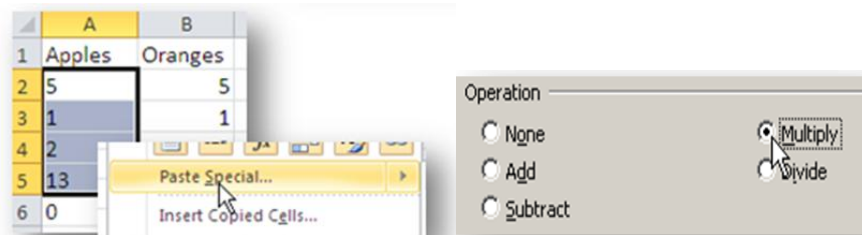
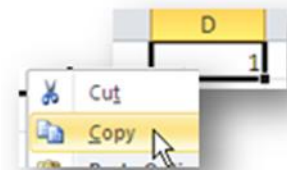
Note: Formatting the cells as values won't fix the problem

	A	B
1	Apples	Oranges
2	5	5
3	1	1
4	2	2
5	13	13
6	0	21

$=SUM(B2:B5)$ (points to cell B6)
 $=SUM(A2:A5)$ (points to cell A6)

The Steps:

1. Enter the number **1** in an unused cell, then select that cell.
2. RIGHT-click the cell containing the **1** you entered, then click **Copy**.
3. Select the range containing the "fake" numbers, RIGHT-click within the selection, then click **Paste Special**.
4. Select **Multiply**.



The "fake" numbers are now real numbers and can be computed properly.

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Apples	Oranges		1	
2	5	5			
3	1	1			
4	2	2			
5	13	13			
6	21	21			

Formula bar: $=SUM(A2:A5)$