Coding Mantis

COURSE EXCERPT · MODULE 1

Describe your Excel formula. AI writes it, the table fills in.

In plain words, no VLOOKUP. A missing price shows up instead of hiding behind a zero.

BEFORE

"ORDERS" SHEET · MADE-UP

CODE	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
P-02	4		
P-03	1		
P-09	2		
P-01	3		

"PRICES" – ANOTHER SHEET

CODE	PRICE
P-01	12.00
P-02	7.50
P-03	30.00

⊗ You copy prices by hand. P-09 has no price – with a 0 the total shrinks unnoticed.

AFTER – THE TABLE IS FILLED IN

Sheet "Orders"

Formula written by AI from your words · Excel calculates

CODE	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
P-02	4	7.50	30.00
P-03	1	30.00	30.00
P-09	2	PRICE MISSING	–
P-01	3	12.00	36.00
Total without P-09			96.00

VISIBLE

P-09: PRICE MISSING, not 0.
Rows without a price: 1 – you see it first, so the total can't shrink unnoticed.

YOUR PART

Check 96.00 and drag the formula down the table.

- Exercise is in the course, 1.1
- Excel or Google Sheets

✓ You didn't write a formula – you described it. A missing price shows instead of hiding.

01 Describe it in words
What you want, and what to show for a missing code.

02 Paste the formula
AI gives it ready to copy, with one line on what it does.

03 Check
On rows with a known total, and one that should give "not found".

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