

# AutoFilter

Introduced in build 8.3

## Description

The [AutoFilter](#) class represents the filter that is applied to a selected area of cells in a worksheet.

**C#**

```
public sealed class AutoFilter
```

**vb.net**

```
Public NotInheritable Class AutoFilter
```

## Remarks

To return an `AutoFilter` object, use [Worksheet.AutoFilter](#).

There is only one auto filter per worksheet; by default, the filter is not set and [AutoFilter.Area](#) will return `null`.

When applying an auto filter to a select area of cells on a worksheet, bear in mind:

1. [AutoFilter.Area](#) must be set to an [Area](#) object on the same worksheet as the auto filter.
2. There is only one auto filter per worksheet. If [AutoFilter.Area](#) is already set, changing `AutoFilter.Area` will overwrite the previous area and the auto filter will be applied to the new area.
3. `AutoFilter.Area` must include all of the cells that the filter applies to. `ExcelWriter` will not automatically detect the boundaries of the filtered area.

The filter will be removed from the worksheet either by calling the filter's [Clear\(\)](#) method, by setting the `Area` property to `null`, or by deleting all the rows (or just the first row that has the filter headers) or all the columns of the filter from the worksheet.

## Examples

**C#**

```
ExcelApplication xla = new ExcelApplication();  
Workbook wb = xla.Create(ExcelApplication.FileFormat.Xlsx);  
AutoFilter autoFilter = wb.Worksheets[0].AutoFilter;
```

vb.net

```
Dim xla As New ExcelApplication()  
Dim wb As Workbook = xla.Create(ExcelApplication.FileFormat.Xlsx)  
Dim autoFilter As AutoFilter = wb.Worksheets(0).AutoFilter
```

## Exceptions

### *ArgumentException*

An exception of type `ArgumentException` will be thrown if the `AutoFilter.Area` property is set to an area that is on a different worksheet, or an empty area that doesn't have any data in it.

## Properties

Name	Description
<a href="#">Area</a>	Sets or returns an <a href="#">Area</a> object that represents the area of cells that the filter is applied to in the worksheet.

## Methods

Name	Description
<a href="#">Clear()</a>	Removes the filter from the worksheet. Calling this method is equivalent to setting the <a href="#">Area</a> property to <code>null</code> .