Using Excel for Month Sheets

General Notes

This file has some information on how I used Excel to create my month sheets. It also has a figure that shows how the month sheets can have important dates, such as birthdays and anniversaries printed on them. The pdf "Using Excel for Graphics" in my Instructable "Perpetual Calendar Breakthrough" has more information on using Excel for graphics.

Since writing the above Instructable, I have learned more about jpeg files and Excel. Originally, I thought that, when a jpeg file is open and the image is copied to the clipboard, it had to be pasted to Word and then copied from Word and pasted to Excel. I have found that a jpeg image can be pasted from the clipboard directly to Excel without going through Word. However, the image is very large and you have to reduce the size to about 15% of original to be able to see the whole image and the grid lines. When the same image is pasted to Word and then copied and pasted to Excel, the size does not have to be reduced.

In the pdf mentioned above, I stated that an area of an Excel spreadsheet cannot be copied as a picture and pasted directly into Paint 3D. This is true if the area is copied as a picture and "As shown when printed". In this case the picture has to be pasted into Word and then copied and pasted into Paint 3D. However, if the area is copied as a picture and "As shown on screen" and in "Bitmat" format, it can be pasted directly into Paint 3D. If you do not want the grid lines to show when doing this, you have to go to the View tab and uncheck Gridlines before you copy.

Creating the Month Sheets

The first step in setting up the Excel spreadsheet for the month sheets is to format all the cells so that the Row $\underline{\mathbf{H}}$ eight is 15 and the Column $\underline{\mathbf{W}}$ idth is 3. This makes the cells approximately square. The dimensions for shapes should be in cm.

For lines use Format cells - Border and not the drawing tool. The cells referred to below and the page setup parameters apply to the month of January in the narrow-track design. The sheets are similar in the wide-track design but the cells may be shifted.

For the month sheets, the rectangle that encloses the year table and day-of-the month table has cell D2 in the upper left corner and cell AG31 in the lower right corner.

The years are in Calibri 11 font and are in merged cells that are two wide by one high. The upper left corner of the year table is cell F2.

The days of the month are in Arial Narrow 28 font and are in merged cells that are two wide by two high. The upper left corner of the day-of-the month table is cell F17. The cell in this location is blank on all sheets.

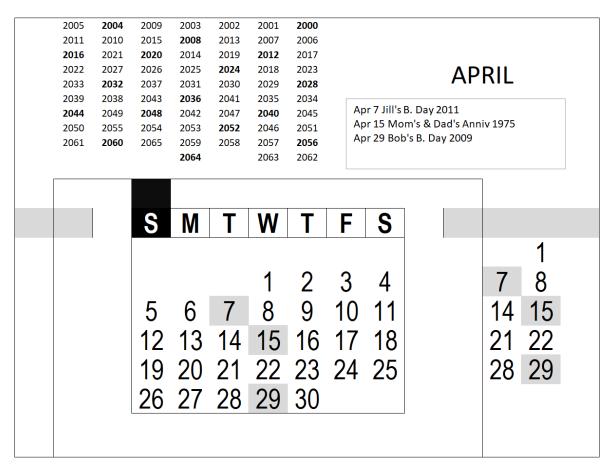
The name of the month (January) is in Calibri 28 font and is in a merged cell that is eight wide by three high. The upper left corner is cell X4.

The printing parameters are:

- Adjust to 100% of normal size
- Orientation Landscape
- All margins 0.2 cm
- Header and Footer 0 cm
- Center on page vertically and horizontally
- Insert a page break after Row 32

The above parameters should be regarded as a guide rather than an exact method of laying out the spreadsheet.

Printing Permanent Dates on the Month Sheets



The above image shows one method of printing permanent dates on a typical month sheet. All the dates are shaded. When two numbers appear for the same day of the month, shade both numbers. (Except for January 1 and October 1, there are always two numbers.) There is room below the name of the month to describe the dates in a text box. In this example, there are two birthdays and one anniversary. They are written in Calibri 12 font. There is room for one more date. By locating the name of the month higher on the sheet there would be room for at least six dates.