


# ABS Function

Computes the absolute value of a given numeric value. The value can be a Decimal or Integer literal or a reference to a column containing numeric values.


## Basic Usage

Column reference example:

 Unknown macro: 'd-lang-syntax'


**Output:** Returns the absolute value of each value found in the `MyInteger` column.

Numeric literal example:

 Unknown macro: 'd-lang-syntax'

**Output:** Returns `true` if the absolute value of the entry in the `MyInteger` column is 5.

## Syntax

 Unknown macro: 'd-lang-syntax'

Argument	Required?	Data Type	Description
<code>numeric_value</code>	Y	string, decimal, or integer	Name of column or Decimal or Integer literal to apply to the function

For more information on syntax standards, see *Language Documentation Syntax Notes*.

## `numeric_value`

Name of the column or numeric literal whose absolute value is to be computed.

- Missing input values generate missing results.
- Literal numeric values should not be quoted. Quoted values are treated as strings.
- Multiple columns and wildcards are not supported.

Usage Notes:

Required?	Data Type	Example Value
Yes	String (column reference) or Integer or Decimal value	<code>-10.5</code>

## Examples

## Example - Basic ABS function

### Source:

Your source data looks like the following, which measures coordinate distances from a fixed point on a grid:

X	Y
-2	4
-6.2	-2
0	-4.2
4	4
15	-0.05

### Transform:

You can use the following transform to derive the absolute values of these columns, which now measure distance from the fixed point:

<b>Transformation Name</b>	New formula
<b>Parameter: Formula type</b>	Single row formula
<b>Parameter: Formula</b>	abs(X)
<b>Parameter: New column name</b>	'distanceX'

<b>Transformation Name</b>	New formula
<b>Parameter: Formula type</b>	Single row formula
<b>Parameter: Formula</b>	abs(y)
<b>Parameter: New column name</b>	'distanceY'

### Results:

X	Y	distanceX	distanceY
-2	4	2	4
-6.2	-2	6.2	2
0	-4.2	0	4.2
4	4	4	4
15	-0.05	15	0.05

You can then use `POW` and `SQRT` functions to compute the total distance.