



Dear Diane,

I have a spreadsheet and I want to number a column but not in a normal number sequence. I want it to have letters and then numbers. Is there a way to do this automatically without having to number each one individually? I need 100 numbers.

### **Easier is Better**

Dear Easier,

Yes, you can create a numbered pattern in Excel even though you are starting with letters (words) before the number.

### ***Excel will allow you to create a variety of sequences.***

If you look at Column A, I started with Big 100 A1, and then I typed Big 101 in A2. I then selected both A1 and A2 and when I got the + sign "Fill Handle" in the lower right corner I just kept going down the column and it automatically numbered them for me.

I did a similar thing in Column B. This time it kept repeating the three words and renumbered for me.

Column C shows an exaggerated "Fill Handle" and its location.

Excel will not let you change the words and the numbers at the same time and auto-fill for you. So there are some limitations with this but it certainly is easier than typing in 100 new numbers. Enjoy...DSG

	A	B	C	D
1	Big 100	Big 100	Small 1	
2	Big 101	Bog 101	Small 2	
3	Big 102	Bang 102		
4	Big 103	Big 101		
5	Big 104	Bog 102		
6	Big 105	Bang 103		
7	Big 106	Big 102		
8	Big 107	Bog 103		
9	Big 108	Bang 104		
10	Big 109	Big 103		
11	Big 110	Bog 104		
12	Big 111	Bang 105		
13	Big 112	Big 104		
14	Big 113	Bog 105		
15	Big 114	Bang 106		
16	Big 115	Big 105		
17	Big 116	Bog 106		