

Resource management



A Resource is:

Any asset that we require to perform a certain task.

Project Resources:

The sum of resources required to perform all the tasks of the project



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Types of Resources

In the projects we use various types of resources:

- Human Resources
- Machinery, tools and equipment
- Capital
- Third party services
- Materials (consumables)





In MS Project, information on resources is captured in three categories:

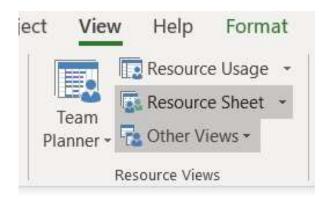
- "Work" (people and equipment)
- "Material" (consumables)
- "Cost"





To enter the information on the resources, use the "Resource Sheet" view.

To access this view, on the ribbon menu select VIEW | Resource Views | Resource sheet.

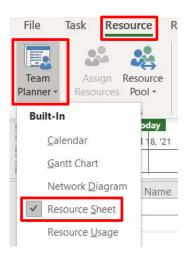






You can also use the "RESOURCE" tab to access the "Resource Sheet" view.

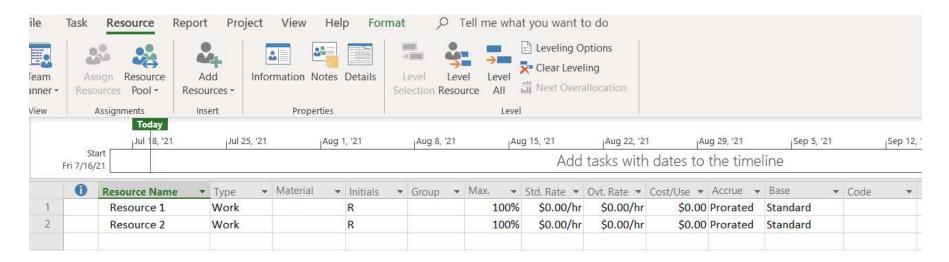
Select RESOURCE | Team Planner | Resource sheet.







When selecting the "Resource Sheet" view, a table is displayed where the main data of the project's resources can be entered.



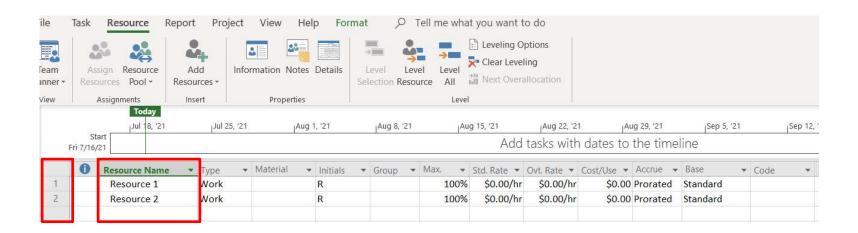




The main fields available in MS Project for resources are described below:

ID (# identification): Consecutive resource number generated automatically by MS Project. 1, 2, etc..

Resource Name: Name description of the resource.



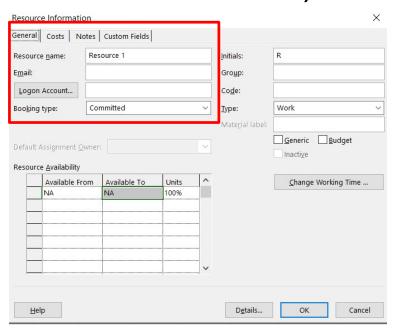


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Available Fields on Resource Sheet

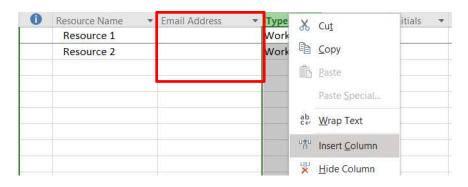
Email address: This field is not found by default in the 'Resource sheet'. It can be found in the "Resource Information" window, in the "General" tab. Here's how to access the field.

Option 1: Double click on the resource, in the "General" tab of the "Resource Information" window, locate the "Email





Option 2: On the Main Resource sheet, on the resource name menu, right click, insert column, select Email address (column will appear)

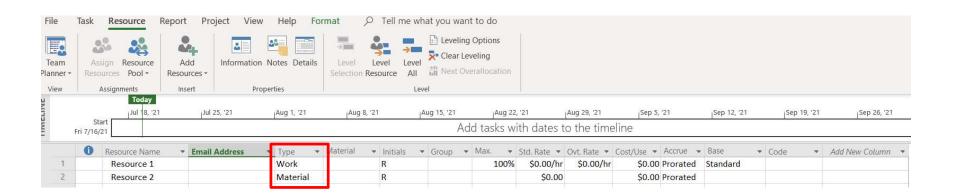




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Available Fields on Resource Sheet

Type: Specify the type of resource. Select a value from those available in the combo: Labor (for human resources and equipment), Material (for consumable resources) and Cost (for financial resources).







Material Label: For material resources. It is a text type field (not included as a standard by MS Project, as you can type any type of material) where you must type a description of the material's consumption measurement: kilos, meters, units, etc.

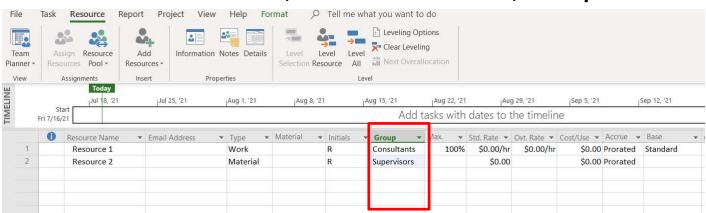
The unit of measure for consumption may be different from the unit of measure for the material purchase.



Group: Identification label of the resource group to which it belongs. It is a text type field (not validated by MS Project) where you can type a common label for several resources. This label can be used to consolidate information by "Group" of resources.

Examples:

"Implementation team", "Consultants", "Supervisors".







Maximum capacity: It is used for "Work" type resources and establishes their availability for the project. The value can be displayed as a percentage value or as decimal units.

Units indicate the percentage of a work resource's time that is assigned to a task. There are two types of units in Project: maximum units and assignment units.

Maximum units: When you want to specify how much time a work resource has available for work on all tasks in a project. This total is used to calculate how much time a work resource can spend on each task assignment.

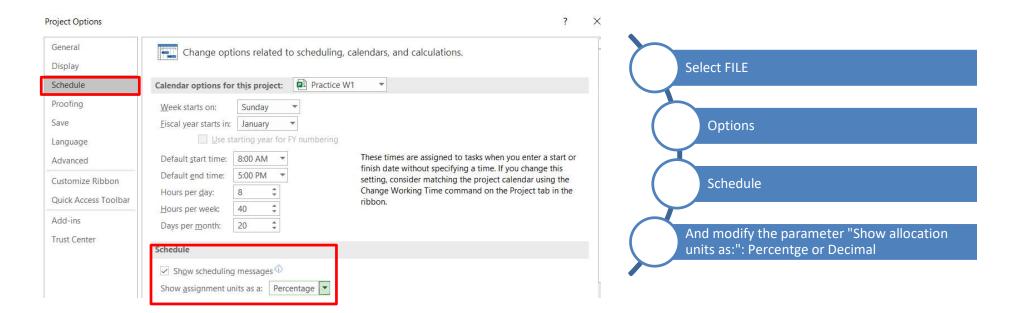


Assignment units: When you want to specify how much of a work resource's time is dedicated to a specific task. You also specify assignment units for material resources to indicate the quantity of material being used for the assignment.

- 100% or 1: indicates that a resource is available. 300% or 3: indicates that there are three resources available.
- If you have 10 operators, you can enter 1000% in the maximum capacity field.



Maximum capacity - Procedure to modify the format of the displayed value.







Standard rate: This rate allows you to pay for the use of resources in the project.

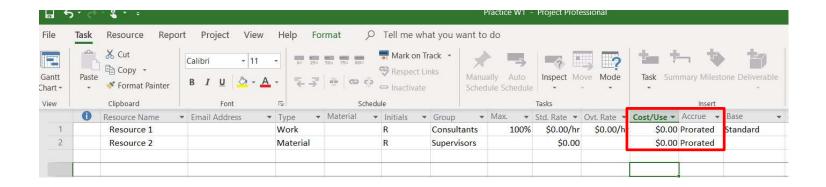
- If it is a "Work" type resource: The cost x unit of time is indicated, in normal time. For example: cost per hour of the resource.
 - Overtime rate: Cost x unit of time in overtime, for "Work" type resources.
- If it is a "Material" type resource: The unit cost of the resource is indicated, according to the unit of measure described in the column "Material Label".





Cost / Use: Cost of using the resource. This cost is accumulated in each task that uses it, regardless of its duration.

Example: The rental of a wagon may have a fixed cost which is the cost per use. In addition to this cost, the standard rate is defined, which will generate a variable cost that depends on the work to be done







Accrue at: Defines the way to record the cost of the resource (standard and overtime rate): Start (recorded at the beginning of the task), Prorated (recorded proportionally to the progress of the task) and End (recorded at the end of the task).





- If "Start" is used, 100% of the cost is accumulated as real cost by having at least 1% progress of the task.
- If "Proration" is used, the cost is accumulated in proportion to the percentage of progress of the task.
- If "End" is used, 100% of the cost is accumulated until the task is 100% complete

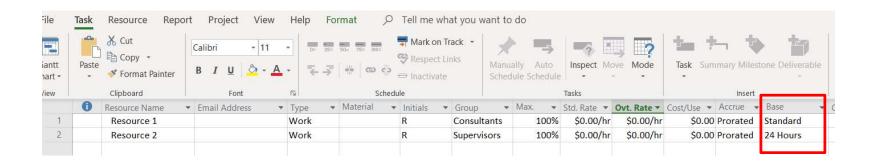




Base calendar: Applicable calendar for scheduling the resource.

You can define specific schedules for the project, for resources and tasks. They are all created in the PROJECT | Properties | Change work time.

This parameter establishes the base calendar to be used for the resource, the calendar that defines its working hours.





Definition of Resources Names

The names that are specified for the resources can be:

Specific: people's names are used. Example: Juan Salas.

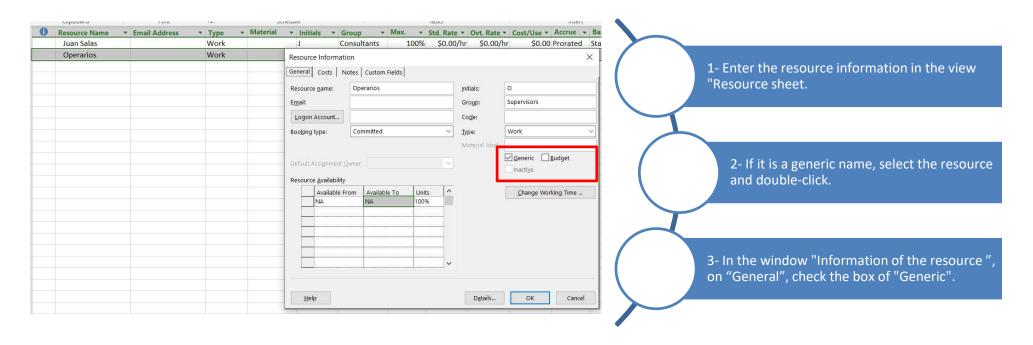
Generic: job or activity names are used. Example: Operator. How to set up a resource as generic





Definition of Resources Names

Generic resources show an identification of "Generic Resource" in the "Indicators" column

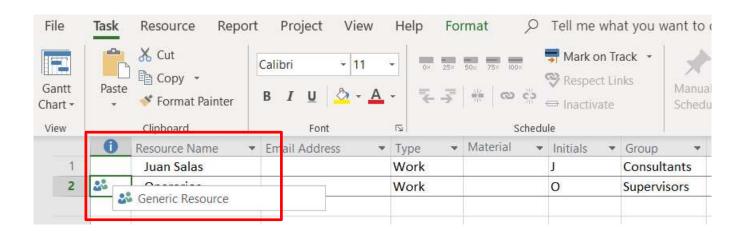






Definition of Resources Names

Generic resources show an identification of "Generic Resource" in the "Indicators" colum







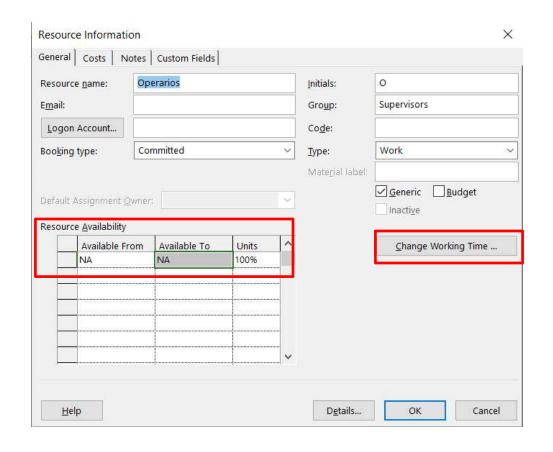
Availability of Resources

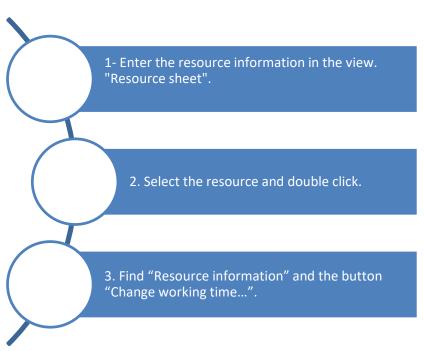
The availability of resources can be define using:

- Availability of units (expressed with percentages or decimal units) for different periods of time.
- Use of a custom business calendar for the resource



Availability of Resources







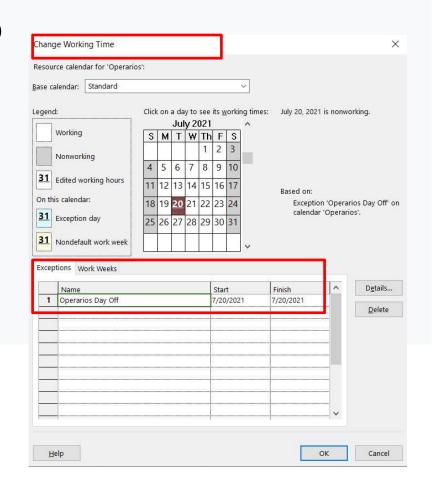


Availability of Resources

When you select the "Change working time"

button, a window is displayed to customize the base calendar specifically, for the selected resource.

It can include your vacations, disabilities, schedule availability for the project, etc







Assign Resources to Tasks

The process of allocating resources to Tasks can be performed in several ways:

 By typing directly, the name of the resource in the column "Resource Name" of the input table in the Gantt Chart. If the resource entered does not exist in the "Resource Sheet", it is incorporated into it.

0	Task Mode ▼	WBS •	Task Name ▼	Duration -	Start -	Finish 🔻	Predecessor: ▼	Total Slack •	Resource Names •
	-5	ABC-A	Project Start	0 days	Fri 7/16/21	Fri 7/16/21		0 days	
		ABC-B	4 Apartment 1	20 days	Fri 7/16/21	Thu 8/12/21		0 days	
	-5	ABC-B-1	Prepare Apartment 1	5 days	Fri 7/16/21	Thu 7/22/21	1	0 days	Painter 1
	-5	ABC-B-2	Paint Apartment 1	10 days	Fri 7/23/21	Thu 8/5/21	3	0 days	
	-5	ABC-B-3	Decoration Apartment 1	5 days	Fri 8/6/21	Thu 8/12/21	4	0 days	
	=	ABC-C	△ Apartment 2	20 days	Fri 8/13/21	Thu 9/9/21		0 days	
	5	ABC-C-1	Prepare Apartment 2	5 days	Fri 8/13/21	Thu 8/19/21	5	0 days	
	-	ABC-C-2	Paint Apartment 2	10 days	Fri 8/20/21	Thu 9/2/21	7	0 days	7.





Assign Resources to Tasks

 Selecting the resources from the drop list presented in of the column "Resource Name " of the Gantt Chart. Multiple resources can be separated by commas or semicolons

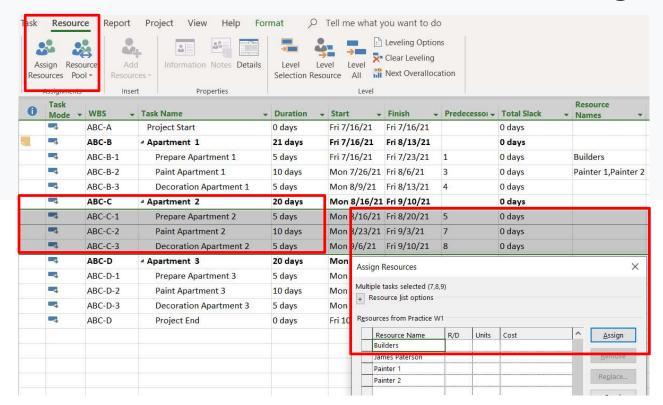
-5	ABC-B-2	Paint Apartment 1	10 days	Mon 7/26/21	Fri 8/6/21	3	0 days	nter 1,Painter 2 🗸
=	ABC-B-3	Decoration Apartment 1	5 days	Mon 8/9/21	Fri 8/13/21	4	0 days	Builders James Paterson Painter 1 Painter 2
=	ABC-C	₄ Apartment 2	20 days	Mon 8/16/21	Fri 9/10/21		0 days	
-	ABC-C-1	Prepare Apartment 2	5 days	Mon 8/16/21	Fri 8/20/21	5	0 days	
-	ABC-C-2	Paint Apartment 2	10 days	Mon 8/23/21	Fri 9/3/21	7	0 days	
-S	ABC-C-3	Decoration Apartment 2	5 days	Mon 9/6/21	Fri 9/10/21	8	0 days	





Assign Resources to Tasks

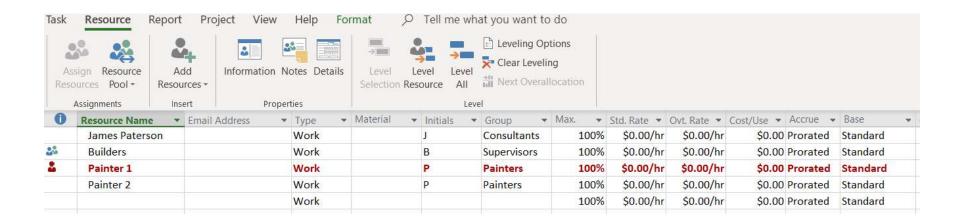
- 3. Using the option "Assign resources"
 - 1. In the Gantt Chart view, select the tasks.
 - 2. Select Resource on Ribbon Menu and then Assign resources.
 - 3. Select the resources and then click "Assign"







It can be identified that a resource has work overload (it has scheduled the execution of at least two tasks at the same time), when we see the resource with red letters in the "Resource Sheet".





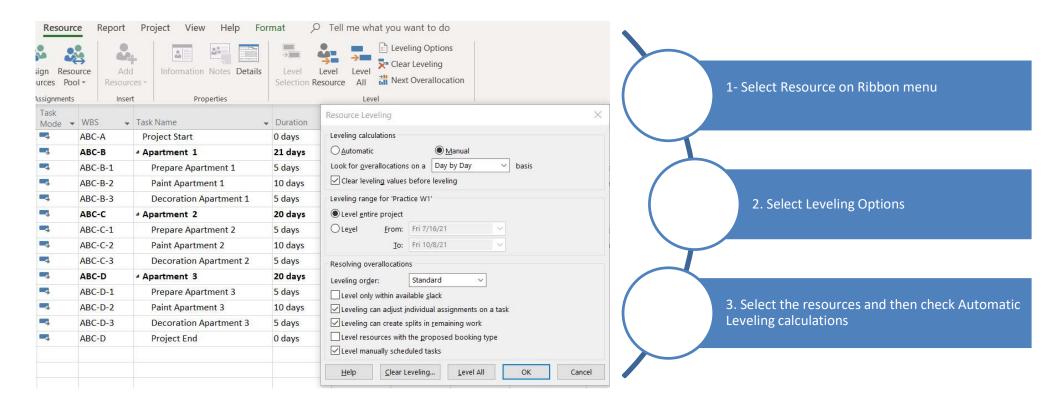


The overload of work drives the need to leverage the use of resources. This can be done by delaying or dividing the conflicting task (s).





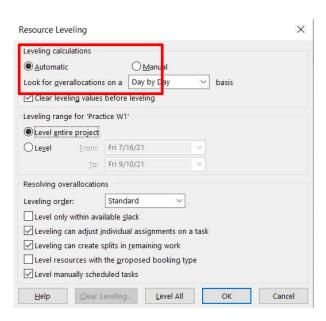
To do this automatically, you can use the redistribution options in MS Project.





Leverage Resource Usage Automatic Leveling

If you select automatic Leveling, Project automatically redistributes the work, as conflicts occur, according to the parameters selected in this window.

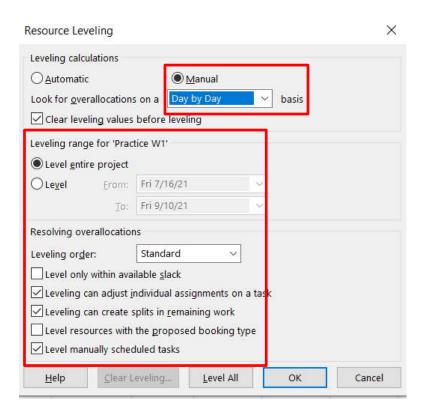






Manual Leveling

If you select manual redistribution, you must check for overhead and run the process manually.

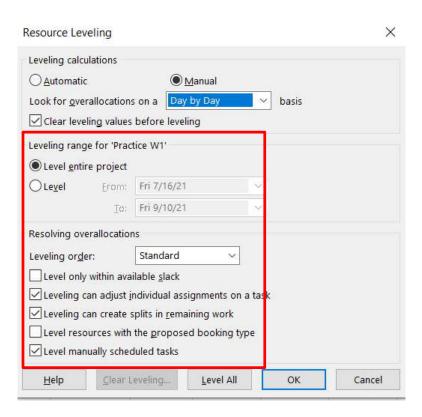






Leveling Parameters

You can select from drop list the leveling order by Standard, Id only, priority standard





Leverage Parameters

Leveling order

- Identifier only (ID only): Of the tasks in conflict, the one with the lowest ID number is scheduled as the first task, the next is rescheduled later.
- Standard: The longest duration is scheduled first.
- Priority, standard: They are scheduled according to to the priority of the tasks. If the task has the same priority, the one with longest duration is scheduled first.



Leveling Parameters

Redistribution can create division in the remaining work: If this option is selected, if any task needs to be rescheduled and has already started, it allows to divide the execution of the remaining work.

Level All: Selecting this button executes the redistribution of all overallocated tasks.

If you select manual redistribution, you must check for overhead and run the process manually.



Other Options on the Resource Tab

Level All: Level all selected tasks

Level resources: Level the tasks for the selected resources





Clear Leveling: Deletes any previously added redistribution settings.

Next over-allocation: It leads to the next task line where there is over-allocation of resources.

