

Notes on Calendar Construction and Excel

Parts

The two parts of the bookend calendar are the moving window and the stationary part. Figure 1 shows the pattern which has these parts, one above the other.

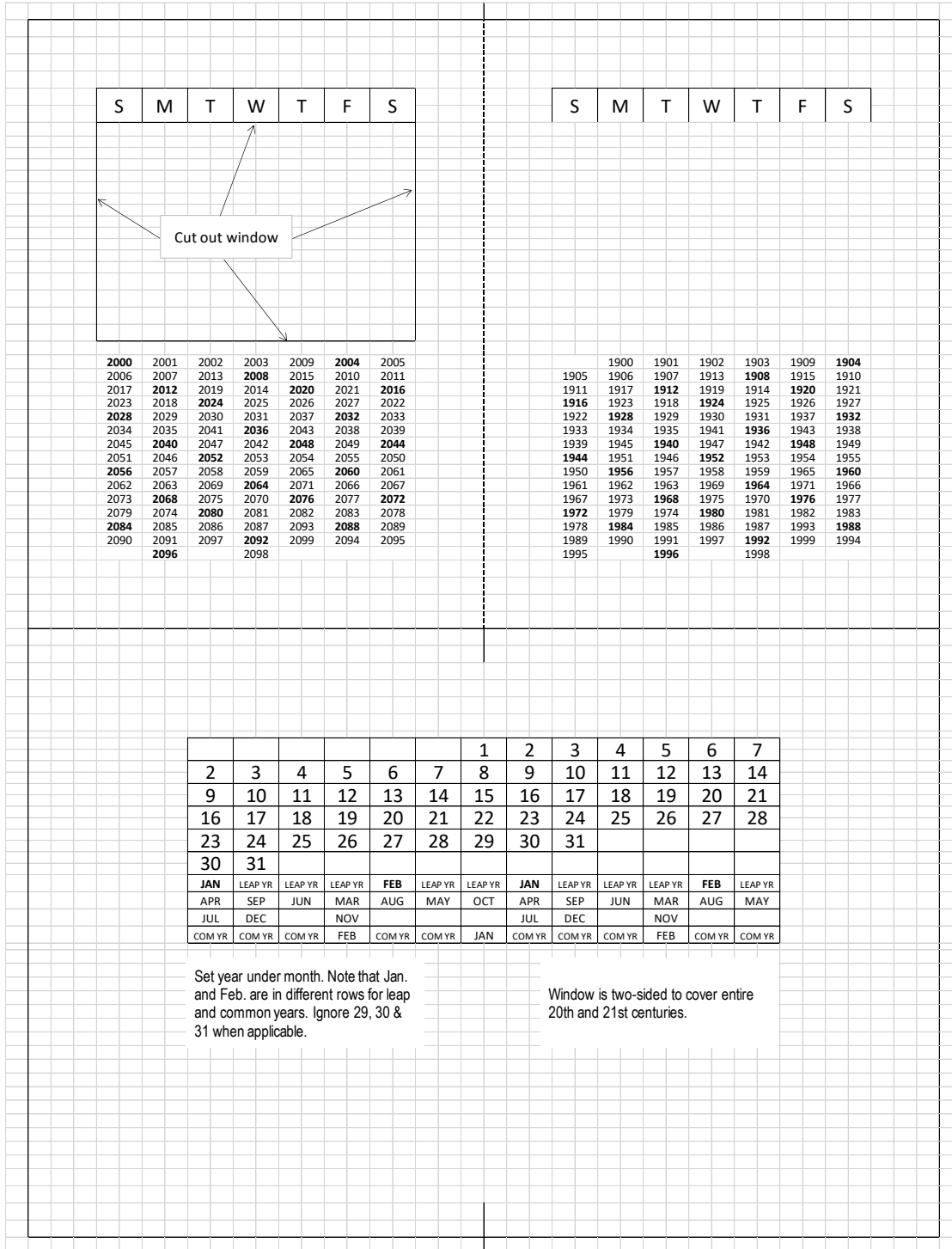


Figure 1: Bookend calendar

Using Excel to Make Graphics

I use Excel to make my graphics. It is certainly not a powerful graphics program, but it is widely available and easy to use. Excel features that are useful for making perpetual calendar tables include: a wide range of fonts available, the capability to draw borders around selected cells, the capability to scale the document when printing, the capability to change row heights and column widths, and the capability to merge cells. A disadvantage of Excel is that row heights are usually set as points, where 1 point = 1/72 inches, and column widths are usually set as the number of zero characters (“0”) that will fill the cell. The website <https://www.officetuto.com/column-width-and-row-height-units-in-excel/> describes a procedure for changing the units to inches or centimeters, but it is complicated. By adjusting cell heights and widths in the usual way and by scaling, I am able to obtain piece sizes close what I would make them if I were able to set exact dimensions.

To start the graphics for the calendar, set all cells on a spreadsheet to have a width of 3 and a height of 15. Then change some of the rows to a different height as indicated in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Rows in the two pieces

Rows	Height	Notes
Rows in the moving window part		
3 to 6	15	Space above day-of-week table
7 and 8	15	Day-of-week table
9	12	To make the window opening one row higher than the tables that it displays
10 to 21	10	Height of the day-of-month table
22 to 25	15	Height of the month table
26 to 41	12	Height of the year table plus one row
42 to 45	15	Space below year table
Rows in the stationary part		
46 to 51	15	Same function as rows 3 to 8 above
52	6	This row and row 69 have the same function as row 9 above. By having two rows half the height of row 9, the day-of-month and month tables are centred in the window opening.
53 to 64	10	Same function as rows 10 to 21 above
65 to 68	15	Height of month table
69	6	See row 52 above
70 to 85	12	Same function as rows 26 to 41 above
86 to 89	15	Same function as rows 42 to 45 above

The fonts for the tables and the text boxes are below.

- Day-of-Week table: Each letter is in a merged cell that is two rows high and two columns wide, which is a total of four cells. The font is Calibri 18.
- Year table: Each year is in a merged cell that is two columns wide, which is a total of two cells. The font is Calibri 11, with bold used for leap years.
- Both text boxes: Height is 2.79 cm and width is 7.38 cm. The text is Arial Narrow 14.

- Day-of-Month table: Each day is in a merged cell that is two rows high by two columns wide, which is a total of four cells. The font is Calibri.
- Month table: Each entry is in a merged cell that is two columns wide, which is a total of two cells. The font is Calibri 11 for month names and Calibri 9 for the terms “LEAP YR” and “COM YR”. JAN and FEB are bold when they apply to leap years.

The page setup parameters are:

- Orientation: Portrait
- Scaling: Adjust to 50% of normal size
- Top & Bottom margins: 1.9
- Left margin: 0.5
- Right margin 1.8
- Header & Footer: 0.8
- Gridlines: Not printed

The locations of various features are:

Feature	Cell Locations*	
	Upper Left	Lower Right
Left hand Day-of-Week table (SMTWTFS)	E7	Q7
Right hand Day-of-Week table (SMTWTFS)	Y7	AK7
Window	E9	R25
Left year table	E27	Q41
Right year table	Y27	AK41
Day-of-Month table	I53	AG63
Month table	I65	AG65

*In the case of merged cells, the cell location is that of the upper left cell in the merged group