Excel 365 with JAWS
Formatting Cells as Currency

Often, it will be necessary to display number data with a currency symbol. For example, sales figures or the cost of stock items. Excel 365 provides a method of automatically converting the contents of a cell into currency format.

To format a cell, or range of cells as **Currency,** follow these suggested steps:

1.   Select the cell or range of cells to be formatted.

2.   Press **CTRL and 1. Upon doing this, the Format Cells multi-paged dialog box will be displayed.**

Note 1: The **Format Cells** dialog box consists of 6 Tabs (pages). These are **Number**, **Alignment**, **Font**, **Border**, **Fill** and **Protection**. To move between pages inside a dialog box, press **CTRL and TAB** to move to the next page or **SHIFT and CTRL and TAB** to move to the previous page. When you move to a page, JAWS will announce the name of the current page.

3.   In the **Format Cells** dialog box, focus will usually be in the **Number** page. However, if you had previously used the dialog box to make some changes, focus might be in the page you last used. If necessary, press **CTRL and TAB** until the **Number** page is displayed.

4.   Press **TAB** until the **Category** list box is selected. JAWS will say "Category: list box" followed by the current setting for the cell/s. This should be **General**.

5.   Press **DOWN ARROW** or **UP ARROW** until you have selected **Currency**. Alternatively, you can press the letter **C** until it is selected in the list.

When you select **Currency** from the **Category** list box, the number of decimal places is automatically set to **2**. However, if this is not what you want, you can change it.

6.   Press TAB to move to the **Decimal Places** edit spin box. Here you will find the value is set to **2**. Press **UP ARROW** to increase the number of decimal places or press **DOWN ARROW** to decrease the number. Alternatively, you can simply type the desired number.

Note 2: Microsoft Excel uses the **£** sign as the default currency symbol. However, if you do not want a **£** sign, you can change it to your requirements. To do this, press **TAB** until the **Symbol** combo box is selected. Using **DOWN ARROW** or UP **ARROW,** select the desired symbol and press **ENTER**.

7.   When you have specified the desired number of decimal places and if necessary the symbol to be used, press **ENTER** to choose the **OK button** and close the **Format Cells** dialog box. Upon doing this, focus will return to your worksheet and the numbers in the selected cells will be displayed with the currency symbol you specified!

To check the format of the currently selected cell/s, press the JAWS command **INSERT and F**. When you have heard the currency setting, press the CTRL key to stop the speech!

That's it, you have successfully formatted cells to display number data in currency format!