

# Meter Charts

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## Overview

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Type	Icon	When to Use
<b>Meter</b>		You want to measure the rate of change of a measure against pre-defined targets. Useful for dashboard reporting.
<b>Thermometer</b>		Vertical representation of the meter chart, indicating a range of qualitative indicators.
<b>Dial</b>		Used to communicate key performance indicators.

## Chart Data Options

Option	Description
Measure	The metrics you add to this field will serve as the measure for your chart. (This can only be a numeric value.)
Target	Add a target value to your chart, to highlight it through needles or other indicators. (This can only be a numeric value.)
Tool Tip	You can drag a field here to display specific details in the cursor's tool tip.
Animation	This feature displays animated or moving data on your meter charts.

## Meter Chart Tutorial

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### Part 1: Create Reports with Conditional Formatting

1. Create a new report. (See [Creating a Report](#) for more information on this)
2. For a gradient effect on your chart, apply conditional formatting on the report. (See [Conditional Formatting on Columns](#) on information on how to do this)



If no conditional formatting is applied, instead of the gradient effect, you could stylise a single value for your meter charts.

3. Add a few conditional formatting rules – establishing a range of measure. (For example, you can create three rules each with varying sets of values and assign them each a unique colour)

Report Fields

Conditional Formatting - Average Age at Camp

General Settings

Conditional Format Option..

Columns

- Average Age at Camp
- Sum Athlete Counter
- Athlete Country

Setup

Alert Type

These alerts are based on comparison of the column value to a set value or another column.

Basic  Advanced

Style

The background color in a matching cell will be highlighted.

Cell

Type

The value in each cell will be compared to the value specified in each alert.

Value

Rules

123	Less than or equal to	20	×
123	Between	21 - 30	×
123	Greater than or equal to	31	×

+ Add Another Rule

4. The selected column will be highlighted according to the conditional formatting chosen by you, as can be seen in our example below

Columns	% Average Age at Cam..	Σ Sum Athlete Counter	■ Athlete Country
Rows			
Average Age at Camp	Sum Athlete Counter	Athlete Country	
28	30	Andorra	
28	23	Argentina	
33	108	Australia	
37	556	Austria	
36	29	Belgium	
32	32	Bosnia and Herzegovina	
46	5	Brazil	
40	22	Bulgaria	
34	696	Canada	
23	2	Chile	
35	78	China	
26	7	Cyprus	
37	25	Denmark	
31	7	Finland	
37	143	Germany	
18	3	India	
20	10	Iran	
30	924	Italy	
34	319	Japan	
30	25	Korea, Republic of	
27	2	Liberia	
38	9	Netherlands	
30	9	New Zealand	
31	9	Norway	
29	16	Poland	
31	11	Russia	
25	3	Slovenia	
35	38	Spain	
29	12	Sweden	
29	46	Switzerland	
30	10	Turkey	
27	18	United Kingdom	
28	660	USA	

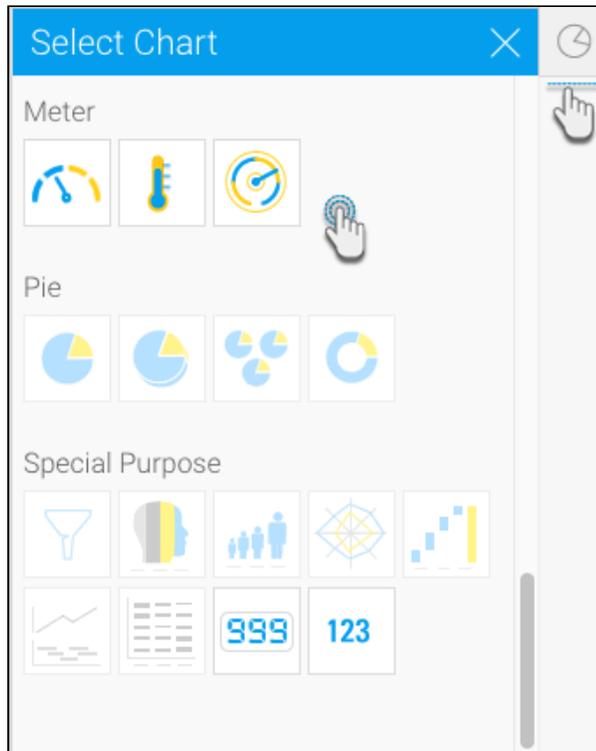
5. It's best to save this report before continuing.

## Part 2: Select a Meter Chart Type

Once you've created your report and applied conditional formatting to it, continue with the procedure below to create meter charts:

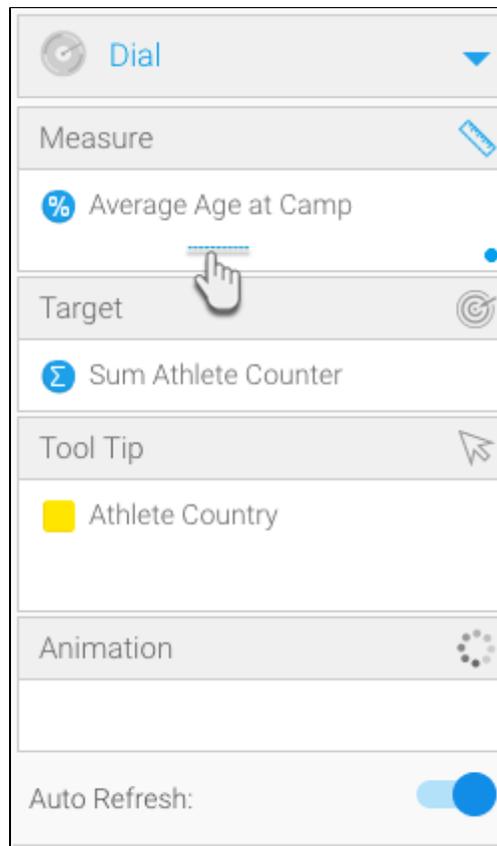
1. If you had saved the report after creating it, reopen it in the chart mode (Double-click Report > Edit > Charts)
2. (Or if you currently have the report opened in another view, use the Charts button to move to the chart building page)

3. Click on the chart icon on the right most side and select one of the three meter chart types



4. Note: In our example, we will depict the process of creating the regular meter chart.

5. After selecting the meter icon from the chart list, establish a measure by dragging the metrics you had previously applied the conditional formatting rules to the measure field



## Part 3: Tweak the Chart's Settings

You can apply any type of formatting to your meter charts. There are no restrictions on any of the setting fields.

 For the meter chart setting to be applied, the conditional formatting feature *must* be enabled.

1. Click on the meter format icon on top of the chart canvas



2. Then apply formatting conditions to your chart. Below is a description of these fields with examples.

The following table discusses all the meter formats:

Feature	Description
<b>Outline</b>	
Show Outline	This option can make an outline appear around the chart
Outline Color	<i>Note: This setting will only appear if you Show Outline feature is switched on.</i> You can use this option to select a colour for the chart outline.
Outline Width	<i>Note: This setting will only appear if you Show Outline feature is switched on.</i> Fidget with this setting to alter the width of the chart outline.
Example: With the Show Outline switched on and a blue outline colour of 5 cm set up for it, here's a glimpse at what the meter chart would look like.	
<b>Ticks</b>	
Show Tick Lines	This dropdown list lets you choose whether to include tick lines in the chart; you can also opt for only the major, minor or both types of scale increments.
Tick Line Colour	Use this to toggle the colour of the tick lines.
Major Tick Units	Set the increment level of the major tick units.  <i>Warning: If you add a lesser value in this field, the data on the labels will go missing.</i> <i>Note: The chart will display up to 20 units max, evenly spacing them out.</i>
Major Tick Length	Alter the length of the major tick units.
Minor Tick Length	You can change the size of the minor ticks as well.
Show Tick Labels	Enable this setting to display labels against the major ticks.
Font	This appears if you have opted to show tick labels. You can alter the labels' font, including changing the type of font, its colour, scalability and even bold or italic styles.
Summarize	Switch on this setting to summarize or shorten the tick labels if they have a numeric value.
Decimal Places	If the above setting is on, use this to establish a decimal place for the tick labels.
Rounding	Select how to round off numeric labels.
<b>Color Band</b>	
Conditional Format	Leave this setting enabled to apply the conditional formatting rules you created to the meter chart. <i>Note: If disabled, the meter chart will go back to its default look.</i>
Gradient	Use this button to apply the gradient effect to your meter.
Colour	<i>Note: This will only appear if you disable the conditional format button.</i> If you have opted for the default look for your meter chart, you can change the colour of the chart band through here.
Opacity	You can control the opacity of the chart's colour band through here.

Width	You can set the colour band's width using this.
Offset	Use this field to add space between the color band and the outline.
Background Colour	You can choose a background colour
Background Opacity	Toggle with the background transparency with this feature. Note: The level of opacity will be a percentage of the colour band's opacity value.
<b>Value Indicator</b>	
Show Needle	Use this to show or hide the needle indicator on regular meter and dial charts
Needle Point /Indicator Colour	If the needle is being displayed, you can select any colour for its pointer part; or if not you can change the indicator's colour
Needle Dot Colour	If you're displaying a needle, use this to set a colour for its dot part
Show Value Tick	If you've chosen to hide the needle indicator, you can highlight a tick as an indicator by enabling
Value Tick Length	If you've opted for a tick indicator, you can alter its length through this field
Show Target Tick	Switch this button on to display the target tick on the chart. (This only appears if the target is defined)
Target Tick Colour	If displaying the target tick on your chart, you can use this to change its colour.
Target Tick Length	Add a value to set a length for the target tick. (This option is only for regular meters and dial charts)
<b>Value Display</b>	
Show Value	Switch this button on to display the value of the measure on the chart
Value Font	If you display the measure value, you can alter the font, including changing its type, colour and styling
Summarize	Switch on this setting to summarize or shorten the measure value.
Decimal Places	If the above setting is on, use this to establish a decimal place for the value.
Rounding	Select how to round off numeric labels.
Show Field Name	Display the name of the measure field if enabled
Field Name Font	Change the font of the measure field's name
Show Target	If this button is enabled, it shows the target on the meter chart
Target Font	Change the font of the target value
<b>General Target Settings</b>	
Manual Target	Establish a target on your meter chart. This field will only appear in the meter settings if a target hasn't already been set through the target field on the chart canvas.
Dial Start Angle	Note: This setting only appears for dial charts. You can use this to set a start angle for the dial.
Dial Extent	Note: This setting only appears for dial charts. Use this to set an extent on the dial display.
Show Bulb	Note: This setting only appears for thermostat charts. Toggle with this button to show or hide the bulb shape at the end of the thermostat chart.
Rounded Corners	Note: This setting only appears for thermostat charts. You can alter the edges of the thermostat chart by entering a value here. (The bigger the number you enter, the rounder its edges will become)
Orientation	Note: This setting only appears for thermostat charts. Use this to change the thermostat chart's layout (it can be displayed horizontally or vertically)



You can edit the thermostat chart to make it appear as a bar chart.

