

# Chart Type Selection

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## Overview

The first step in creating your chart is selecting the appropriate chart type to most effectively visualise your data. There are two methods for chart creation:

1. Auto Chart
2. Chart Selection

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## Auto Chart

The Auto Chart functionality provides some common component areas to be populated, and depending on what fields you drag into them, a chart will be generated.

The image shows a vertical configuration panel for 'Auto Chart'. At the top is a header with an atom icon and the text 'Auto Chart'. Below this are four main sections, each with a title bar and a content area. The first section is 'Horizontal Axis', which has a red 'Mandatory' indicator. The second section is 'Vertical Axis', also with a red 'Mandatory' indicator. The third section is 'Colour', which has three colored dots (red, blue, grey). The fourth section is 'Size', which has three blue dots.

**Note:** auto charts generate common chart types such as; Bar, Column, Scatter, and Line. If you are looking for a specific chart or specialty chart it would be better to select the type from the Chart Selection panel on the right.

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## Chart Selection


The following list of chart choices will assist you to make your selection. After you have made a selection it is easy to swap between chart types to see how your data might look with different visualisations.

Select Chart


Analytical



Area







Bar





Trellis

A segmented chart for which the behaviour is determined by the data selected.


Icon	Type	When to Use
	<b>Scatter</b>	A scatter plot (points not joined) chart that allows the charting of 2 related attribute series. Can only be used if the data series are related. Useful for seeing trends in data that is not linear.
	<b>Treemap</b>	Compares metric values via a size relationship. Can also be used to show hierarchical relationships.
	<b>Histogram</b>	Shows the number of times a given value occurs in the dataset.
	<b>Box &amp; Whisker</b>	A chart which gives a quick overview of series of values and their statistical properties.

	<b>Trellis</b>	A segmented chart for which the behaviour is determined by the data selected.
	<b>Heat Grid</b>	Plots the intensity of a metric across multiple categories.

See [Analytical Charts](#) for more information.


Icon	Type	When to Use
	<b>Area</b>	You want to emphasize the magnitude of change over time. Use an area chart to show how much the value of a measure changes over time.
	<b>Stacked Area</b>	You want to emphasise the magnitude of change over time, while comparing multiple categories.

See [Area Charts](#) for more information.



Icon	Type	When to Use
	<b>Horizontal Bar</b>	You want to highlight values for easy comparison and plot your numbers horizontally. Use a bar chart to place less emphasis on time and focus on comparing values.
	<b>3D Horizontal Bar</b>	Similar to the horizontal bar chart, but in three a dimensional form.
	<b>Stacked Horizontal Bar</b>	Categorical data, grouped or stacked to assist comparison. Use when part-to-whole comparison is important.
	<b>Horizontal Cylinder</b>	Similar to the horizontal bar, but having chart components shown in cylindrical form.
	<b>Proportional Bar</b>	Displays how close values in different categories came to the highest category value.

See [Bar Charts](#) for more information.


Icon	Type	When to Use
	<b>Vertical Column</b>	You want to highlight values for easy comparison and plot your numbers vertically. Use a column chart to place less emphasis on time and focus on comparing values.

	<b>3D Vertical Bar</b>	Similar to the vertical bar chart, but in three dimensional form.
	<b>Stacked Vertical Bar</b>	Also referred to as stacked column charts and used when part-to-whole comparison is important.
	<b>Cylinder</b>	Similar to the vertical bar, but having chart components shown in cylindrical form.
	<b>3D Stacked Vertical Bar</b>	Similar to the 3d stacked vertical bar chart, but in three dimensional form.
	<b>Layered</b>	Compares the contribution of each value to a total across categories.

See [Column Charts](#) for more information.




Icon	Type	When to Use
	<b>Combina tion Charts</b>	Combination charts, in effect, superimpose one chart type above or below another. Use to improve clarity and highlight relationships between data sets.
	<b>Overlay Chart</b>	Use the line chart to emphasize a trend and bars to emphasize specific values. Line/Bar combinations may work better by de-emphasizing bars through the use of subtle colours.

See [Combination Charts](#) for more information.







Icon	Type	When to Use
	<b>Financial Line</b>	Use this chart to display a trading value with a subchart displaying volume.
	<b>High Low</b>	Shows daily high, low, opening and closing values with tick positions corresponding to opening and closing values.
	<b>Candlesti ck</b>	Shows daily high, low, opening and closing values with different colour bars depending on the daily direction.



See [Financial Charts](#) for more information.


Icon	Type	When to Use
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	<b>Line</b>	You want to view trends over time by plotting data at points connected by lines. Use a line chart to plot many metrics.
	<b>3D Line</b>	Similar to the line chart, but in three-dimensional form.
	<b>Z Chart</b>	Trends over a short period of time; displaying the data, accumulative total, and moving total.
	<b>Stepped Line</b>	A line chart where movement is shown in steps rather than straight lines.





See [Line Charts](#) for more information.

Type	Icon	When to Use
	<b>Image Maps</b>	If you do not have GIS defined columns you can use the Image Maps to create heat maps – these are a good way to display metrics with a spatial element such as Revenue by State or Country You will only be able to render maps for which an image map has been defined.
	<b>Google Maps</b>	Google Maps allow you to render location data points onto a Google map which will be displayed as a Yellowfin Chart – along with associated Google map widgets.
	<b>GIS Google Maps</b>	A Google map which uses GIS data for its marker coordinates.
	<b>GIS Maps</b>	GIS Maps allow the rendering of complex GIS polygons. These can be used to render spatial reports on the fly based on the GIS data available in a report.
	<b>GIS Bubble Map</b>	A bubble map in which bubble positions are specified by GIS points.
	<b>GIS Heat Map</b>	A heat map where colours representing GIS points are blended based on intensity.






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.
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See [Meter Charts](#) for more information.

Type	Icon	When to Use
	<b>Pie</b>	You want to show the relationship of parts to the whole. Use a pie chart to highlight proportions rather than actual values. If it is important to show actual values in the chart, avoid using the pie chart type.
	<b>3D Pie</b>	Similar to the pie chart, but in three a dimensional form.
	<b>Multi Pie</b>	Used to highlight individual component sizes in a system of multiple components.
	<b>Ring</b>	Similar to the pie chart, but in a circular ring form.

See [Pie Charts](#) for more information.

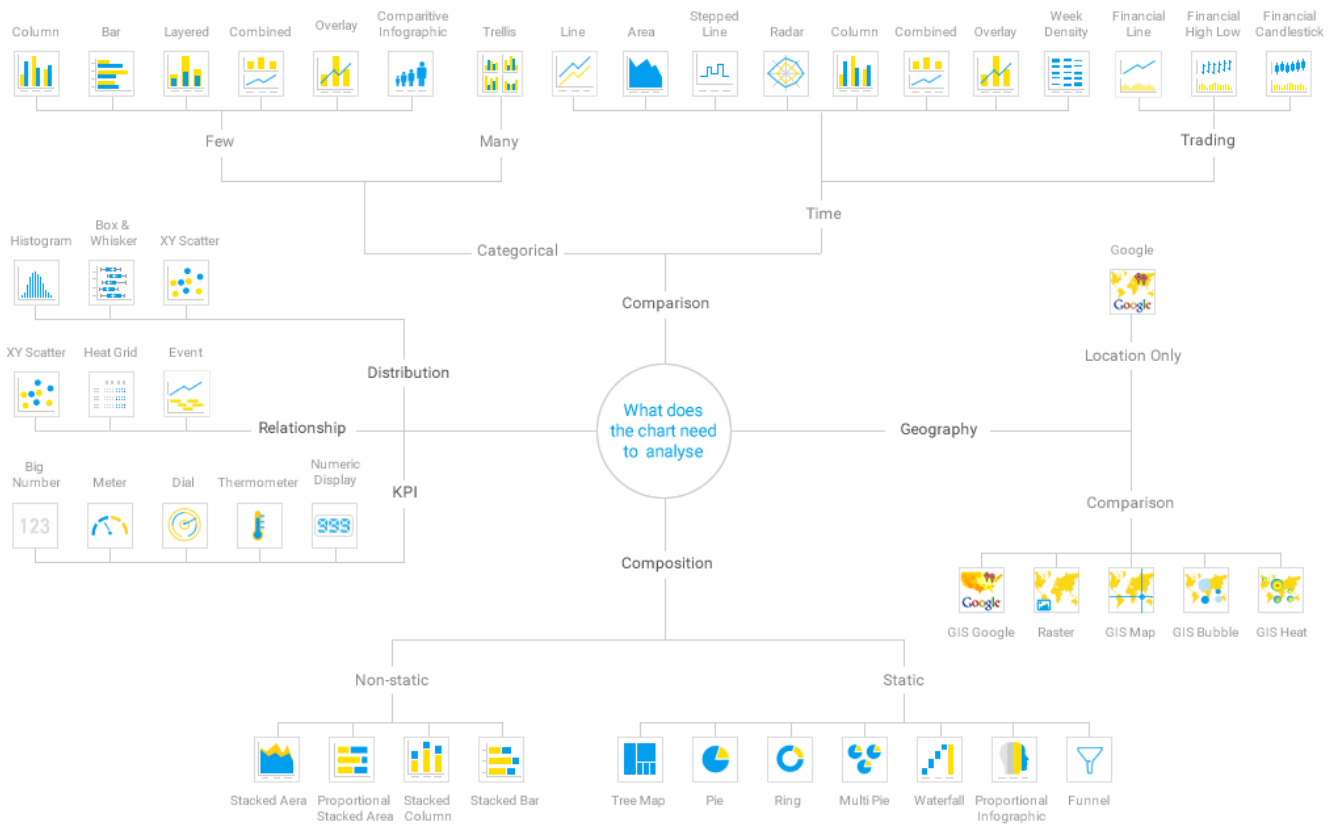
Type	Icon	When to Use
	<b>Funnel</b>	Used to show the status of stages in a process.
	<b>Proportional Infographic</b>	Displays segments on an image, with the segment size representing metric value.
	<b>Comparative Infographic</b>	Displays images sized in such a way to correspond to a metric.
	<b>Radar</b>	You want to compare data by integrating multiple axes into a single radial figure.
	<b>Waterfall</b>	Waterfall charts are a special type of Floating Column Chart. A typical waterfall chart shows how an initial value is increased and decreased by a series of intermediate values, leading to a final value.
	<b>Event</b>	Maps the occurrence of events against the values of a numeric data set over time.
	<b>Week Density</b>	Shows the density of occurrences based on hour relative to other densities on the same day of the week.

	<b>Digital Numeric Display</b>	Shows the value of a metric on a digital display.
	<b>Numeric Display</b>	Shows the value of a metric.

See [Special Purpose Charts](#) for more information.

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## Chart Selector Guide



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## Cross Tab Charts

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