# Chart Type Selection


- Overview
- Auto Chart
- Chart Selection
- Chart Selector Guide
- Cross Tab Charts


## 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

top

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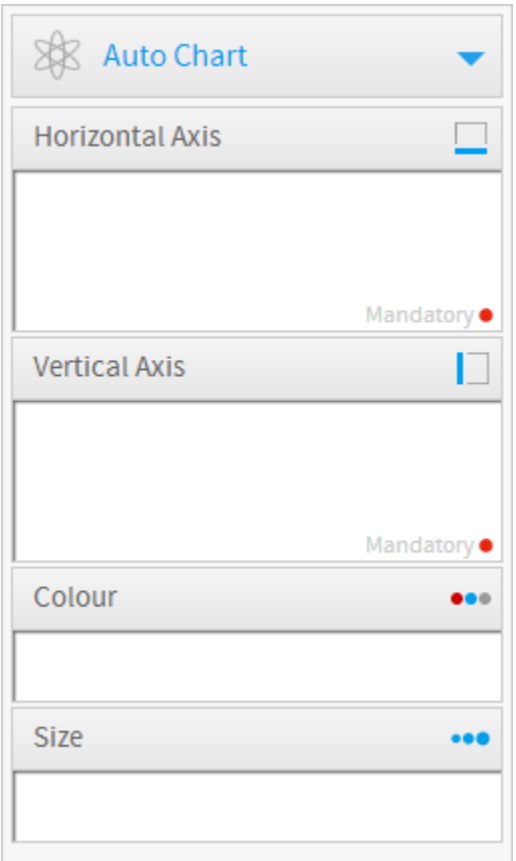
## Auto Chart

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.




**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.

top

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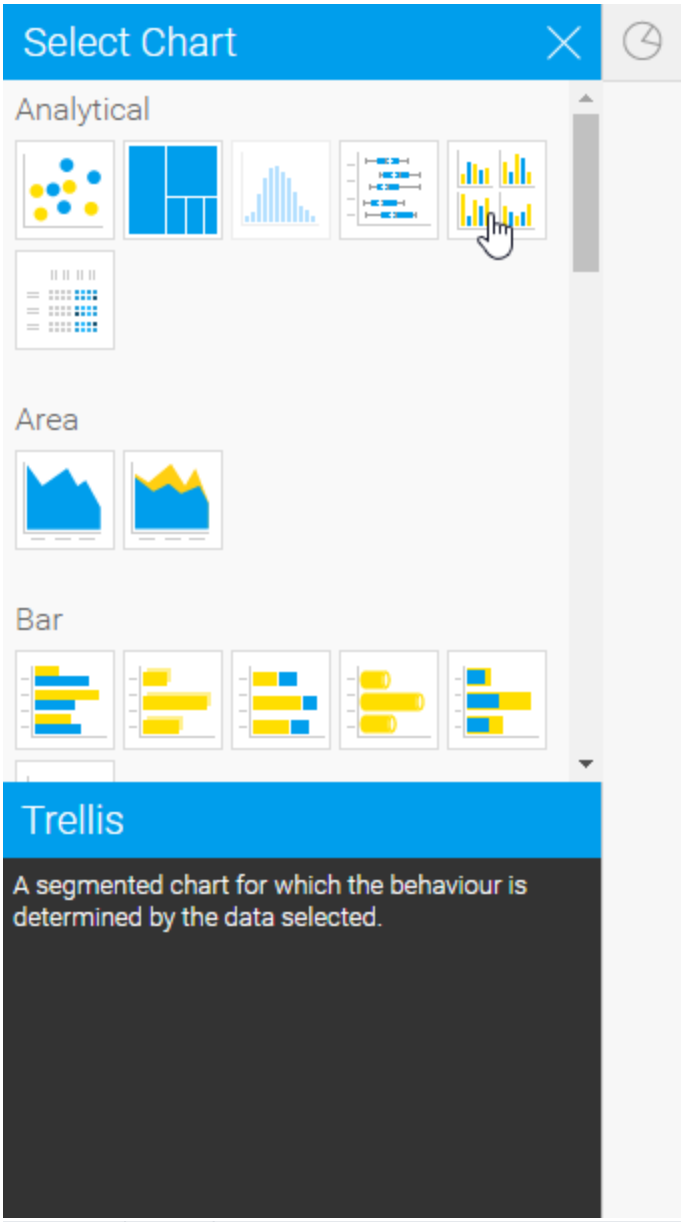
## Chart Selection

The following list of chart choices will assist you to make you 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.




| Icon | Type | When to Use |
|---|---|---|
| | **Scatter** | 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. |
| | **Treemap** | Compares metric values via a size relationship. Can also be used to show hierarchical relationships. |
| | **Histogram** | Shows the number of times a given value occurs in the dataset. |
| | **Box & Whisker** | A chart which gives a quick overview of series of values and their statistical properties. |

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

> *See Analytical Charts for more information.*

| Icon | Type | When to Use |
|---|---|---|
| | **Area** | 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. |
| | **Stacked Area** | 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 |
|---|---|---|
| | **Horizontal Bar** | 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. |
| | **3D Horizontal Bar** | Similar to the horizontal bar chart, but in three a dimensional form. |
| | **Stacked Horizontal Bar** | Categorical data, grouped or stacked to assist comparison. Use when part-to-whole comparison is important. |
|  | **Horizontal Cylinder** | Similar to the horizontal bar, but having chart components shown in cylindrical form. |
| | **Proportional Bar** | Displays how close values in different categories came to the highest category value. |

> *See Bar Charts for more information.*

| Icon | Type | When to Use |
|---|---|---|
| | **Vertical Column** | 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. |

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

> *See Column Charts for more information.*

| Icon | Type | When to Use |
|---|---|---|
| | **Combination Charts** | Combination charts, in effect, superimpose one chart type above or below another. Use to improve clarity and highlight relationships between data sets. |
| | **Overlay Chart** | 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 |
|---|---|---|
| | **Financial Line** | Use this chart to display a trading value with a subchart displaying volume. |
| | **High Low** | Shows daily high, low, opening and closing values with tick positions corresponding to opening and closing values. |
| | **Candlestick** | 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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|---|---|---|
| | **Line** | You want to view trends over time by plotting data at points connected by lines. Use a line chart to plot many metrics. |
| | **3D Line** | Similar to the line chart, but in three-dimensional form. |
|  | **Z Chart** | Trends over a short period of time; displaying the data, accumulative total, and moving total. |
| | **Stepped Line** | A line chart where movement is shown in steps rather than straight lines. |

> *See Line Charts for more information.*

| Type | Icon | When to Use |
|---|---|---|
| | **Image Maps** | 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<br>You will only be able to render maps for which an image map has been defined. |
| | **Google Maps** | 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. |
| | **GIS Google Maps** | A Google map which uses GIS data for its marker coordinates. |
| | **GIS Maps** | 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. |
| | **GIS Bubble Map** | A bubble map in which bubble positions are specified by GIS points. |
| | **GIS Heat Map** | A heat map where colours representing GIS points are blended based on intensity. |

| Type | Icon | When to Use |
|---|---|---|
| | **Meter** | You want to measure the rate of change of a measure against pre-defined targets. Useful for dashboard reporting. |
| | **Thermometer** | Vertical representation of the meter chart, indicating a range of qualitative indicators. |

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| | **Dial** | Used to communicate key performance indicators. |

> *See Meter Charts for more information.*

| Type | Icon | When to Use |
|---|---|---|
| | **Pie** | 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. |
| | **3D Pie** | Similar to the pie chart, but in three a dimensional form. |
| | **Multi Pie** | Used to highlight individual component sizes in a system of multiple components. |
| | **Ring** | Similar to the pie chart, but in a circular ring form. |

> *See Pie Charts for more information.*

| Type | Icon | When to Use |
|---|---|---|
| | **Funnel** | Used to show the status of stages in a process. |
| | **Proportional Infographic** | Displays segments on an image, with the segment size representing metric value. |
| | **Comparative Infographic** | Displays images sized in such a way to correspond to a metric. |
| | **Radar** | You want to compare data by integrating multiple axes into a single radial figure. |
| | **Waterfall** | 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. |
| | **Event** | Maps the occurrence of events against the values of a numeric data set over time. |
| | **Week Density** | Shows the density of occurrences based on hour relative to other densities on the same day of the week. |

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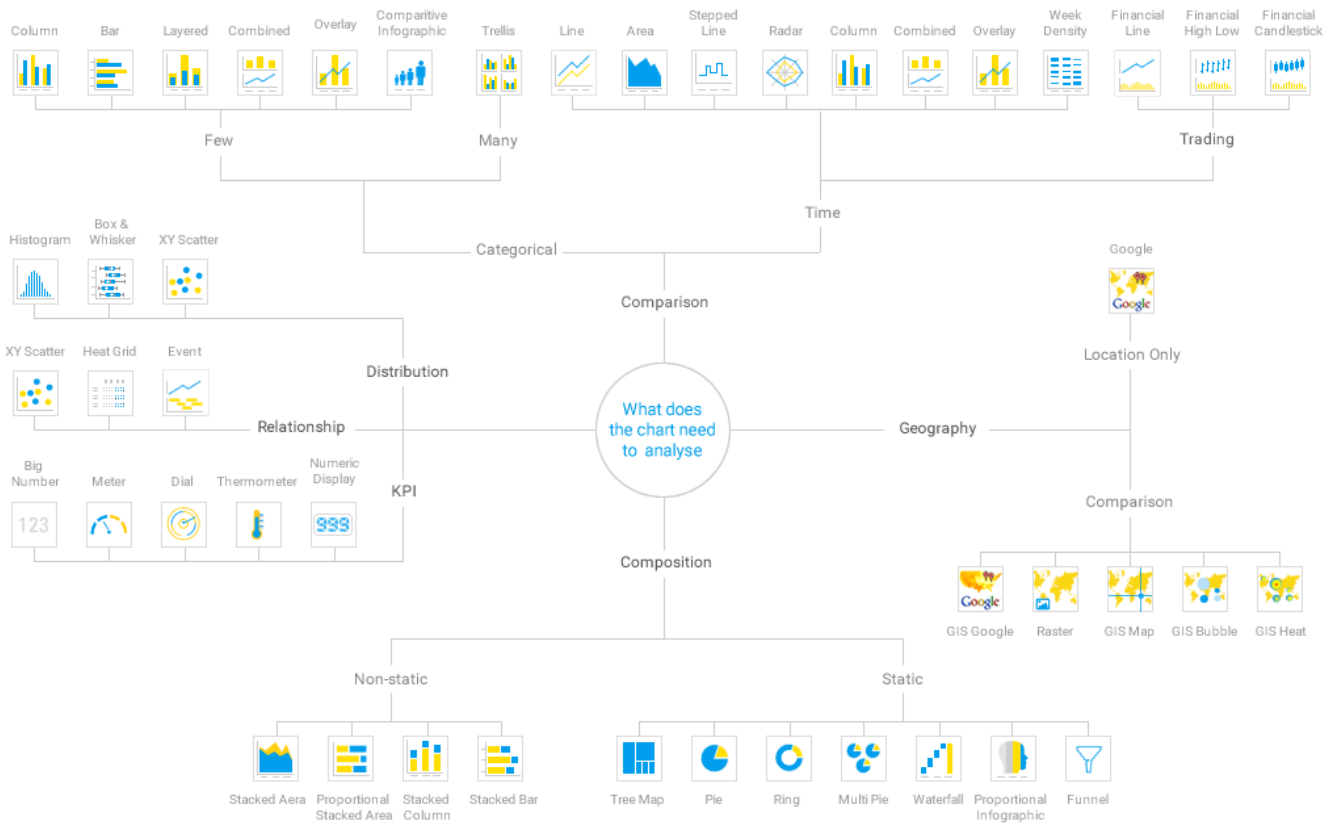
|---|---|---|
| 999 | **Digital Numeric Display** | Shows the value of a metric on a digital display. |
| 123 | **Numeric Display** | Shows the value of a metric. |

> *See Special Purpose Charts for more information.*

top

## Chart Selector Guide




top

## Cross Tab Charts

top