

# Chart Type Selection

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## Overview

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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

## Auto Chart

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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.

 Auto Chart 

Horizontal Axis 

Mandatory 

Vertical Axis 

Mandatory 

Colour 

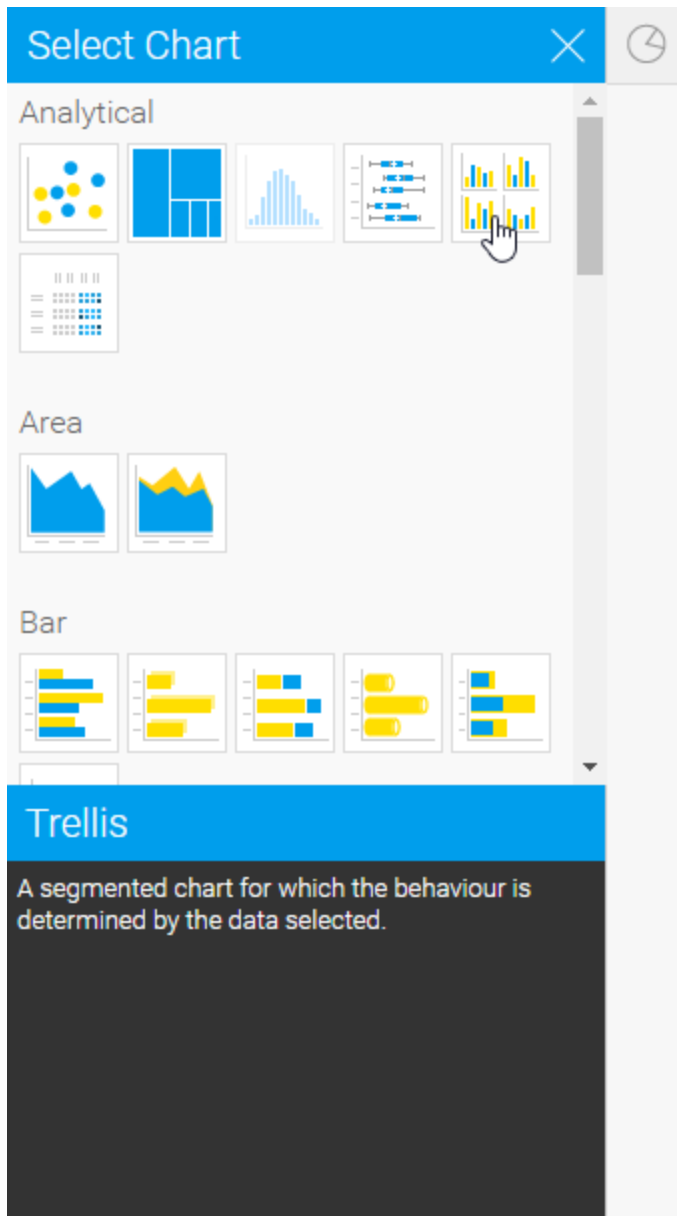
Size 

**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.

## Chart Selection

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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                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|      | <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>Combination 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>Candlestick</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 |
|------|------|-------------|
|------|------|-------------|

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

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.

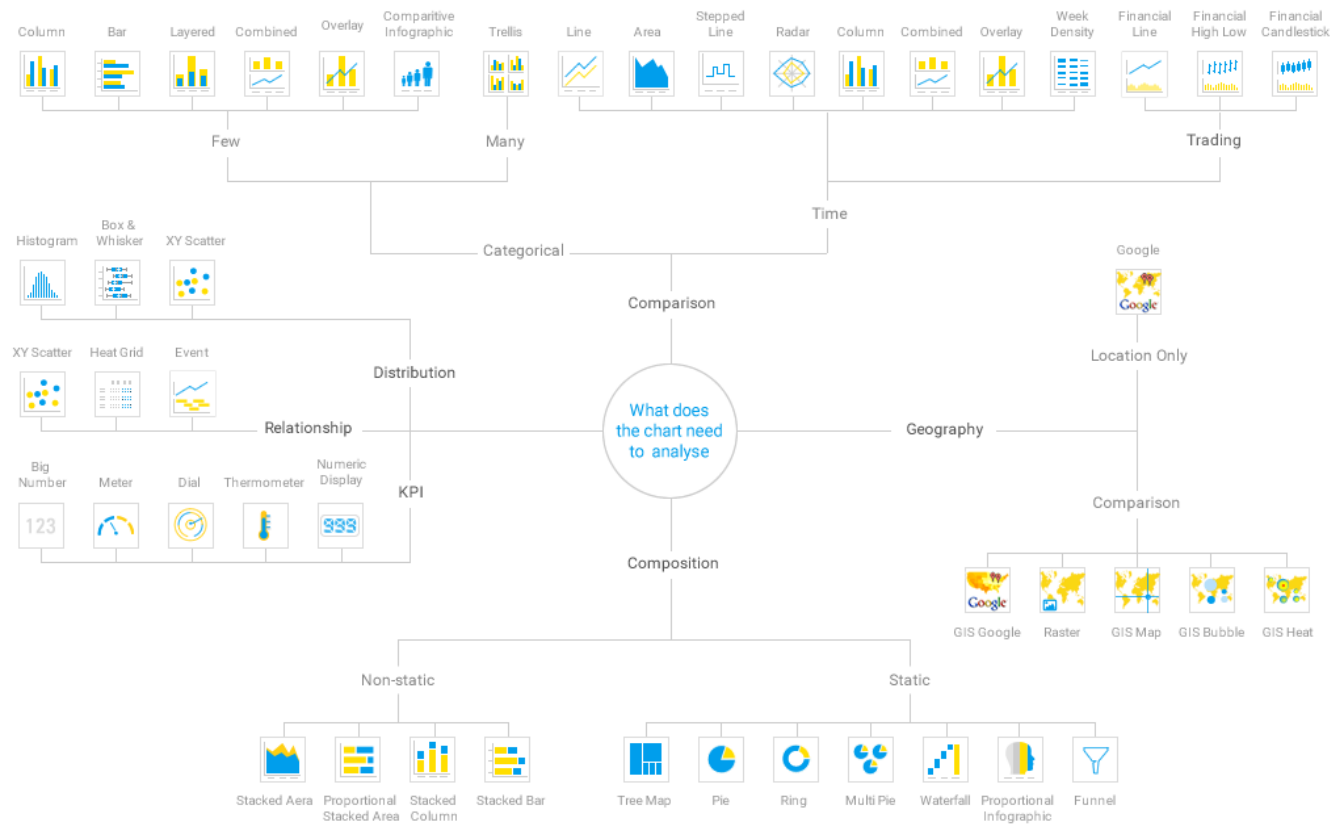
| Type                                                                                | Icon                            | When to Use                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <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. |
|--|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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

## Chart Selector Guide

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## Cross Tab Charts

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