

How can I add a vertical line to charts in Excel?

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RECOMMENDED CITATION

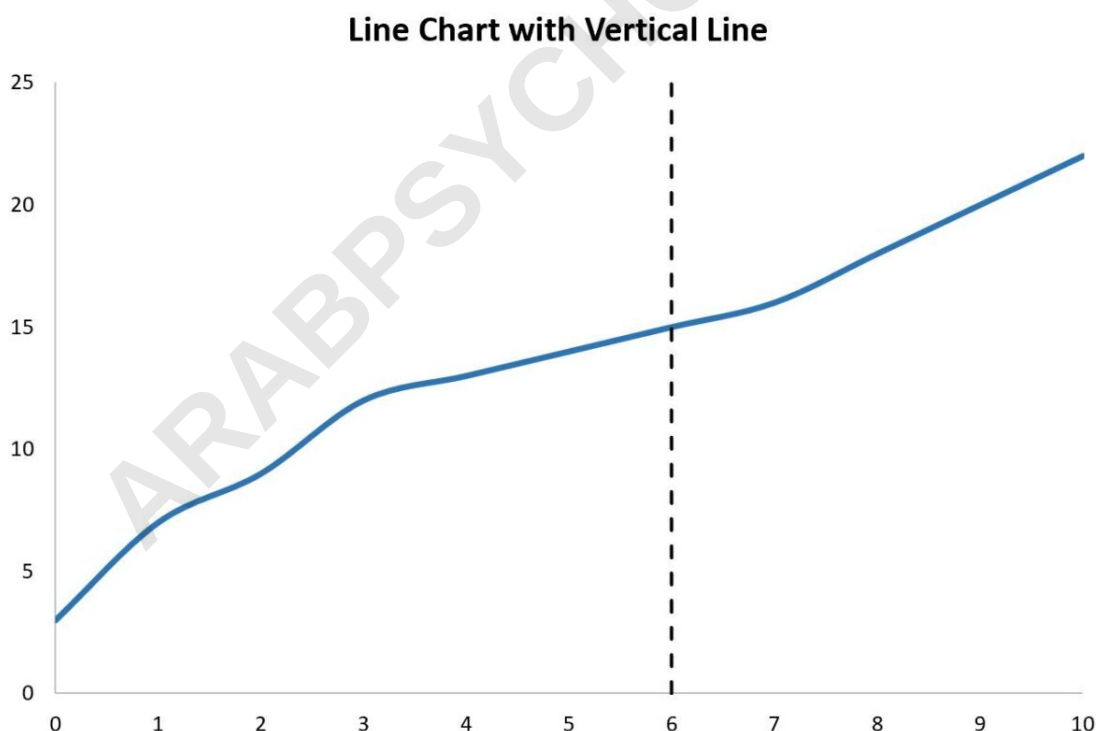
stats writer (2024). *How can I add a vertical line to charts in Excel?*. PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=156064>

To add a vertical line to charts in Excel, first select the chart and then click on the "Format" tab. Next, click on the "Add Chart Element" button and select "Lines" from the drop-down menu. Finally, choose the type of line you want to add and adjust its position and appearance using the formatting options. This feature allows for the easy inclusion of vertical lines in charts, helping to visually highlight specific data points or trends.

Add a Vertical Line to Charts in Excel

Occasionally you may want to add a vertical line to a chart in Excel at a specific position.

This tutorial provides a step-by-step example of how to add a vertical line to the following line chart in Excel:



Let's jump in!

Step 1: Enter the Data

Suppose we would like to create a line chart using the following dataset in Excel:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	x	y			
2	0	3			
3	1	7			
4	2	9			
5	3	12			
6	4	13			
7	5	14			
8	6	15			
9	7	16			
10	8	18			
11	9	20			
12	10	22			
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					

Step 2: Add Data for Vertical Line

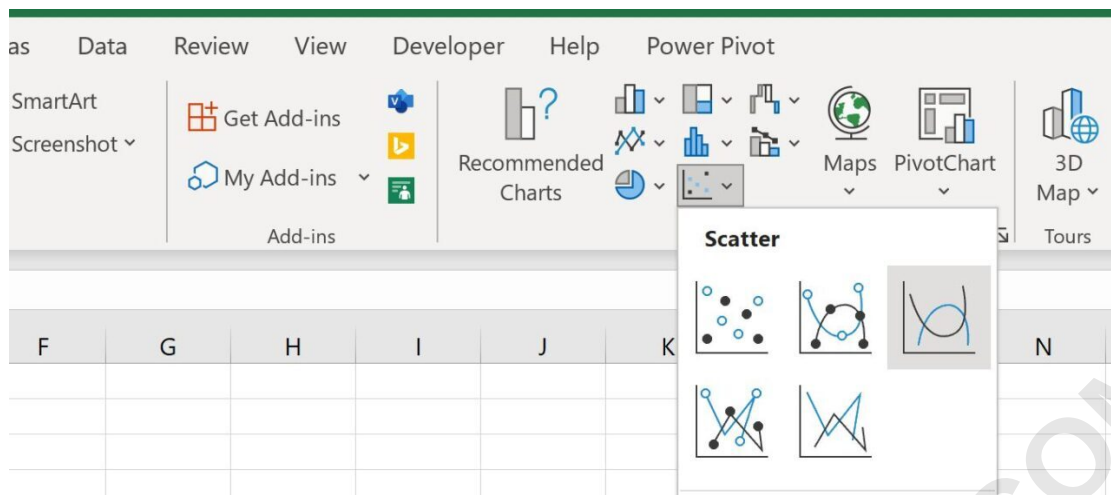
Now suppose we would like to add a vertical line located at $x = 6$ on the plot.

We can add in the following artificial (x, y) coordinates to the dataset:

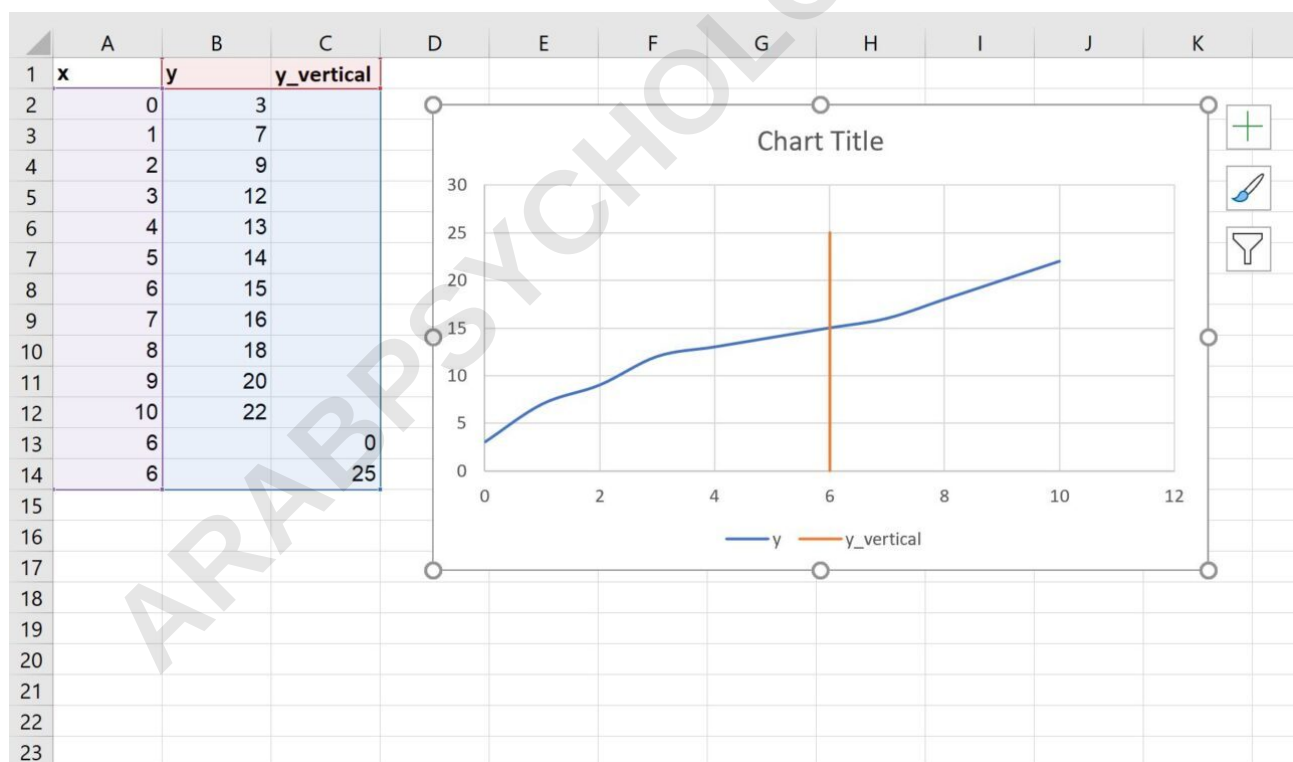
	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	x	y	y_vertical			
2		0	3			
3		1	7			
4		2	9			
5		3	12			
6		4	13			
7		5	14			
8		6	15			
9		7	16			
10		8	18			
11		9	20			
12		10	22			
13		6		0		
14		6		25		
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						

Step 3: Create Line Chart with Vertical Line

Lastly, we can highlight the cells in the range A2:C14, then click the Insert tab along the top ribbon, then click Scatter with Smooth Lines within the Charts group:



The following line chart will be created:

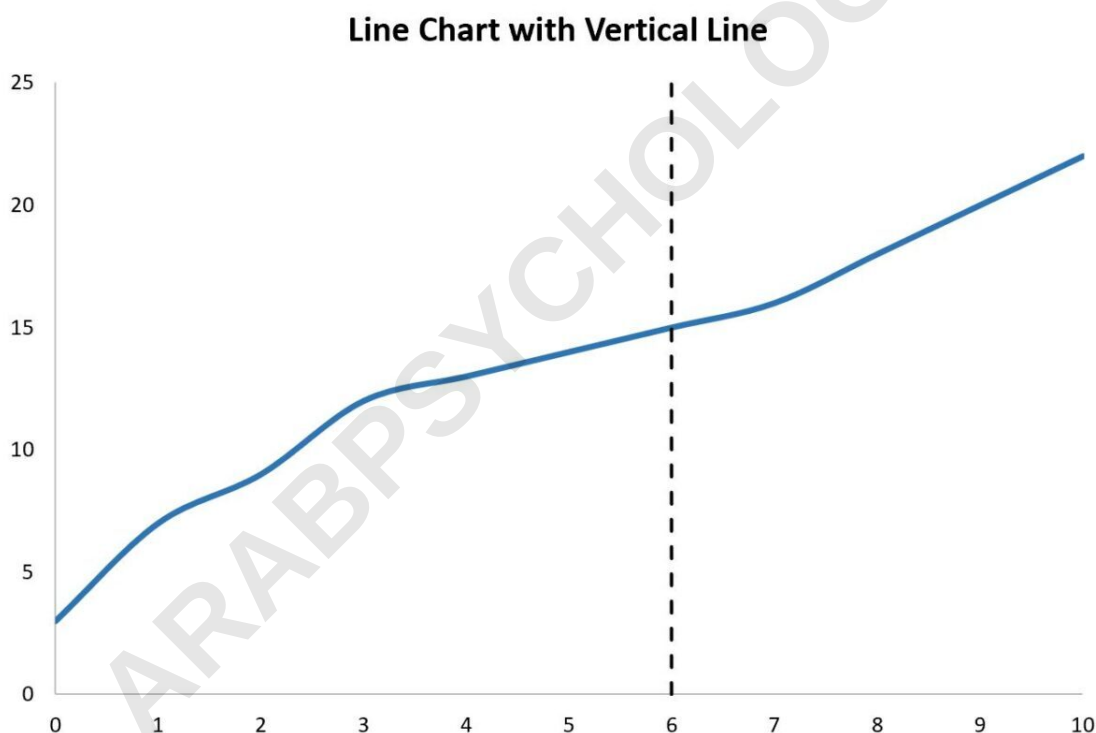


Notice that the vertical line is located at $x = 6$, which we specified at the end of our original dataset.

To change the height of the line, simply change the y-values to use whatever starting and ending points you'd like.

Step 4: Customize the Chart (Optional)

Lastly, feel free to modify the range of each axis along with the style of the vertical line to make it more aesthetically pleasing:



Additional Resources

The following tutorials explain how to perform other common tasks in Excel: