How can I add multiple trendlines in Excel, and what is an example of this process?

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Adding multiple trendlines in Excel is a useful feature that allows for the visualization and analysis of different trends within a single data set. This can be done by selecting the data points and choosing the "Add Trendline" option from the "Design" tab on the Excel toolbar. From there, multiple trendlines can be added by selecting the desired trendline type and adjusting the settings accordingly. For example, a user can add both a linear and exponential trendline to a data set to compare the rate of change over time. This process can be repeated for as many trendlines as needed, providing a comprehensive analysis of the data.

Add Multiple Trendlines in Excel (With Example)

Often you may want to add multiple trendlines to a chart in Excel to summarize the trends of multiple series.

For example, you may want to create the following plot with multiple trendlines that summarizes the trend of two different product sales over time:

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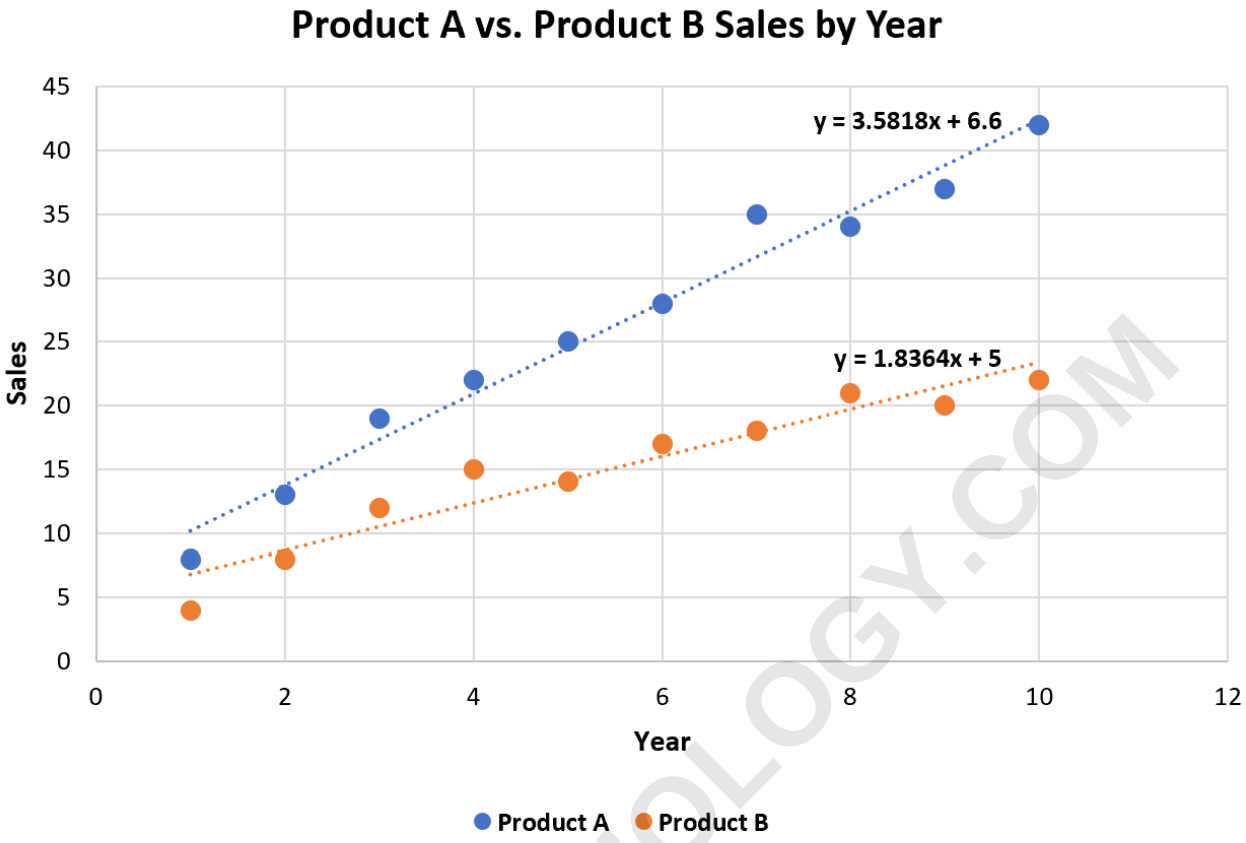

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The following step-by-step example shows how to create this exact plot with multiple trendlines.

Step 1: Create the Data

First, let's create the following dataset that shows the total sales of two different products during 10 consecutive years:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Year	Product A	Product B		
2	1	8	4		
3	2	13	8		
4	3	19	12		
5	4	22	15		
6	5	25	14		
7	6	28	17		
8	7	35	18		
9	8	34	21		
10	9	37	20		
11	10	42	22		
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					

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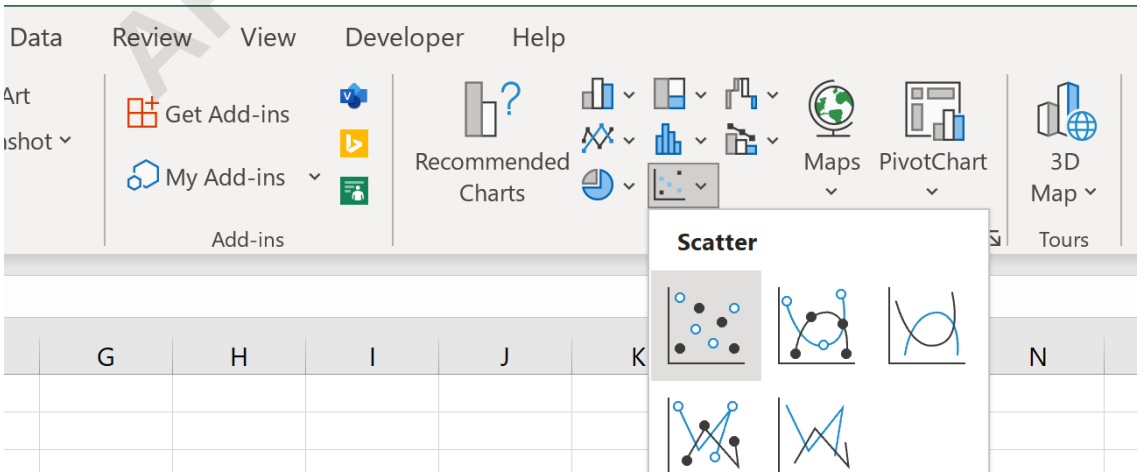
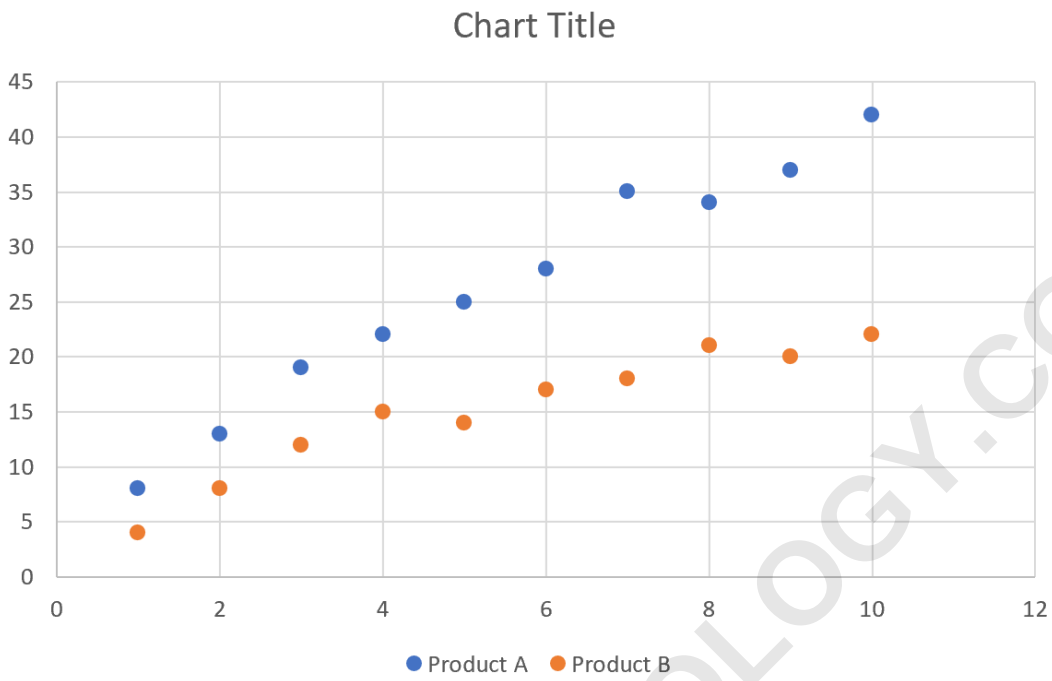
Step 2: Insert the Scatter Plot

Next, highlight the cell range A1:C11, then click the Insert tab along the top ribbon, then click the Scatter icon within the Charts group:



The following scatter plot will automatically appear:



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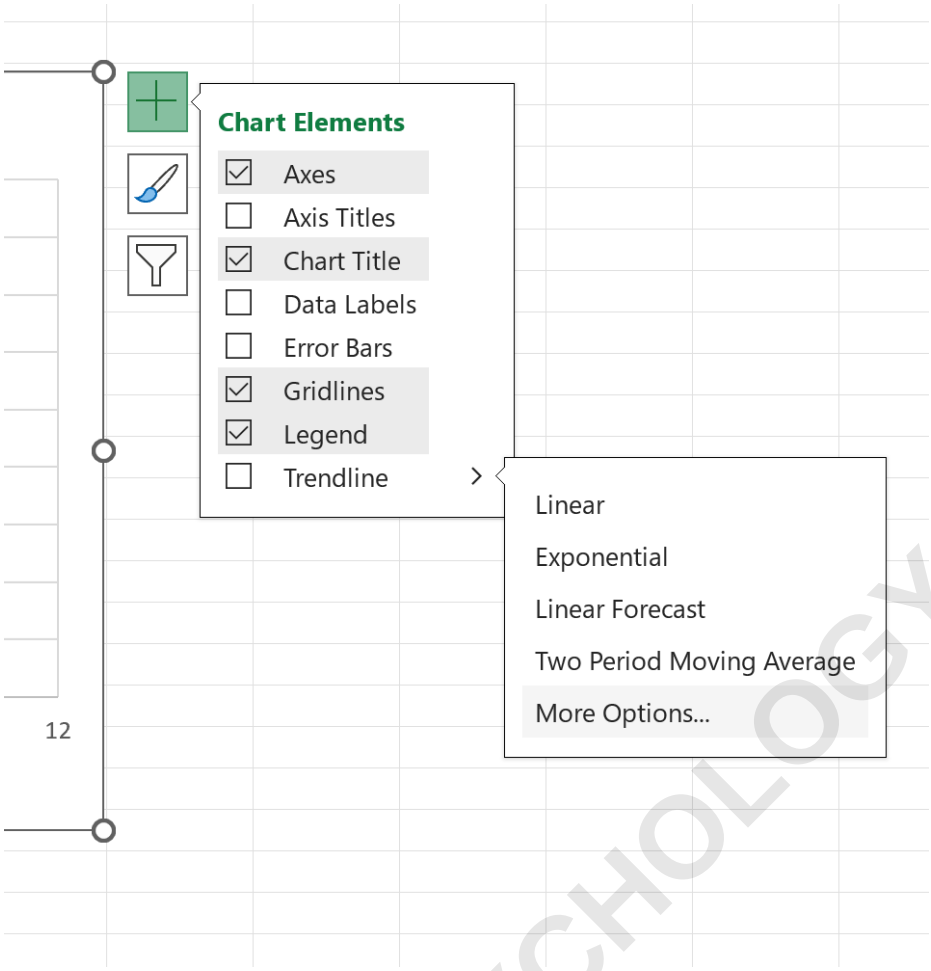
The blue dots represent the sales each year for Product A and the orange dots represent the sales for Product B each year.

Step 3: Add the Trendlines

Next, click on any of the blue dots in the plot.

Then click the tiny green plus sign that appears in the top right corner of the chart, then click the dropdown arrow next to Trendline, then click More Options:



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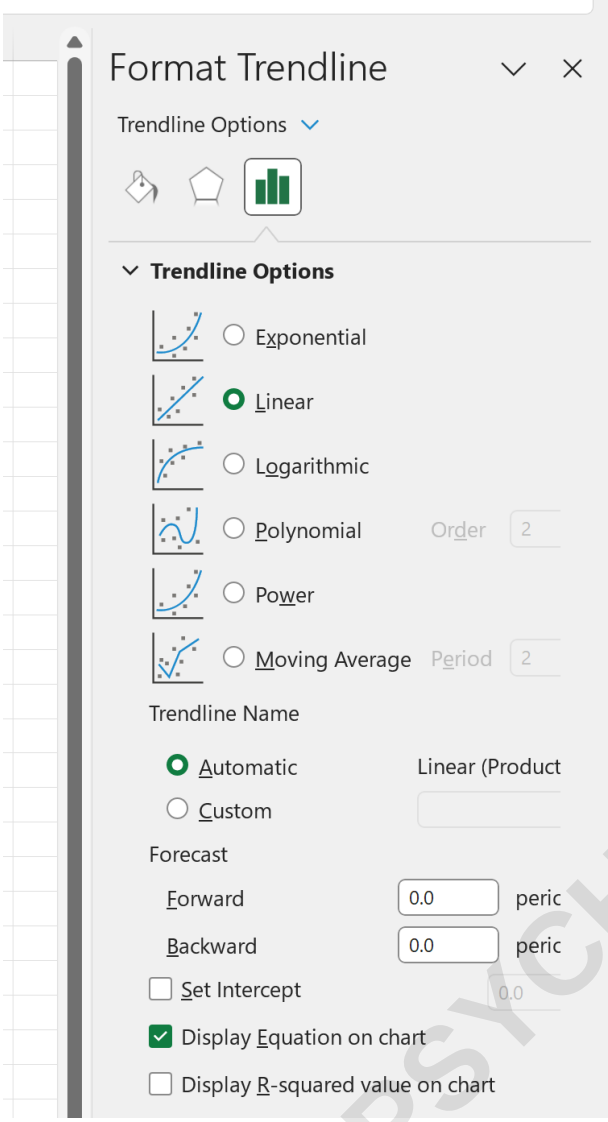

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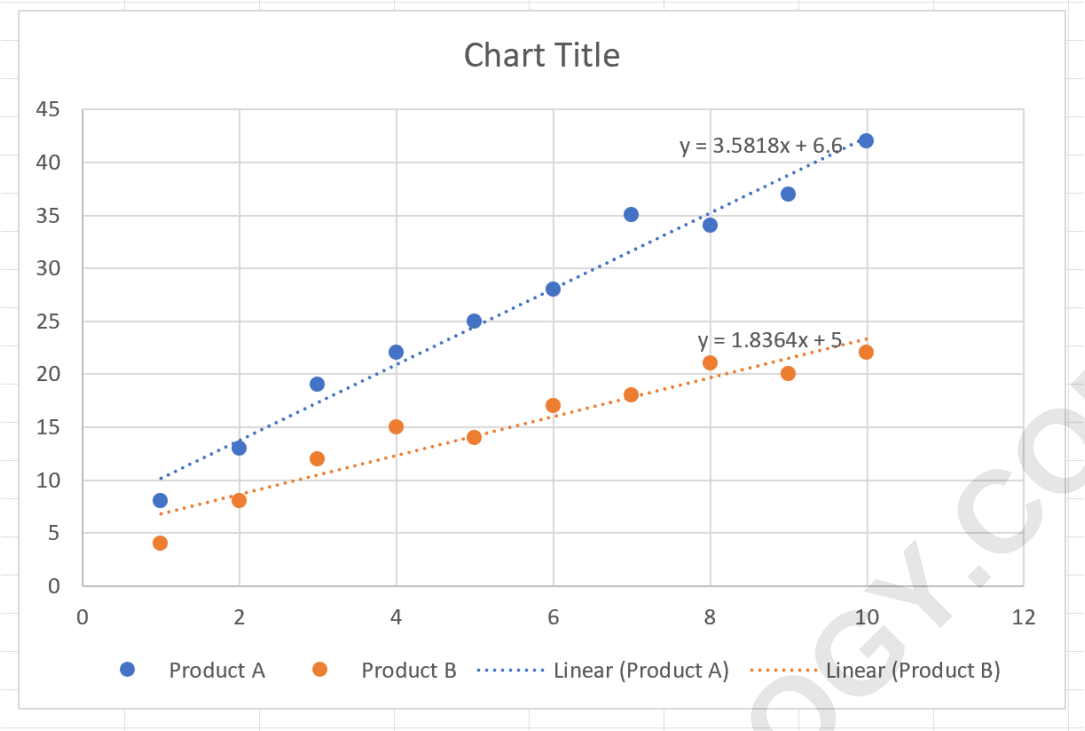
Repeat this same process for the orange dots.

Two trendlines with their equations will now be displayed on the chart:



Step 4: Customize the Chart Appearance

Lastly, click on the individual labels in the legend called Linear (Product A) and Linear (Product B) and delete them.

Then add a custom chart title, add custom axis labels, and make the font color of the trendline equations bold to make them easier to read.

The final chart will look like this:

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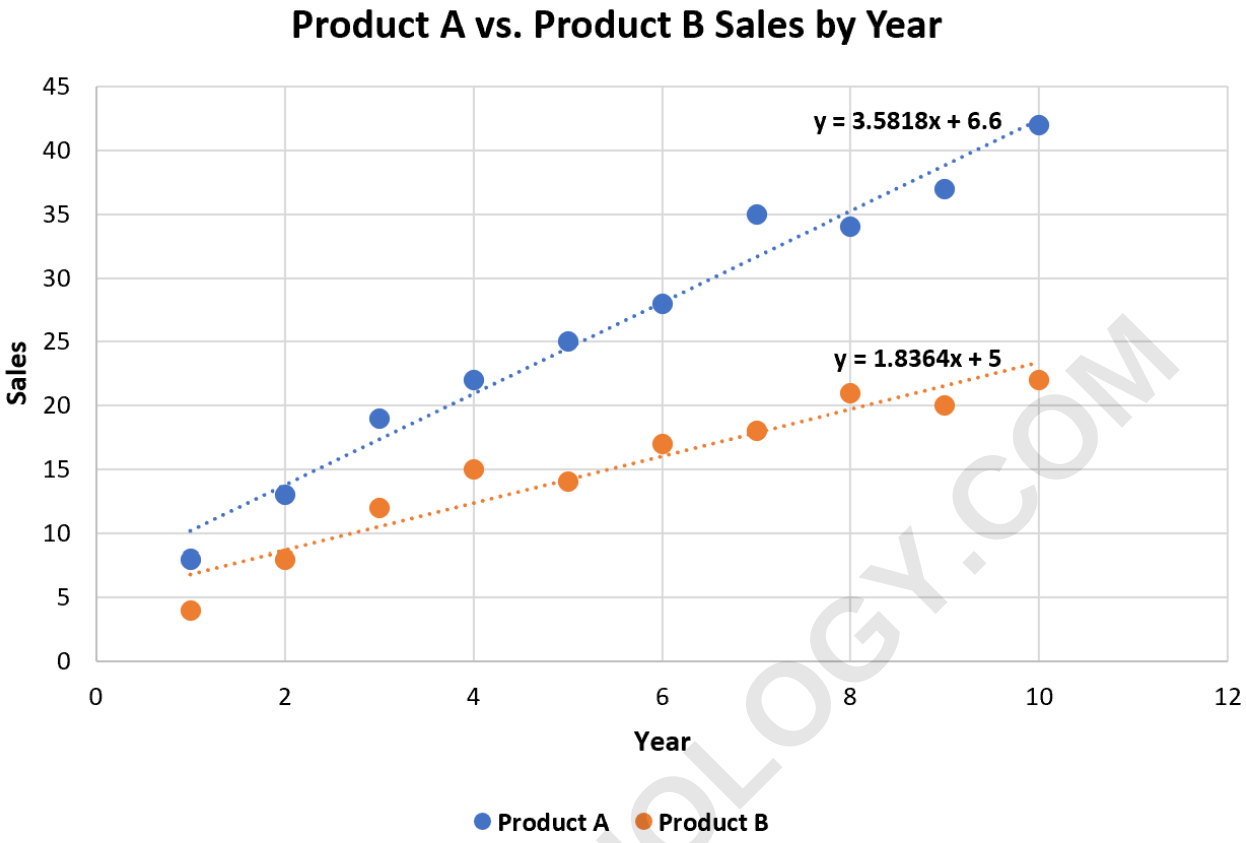

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The following tutorials explain how to perform other common tasks in Excel: