

How can I change the bin width of histograms in Excel?

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RECOMMENDED CITATION

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PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=139264>

To change the bin width of histograms in Excel, follow these steps:

1. Select the data you want to create a histogram for.
2. Click on the "Insert" tab and select "Histogram" from the "Charts" section.
3. A default histogram will be created on your worksheet.
4. Right-click on one of the bars in the histogram and select "Format Data Series" from the menu.
5. In the "Format Data Series" window, go to the "Series Options" tab.
6. Under "Series Options", find the "Bin Width" option and enter the desired value.
7. Click "Close" to apply the changes to your histogram.

By adjusting the bin width, you can control the number and size of the bars in your histogram, allowing you to better represent your data. This is particularly useful when dealing with a large range of values or when you want to highlight specific data points.

Change Bin Width of Histograms in Excel

A histogram is a plot that can be used to quickly visualize the distribution of values in a dataset.

This tutorial provides a step-by-step example of how to create a histogram in Excel and how to modify the bin width so that the histogram looks exactly how you'd like.

Step 1: Create the Data

First, we'll create the following dataset that shows the annual income of 26 different people:

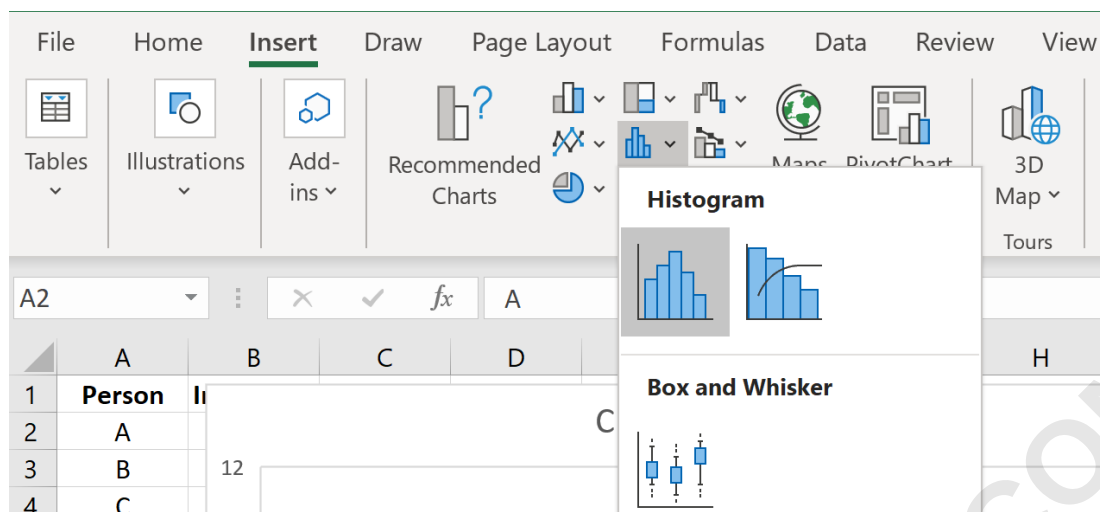
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Person	Income					
2	A	\$34,000					
3	B	\$37,000					
4	C	\$41,000					
5	D	\$44,000					
6	E	\$45,000					
7	F	\$47,000					
8	G	\$51,000					
9	H	\$55,000					
10	I	\$58,000					
11	J	\$65,000					
12	K	\$66,000					
13	L	\$68,000					
14	M	\$73,000					
15	N	\$76,000					
16	O	\$81,000					
17	P	\$83,000					
18	Q	\$85,000					
19	R	\$87,000					
20	S	\$90,000					
21	T	\$93,000					
22	U	\$96,000					
23	V	\$97,000					
24	W	\$103,000					
25	X	\$109,000					
26	Y	\$115,000					
27	Z	\$117,000					
28							
29							

Step 2: Create the Histogram

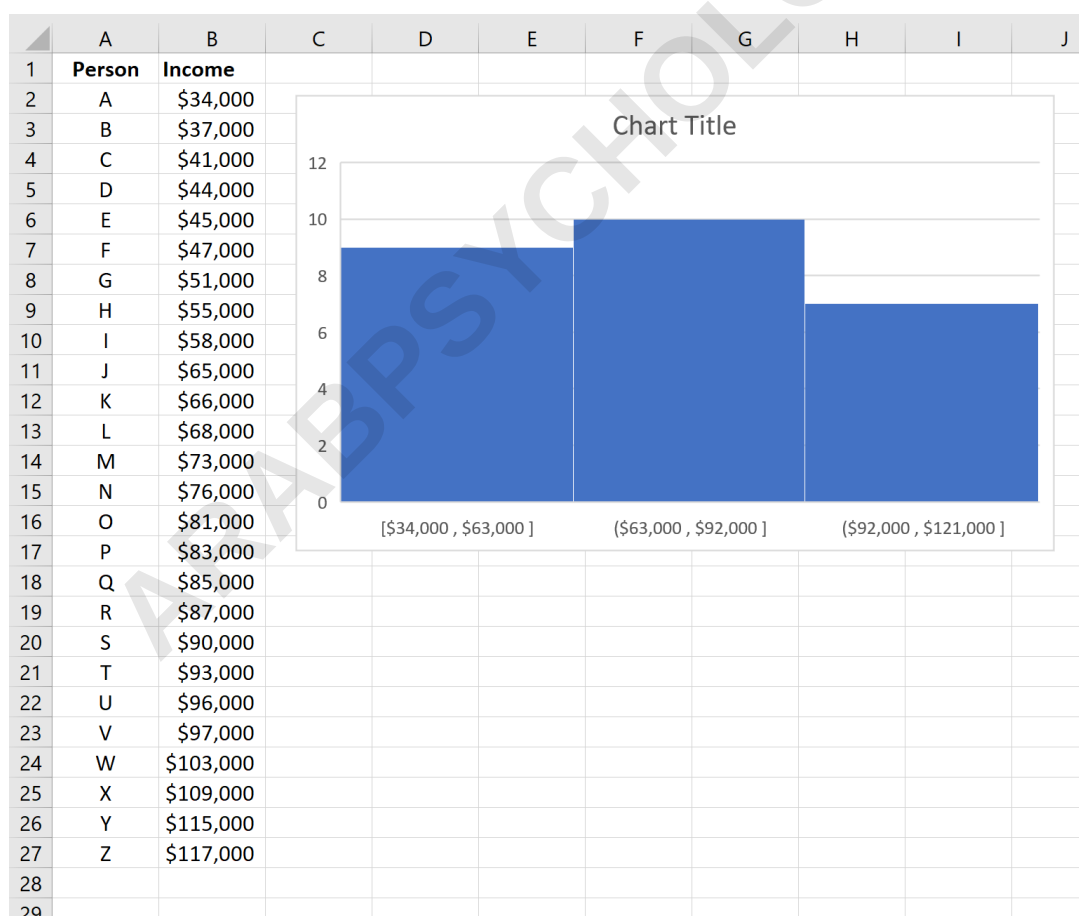
Next, we'll highlight the two columns of data:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Person	Income					
2	A	\$34,000					
3	B	\$37,000					
4	C	\$41,000					
5	D	\$44,000					
6	E	\$45,000					
7	F	\$47,000					
8	G	\$51,000					
9	H	\$55,000					
10	I	\$58,000					
11	J	\$65,000					
12	K	\$66,000					
13	L	\$68,000					
14	M	\$73,000					
15	N	\$76,000					
16	O	\$81,000					
17	P	\$83,000					
18	Q	\$85,000					
19	R	\$87,000					
20	S	\$90,000					
21	T	\$93,000					
22	U	\$96,000					
23	V	\$97,000					
24	W	\$103,000					
25	X	\$109,000					
26	Y	\$115,000					
27	Z	\$117,000					
28							
29							
30							

Then we'll click the **INSERT** tab along the top ribbon, then we'll click the **Histogram** icon within the **Charts** section.

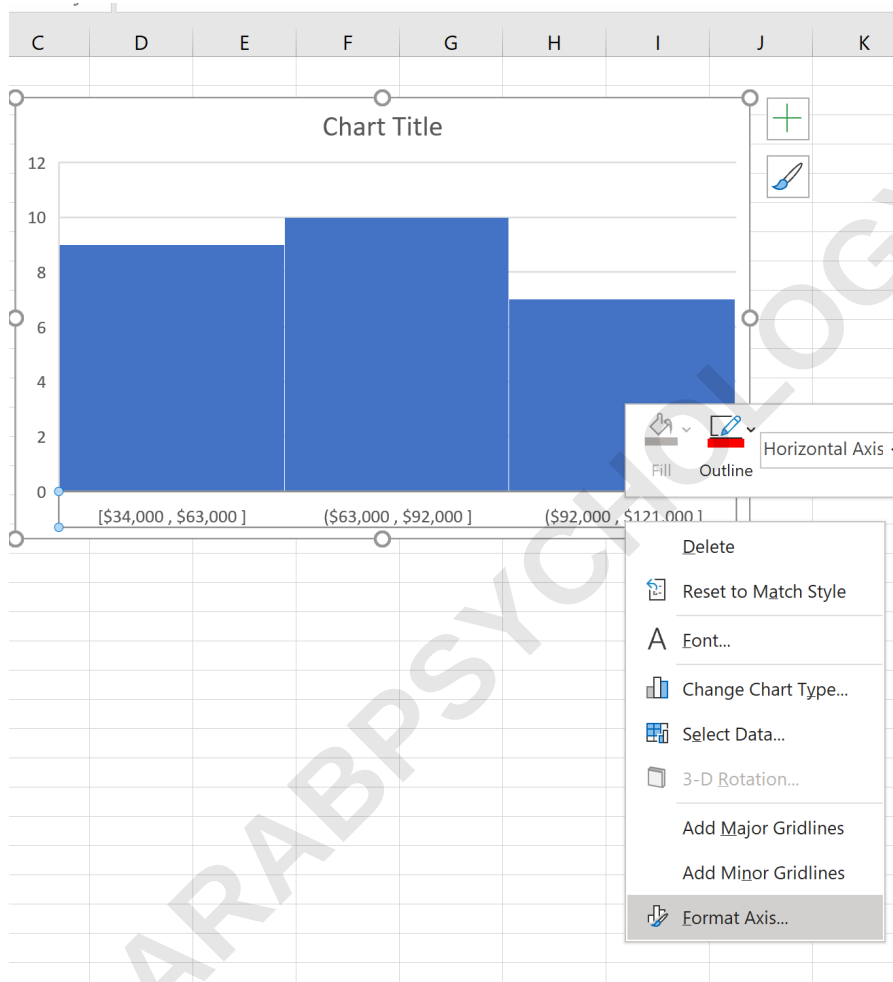


This creates the following histogram by default:



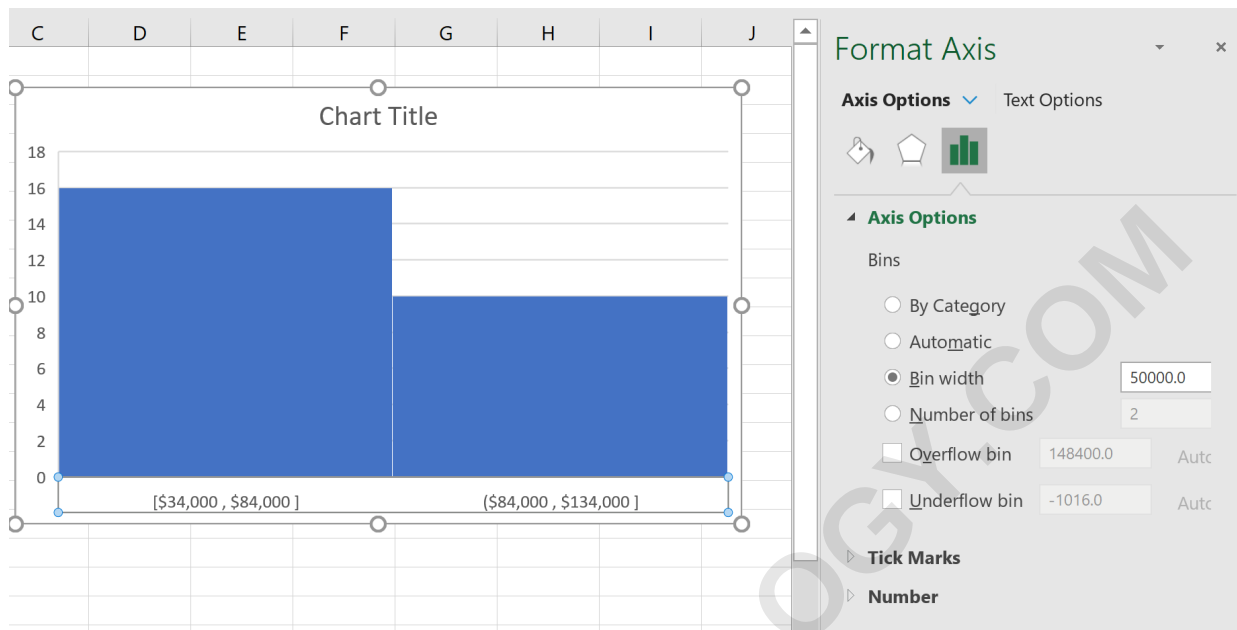
Step 3: Adjust the Bin Width

To adjust the bin width, right click the horizontal axis on the histogram and then click **Format Axis** from the dropdown:



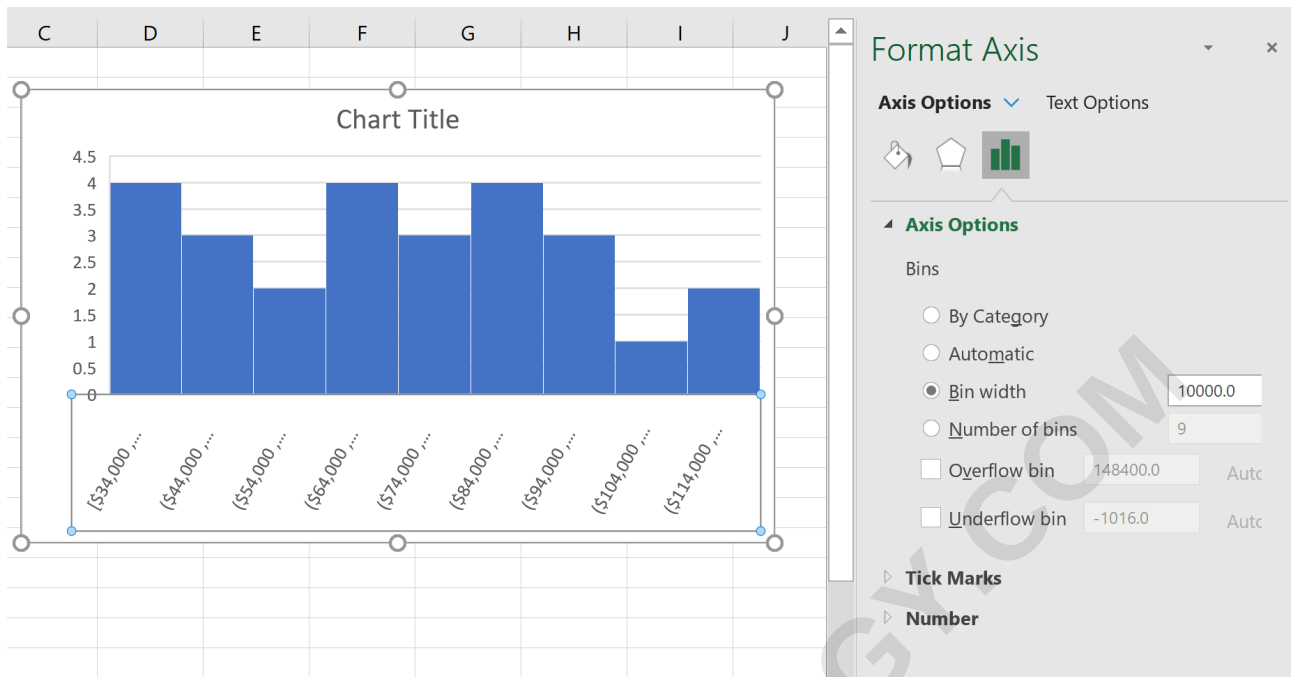
In the window that appears to the right, we can see that Excel chose the bin width to be 29,000. We can change this to any number we'd like.

For example, we could increase the bin width to 50,000:



Notice how this increases the width of each bin and reduces the total number of bins.

We could also decrease the bin width to 10,000:



This decreases the width of each bin and increases the total number of bins in the histogram.

Feel free to modify the bin width to any value you'd like and keep in mind the following rules of thumb:

Increasing the bin width often decreases the number of total bins in the histogram and leads to fatter and fewer bins. Decreasing the bin width often increases the number of total bins in the histogram and leads to narrower and more bins.

You can find more Excel tutorials on .