

How can I create a chart in Excel that will ignore blank cells?

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Creating a chart in Excel that ignores blank cells is a simple process that can be accomplished by following a few steps. First, select the data range for your chart, including any blank cells that you want to be ignored. Then, go to the "Select Data" option under the "Design" tab on the ribbon. Next, click on the "Hidden and Empty Cells" button and select the option to "Show data in hidden rows and columns." Finally, click "OK" to apply the changes and your chart will now ignore any blank cells in the selected data range. This feature is useful for creating accurate and visually appealing charts without the interference of blank cells.

Excel: Create a Chart and Ignore Blank Cells

Often you may want to create a chart in Excel using a range of data and ignore any blank cells in the range.

Fortunately this is easy to do using the Hidden and Empty Cells feature in Excel.

The following example shows how to use this function in practice.

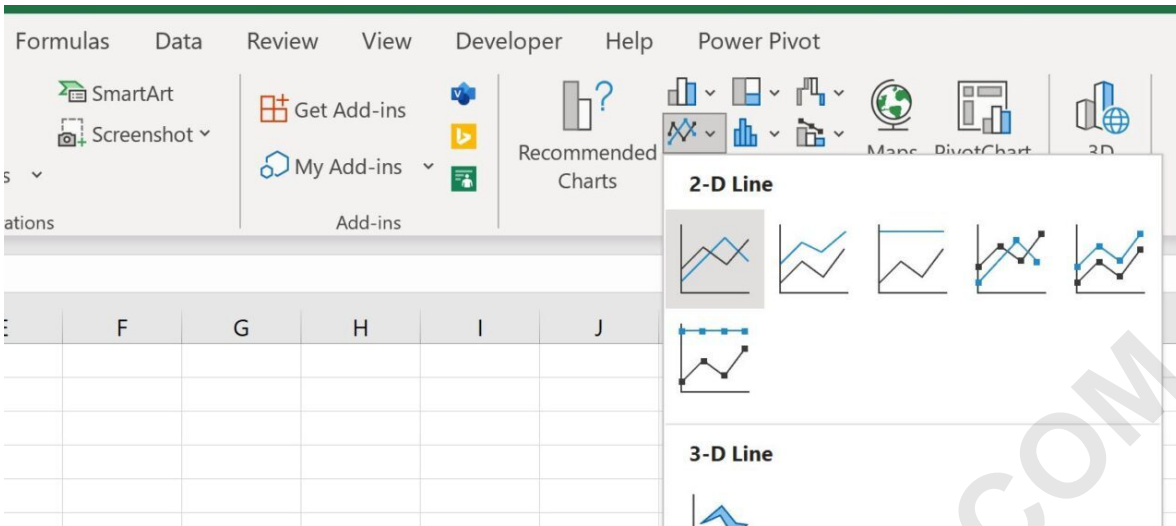
Example: Create Chart in Excel and Ignore Blank Cells

Suppose we have the following dataset that shows the sales of some product during each month in a year:

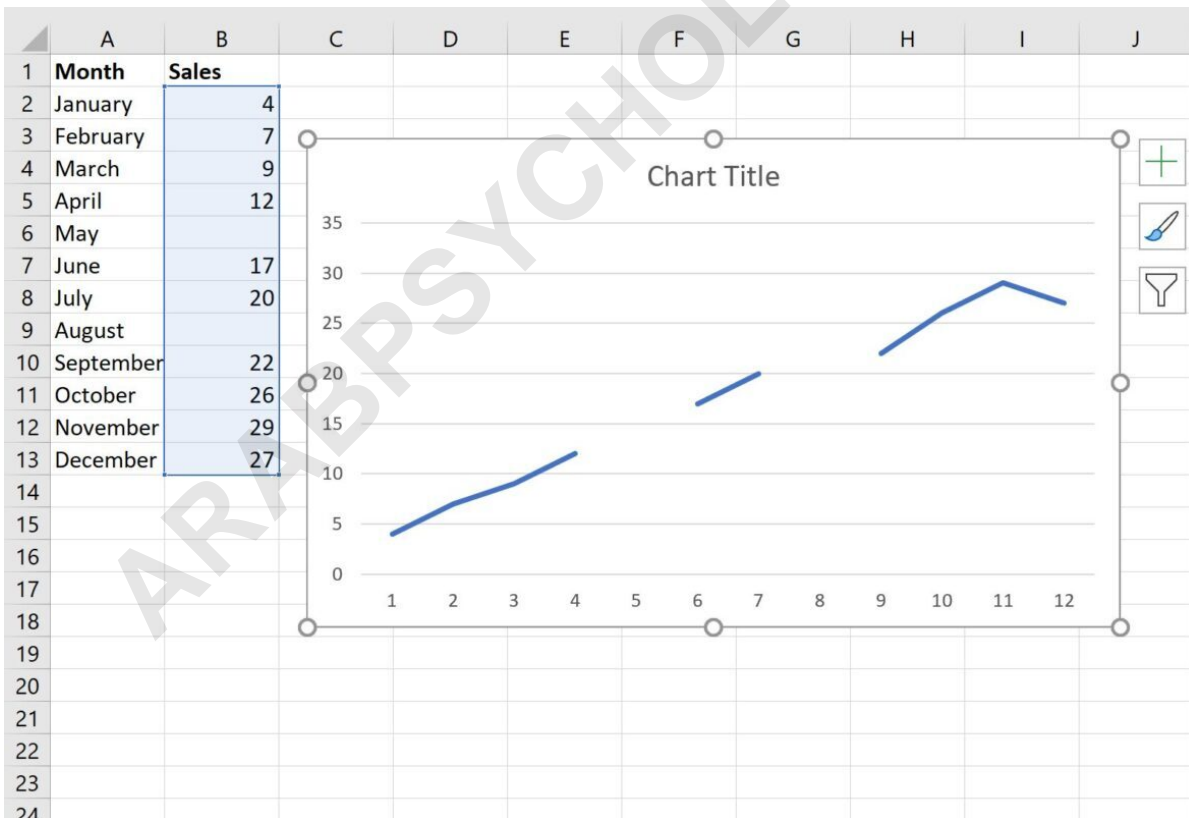
	A	B	C	D	E
1	Month	Sales			
2	January	4			
3	February	7			
4	March	9			
5	April	12			
6	May				
7	June	17			
8	July	20			
9	August				
10	September	22			
11	October	26			
12	November	29			
13	December	27			
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					

Now suppose we would like to create a line chart to visualize the sales during each month.

We can highlight the cells in the range B2:B13, then click the Insert tab along the top ribbon, then click the Line button within the Charts group:



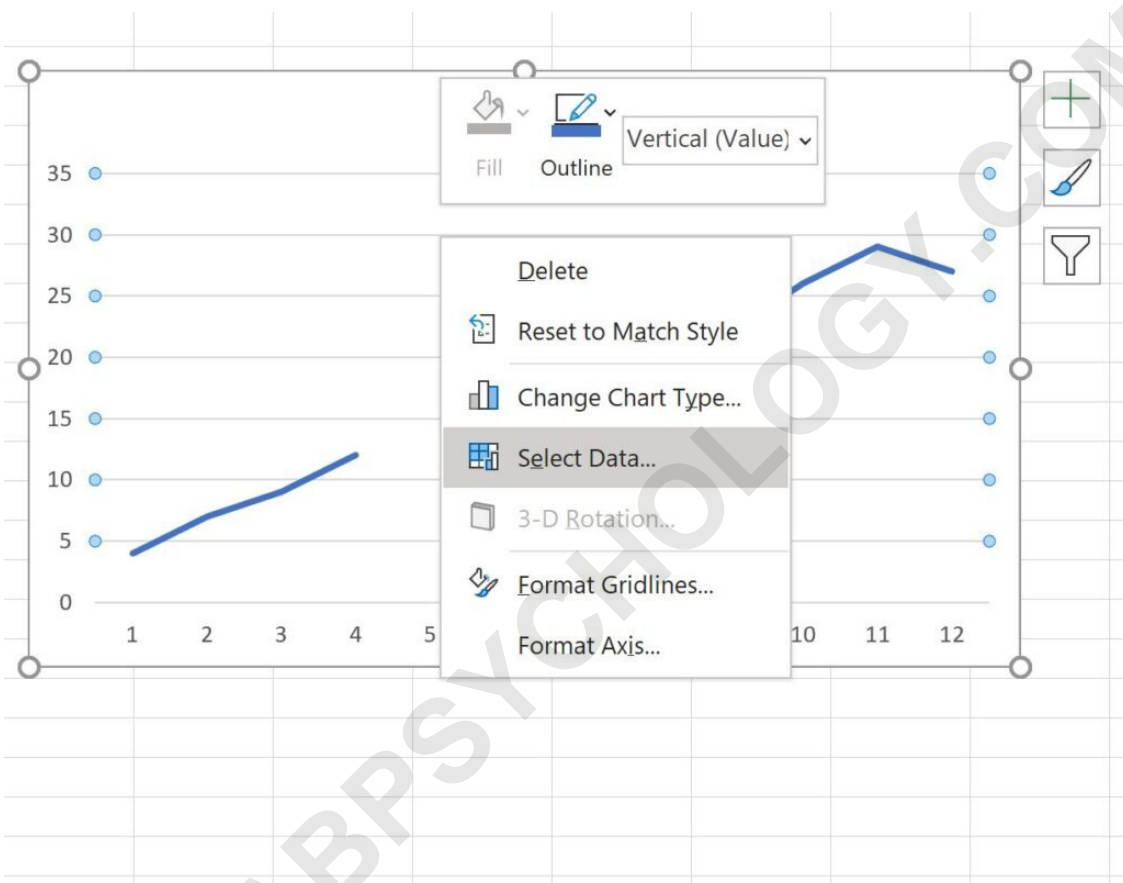
The following line chart will appear:



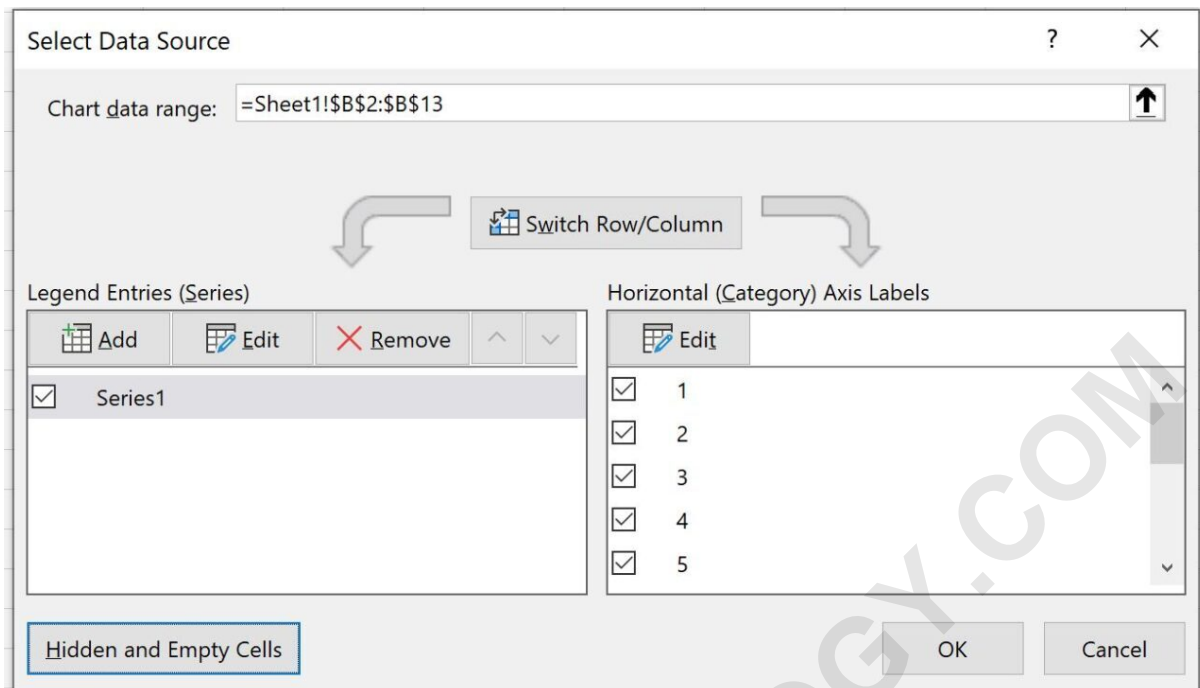
Notice that there are two gaps in the line chart where we

have missing values for the months of May and August.

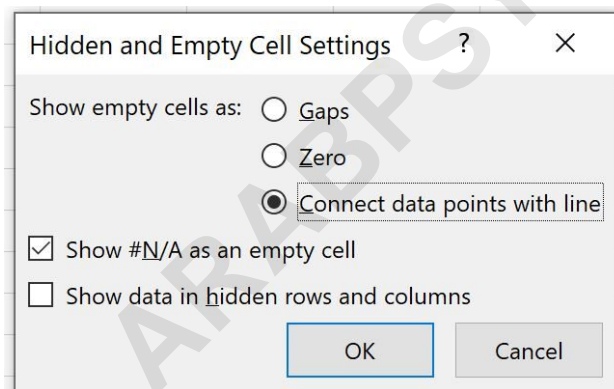
To fill in these gaps, right click anywhere on the chart and then click **Select Data**:



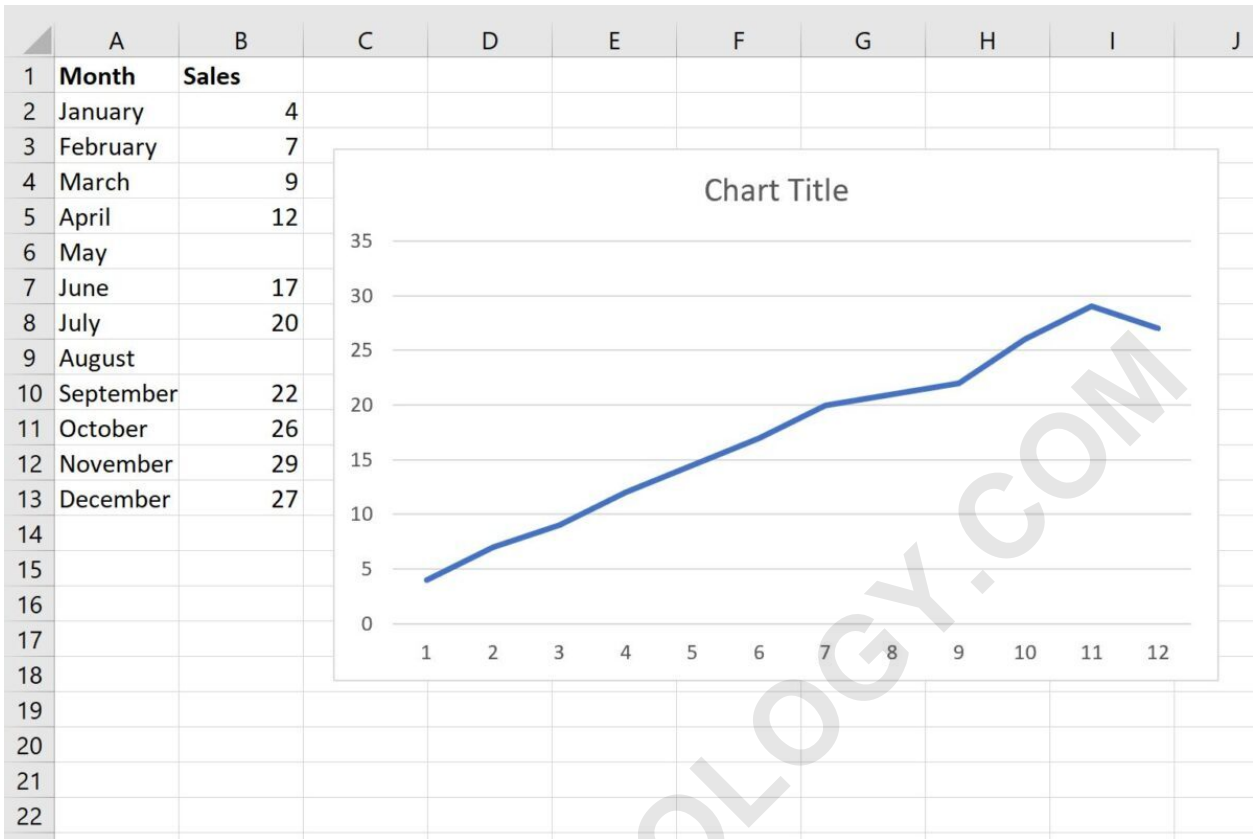
In the new window that appears, click the **Hidden and Empty Cells** button in the bottom left corner:



In the new window that appears, check the button next to Connect data points with line and then click OK:



The gaps in the line chart will automatically be filled in:



Additional Resources

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