

# How can I export a matplotlib plot with a transparent background?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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In order to export a matplotlib plot with a transparent background, you can use the "savefig" function with the "transparent" parameter set to "True". This will save the plot as a PNG file with a transparent background. Alternatively, you can specify the background color as "none" using the "facecolor" parameter to achieve the same result. This feature is useful for creating graphics that can be easily integrated into different backgrounds or presentations.

## Export Matplotlib Plot with Transparent Background

You can use the following basic syntax to export a Matplotlib plot with a transparent background:

```
savefig('my_plot.png', transparent=True)
```

Note that the default argument for `savefig()` is `transparent=False`.

By specifying `transparent=True` we can save a Matplotlib figure with a transparent background.

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

**Example: Export Matplotlib Plot with Transparent Background**

The following code shows how to create a line plot in Matplotlib and save the plot with a transparent background:

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

```
#define x and y
```

```
x =
```

```
y =
```

```
#create line plot
```

```
plt.plot(x, y)
```

```
#add title and axis labels
```

```
plt.title('Title of Plot')
```

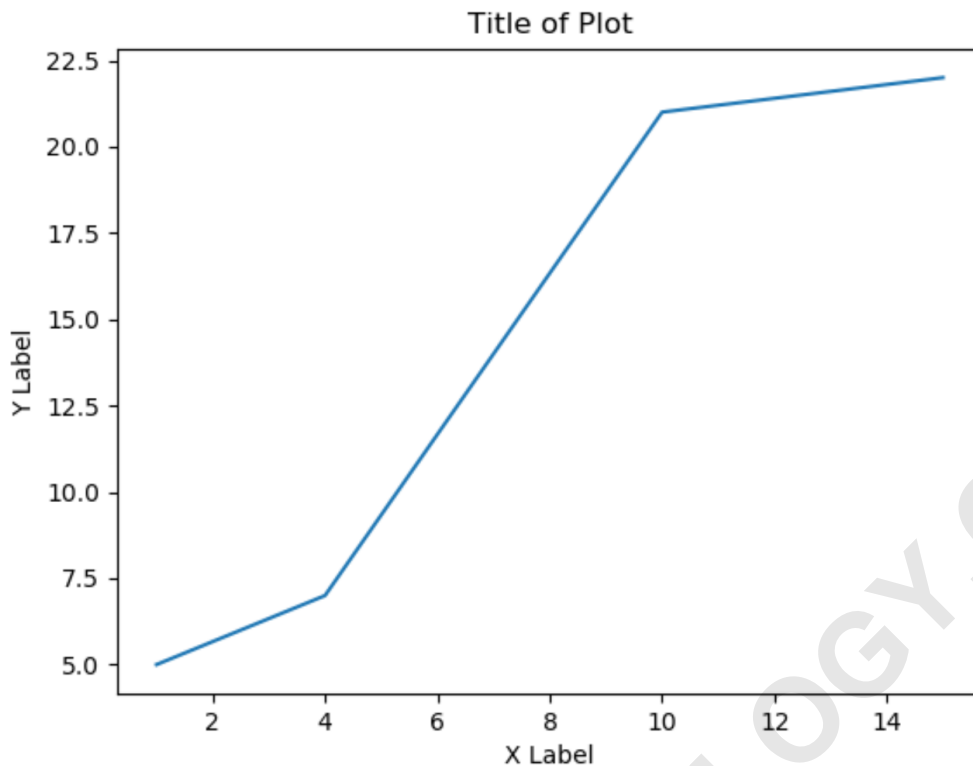
```
plt.xlabel('X Label')
```

```
plt.ylabel('Y Label')
```

```
#save plot with transparent background
```

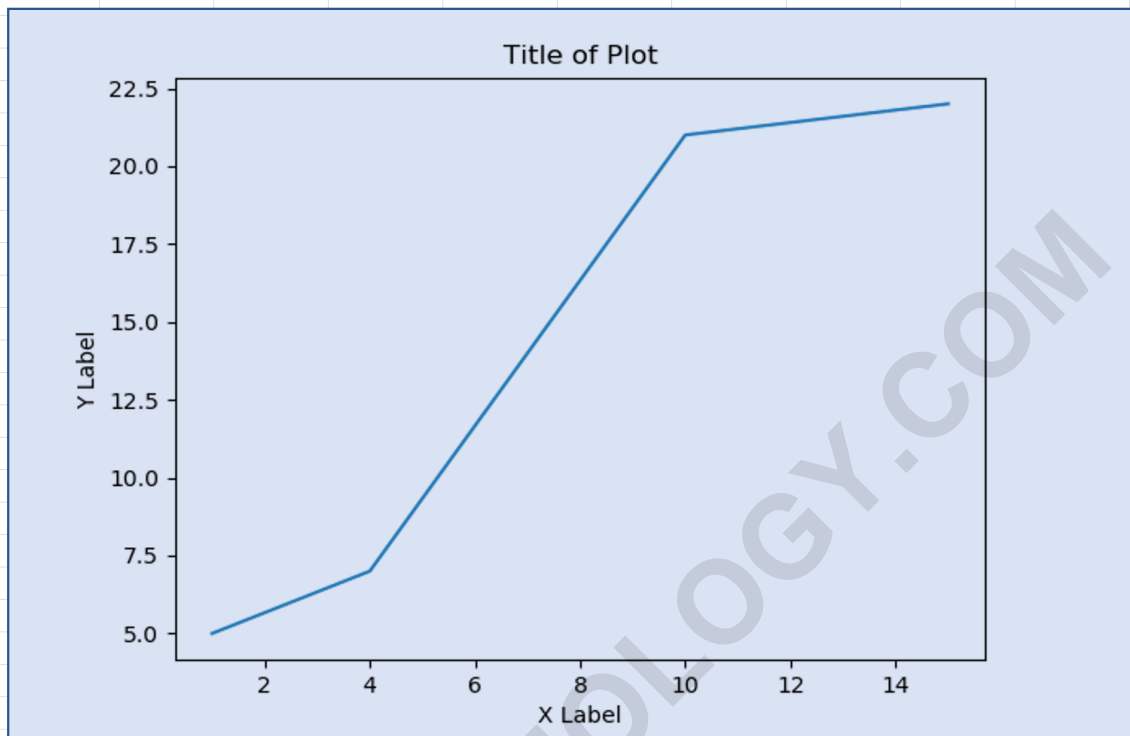
```
plt.savefig('my_plot.png', transparent=True)
```

If I navigate to the location on my computer where the image is saved, I can view it:



**However, this doesn't illustrate the transparent background well.**

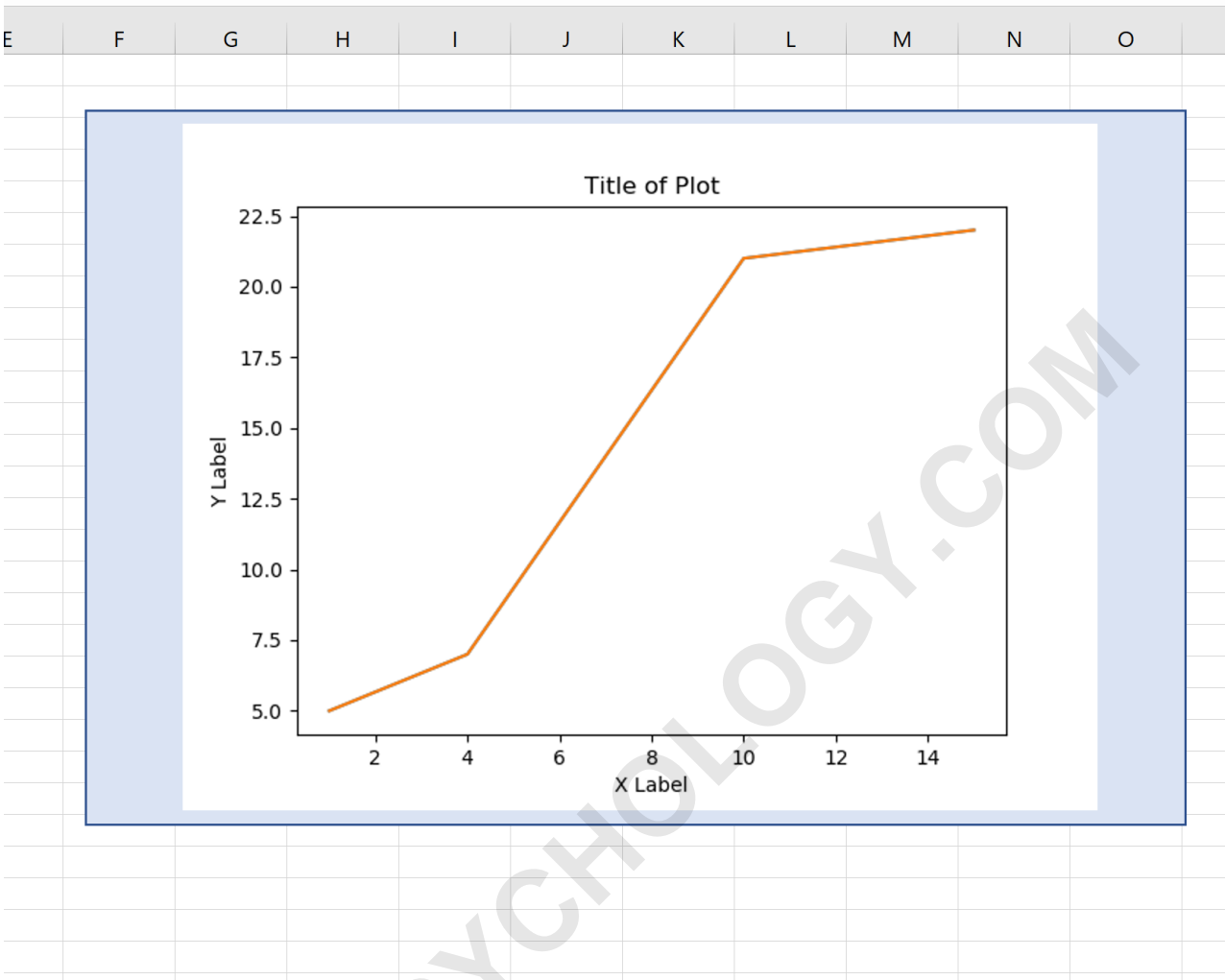
**To do so, I can place the image on a colored background in Excel:**



**Notice that the background is completely transparent.**

**You can contrast this with the exact same image saved without using the transparent argument:**

**#save plot without specifying transparent background  
plt.savefig('my\_plot2.png')**



**Note: You can find the complete online documentation for the `savefig()` function .**