

# How to Add a Median Line to Your Excel Chart in 3 Easy Steps

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February 21, 2026

## RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2026). *How to Add a Median Line to Your Excel Chart in 3 Easy Steps*. PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=131955>

To add a median line to an Excel chart, follow these steps:

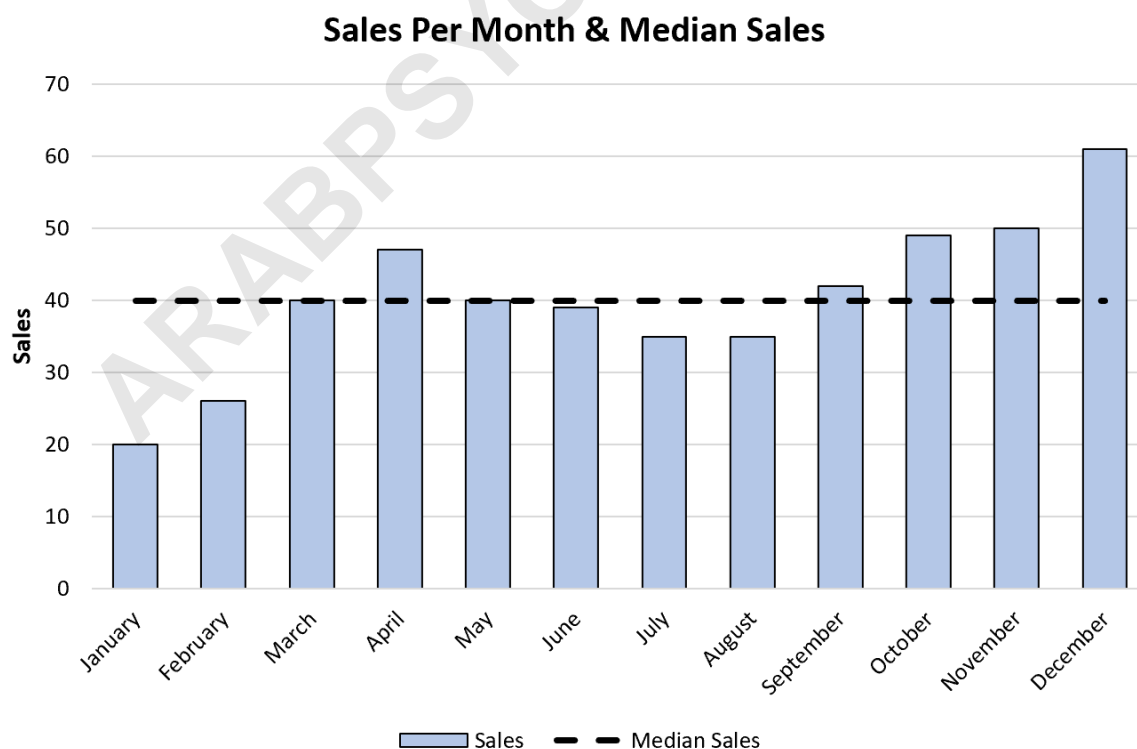
1. Select the chart to which you want to add the median line.
2. Click on the "Chart Elements" button (represented by a plus sign) located on the top right corner of the chart.
3. Check the box next to "Trendline" to add a trendline to the chart.
4. Click on the newly added trendline to select it.
5. Right-click on the trendline and select "Format Trendline" from the drop-down menu.
6. In the Format Trendline window, go to the "Line Options" tab.
7. Under "Trendline Options," choose "Median" from the "Type" drop-down menu.
8. Click "Close" to apply the changes.

The median line will now be added to your Excel chart, representing the median value of the data in the chart.

## Excel: Add Median Line to Chart

Occasionally you may want to add a line to a bar chart in Excel to represent the median value of the bars.

This tutorial provides a step-by-step example of how to create the following bar chart with a median line in Excel:



Let's jump in!

## Step 1: Enter the Data

First, let's create the following dataset that shows the total sales of some item during each month in a year:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	<b>Month</b>	<b>Sales</b>				
2	January	20				
3	February	26				
4	March	40				
5	April	47				
6	May	40				
7	June	39				
8	July	35				
9	August	35				
10	September	42				
11	October	49				
12	November	50				
13	December	61				
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						

## Step 2: Calculate the Median Value

Next, we'll use the following formula to calculate the median sales per month:

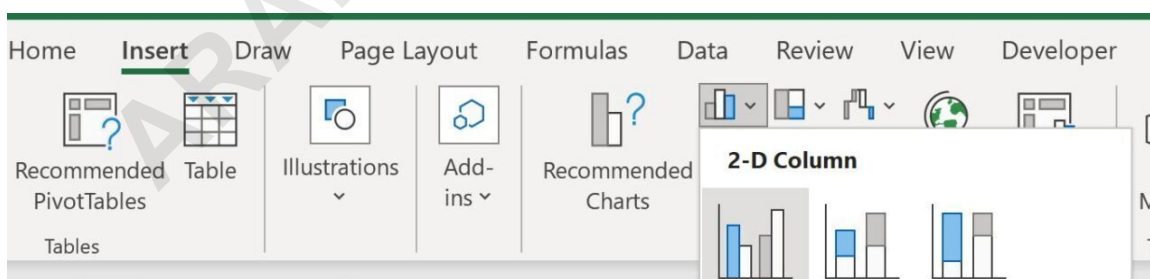
**=MEDIAN(\$B\$2:\$B\$13)**

We can type this formula into cell **C2** and then copy and paste it to every remaining cell in column C:

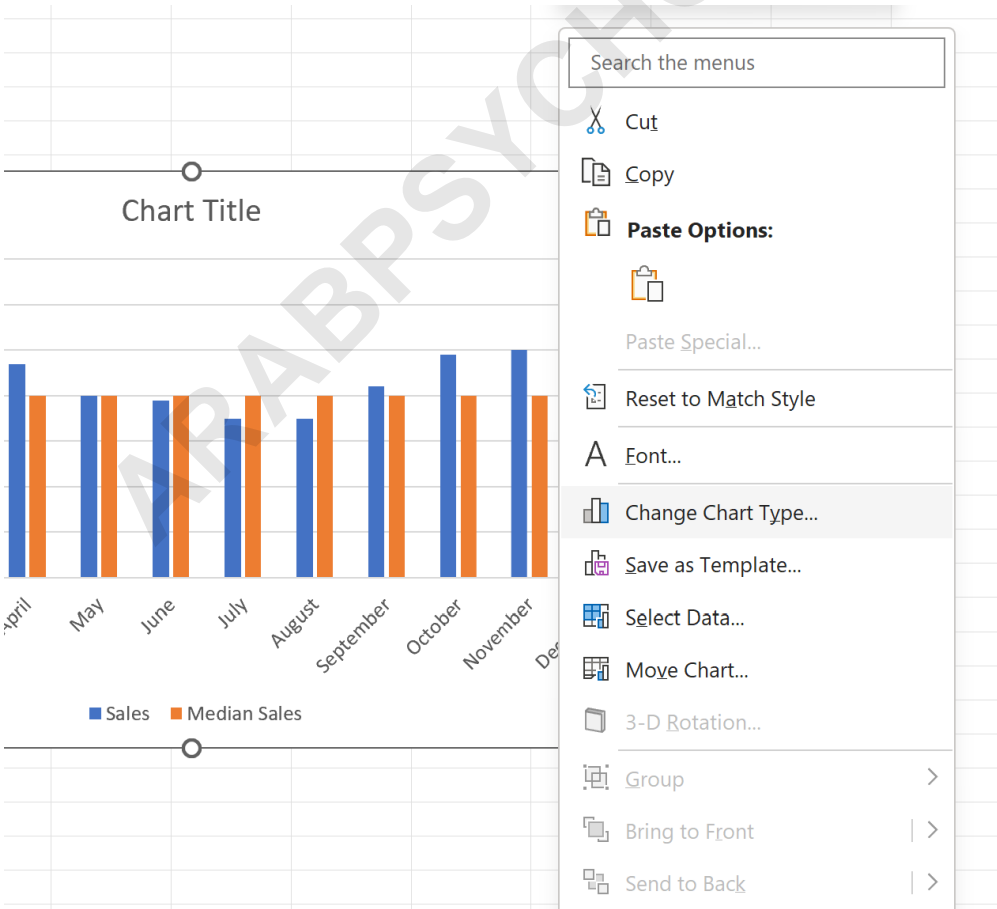
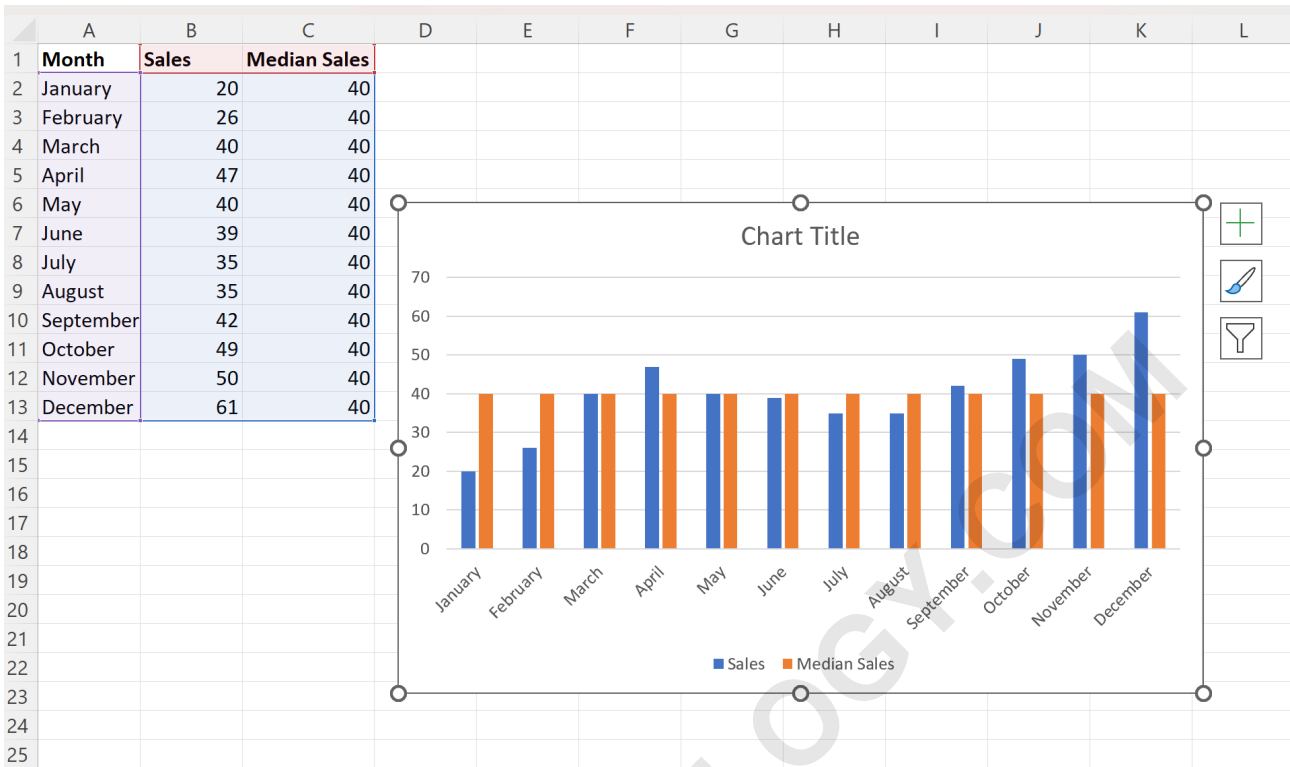
C2			$\text{fx}$	=MEDIAN(\$B\$2:\$B\$13)		
	A	B	C	D	E	
1	<b>Month</b>	<b>Sales</b>	<b>Median Sales</b>			
2	January	20	40			
3	February	26	40			
4	March	40	40			
5	April	47	40			
6	May	40	40			
7	June	39	40			
8	July	35	40			
9	August	35	40			
10	September	42	40			
11	October	49	40			
12	November	50	40			
13	December	61	40			
14						
15						
16						
17						

### Step 3: Create Bar Chart with Median Line

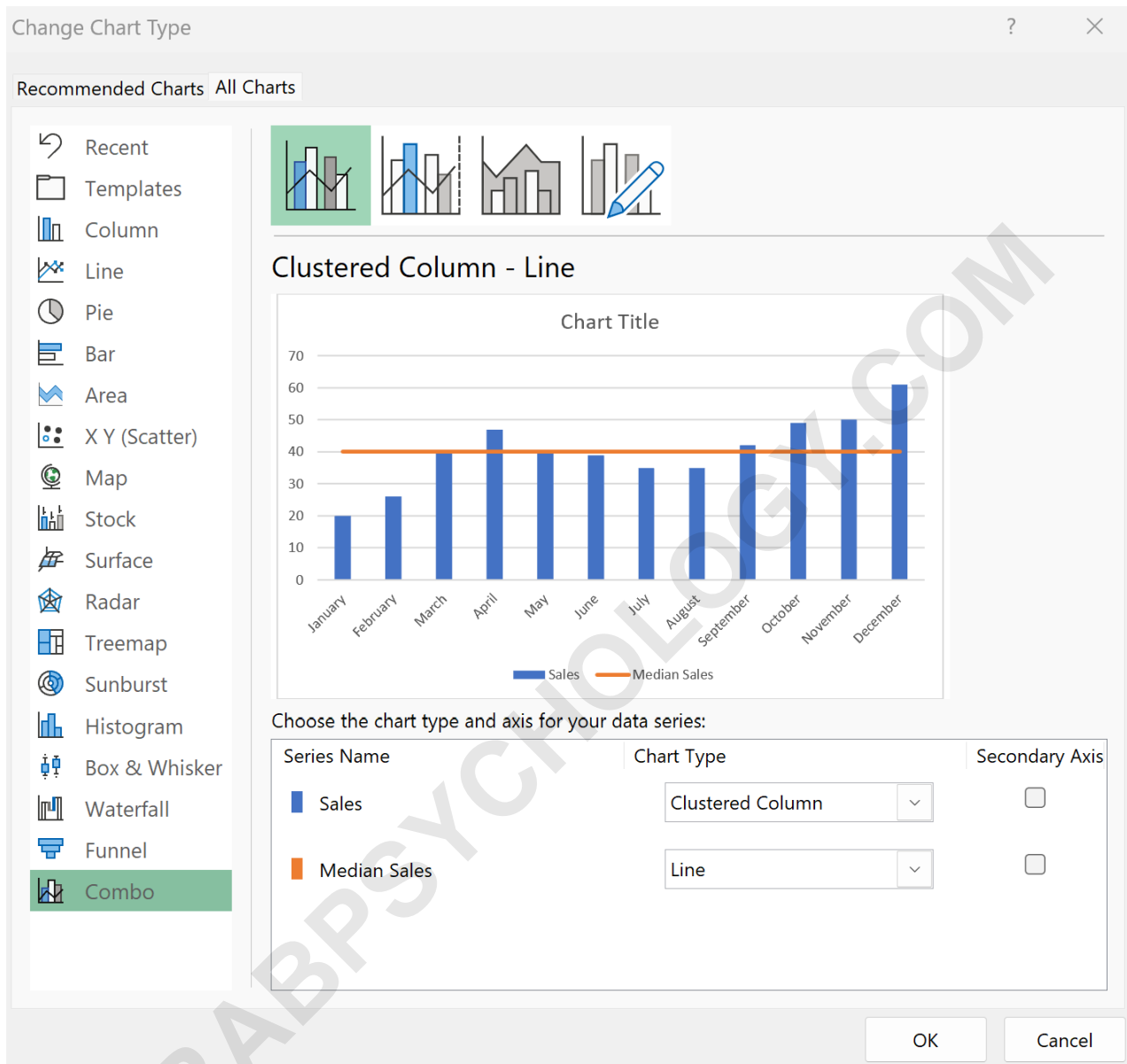
Next, highlight the cell range **A1:C13**, then click the **Insert** tab along the top ribbon, then click **Clustered Column** within the **Charts** group:



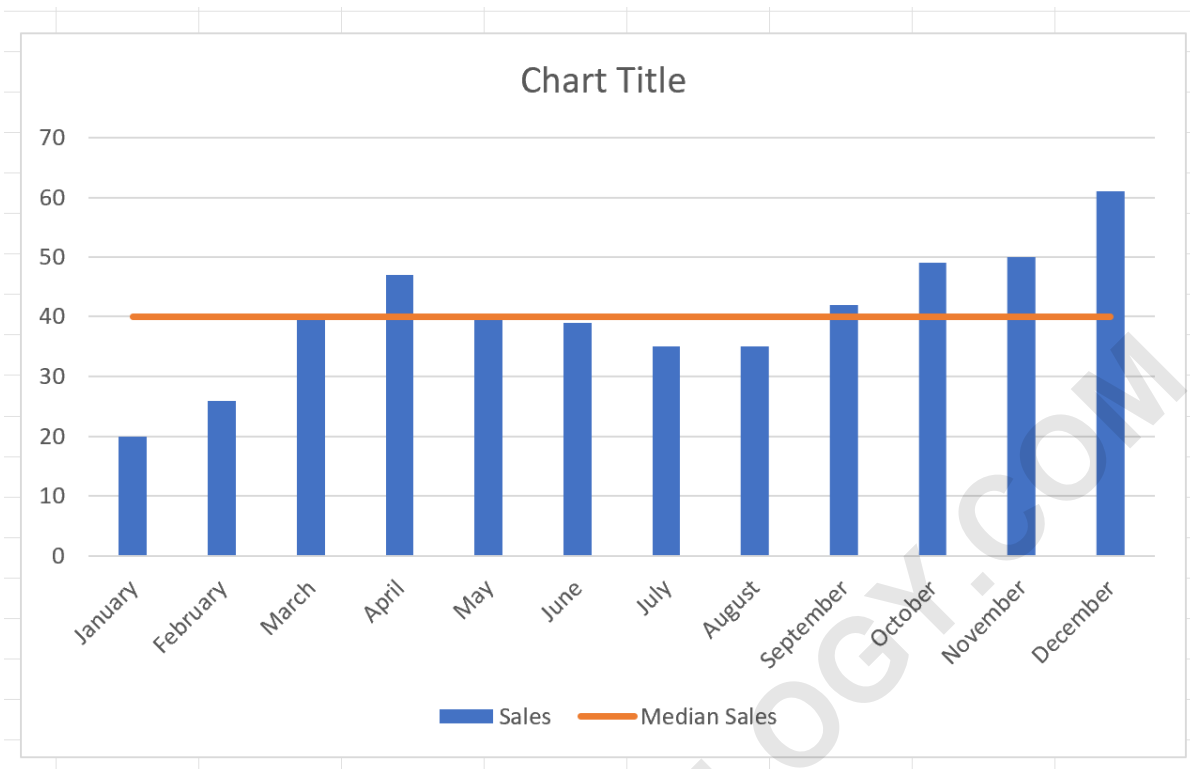
The following chart will be created:



In the new window that appears, click **Combo** and then click **OK**:



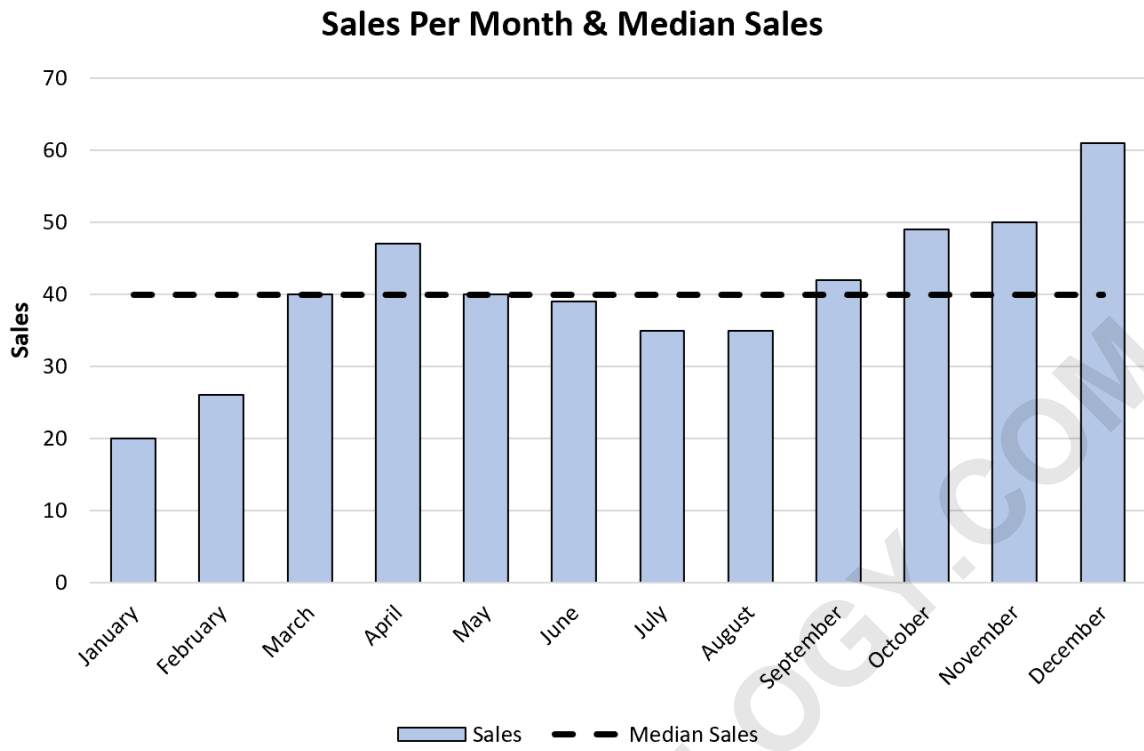
The chart will be converted into a bar chart with a median line:



The blue bars represent the sales each month and the orange line represents the median sales across all 12 months.

#### Step 4: Customize the Chart (Optional)

Feel free to add a title, customize the colors, customize the line style, and adjust the width of the bars and the median line to make the plot more aesthetically pleasing:



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